

St. Rita Catholic Church



3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305
703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)
Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9 am - 9 pm
www.stritaalexandria.com / www.saintrita-school.org



November 3, 2024: Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frc41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Nicholas Schierer fatherschierer@gmail.com	Ext. 30
Permanent Deacon	Deacon Stephen J. Dixon deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
In Residence	Rev. Paul Berghout ihmpadre@gmail.com	Ext. 15
Director of Sacred Music	Lawrence Bowie lbowie.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 29
Parish Secretary and Hispanic Liaison	Alma Ramirez aramirez.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 10
Business Manager	Debbie Beck dbeck.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 13
Director of Religious Education	Chloe Holloway cholloway.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 12
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry	Maria Goitiandia mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 38
Sacristan	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
Bulletin Editor	Elizabeth Vail bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com	
Maintenance Manager	Adan Aguilar aaguilar.strita@gmail.com	

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

(The Church is open for prayer every day from 6 am - 9 pm.)

Sunday: 7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:15 am (2nd Sunday: Novus Ordo Latin), 11:00 am & 1:00 pm (en Español)

Monday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm (preceded by Miraculous Medal Novena)

Tuesday: 7:00 am

Wednesday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm

Thursday: 7:00 am

Friday: 7:00 am & 7:30 pm (Novus Ordo Latin)

Saturday: 8:00 am, 5:00 pm (Sunday Vigil Mass)

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Monday - Friday: 6:30 pm (**new time starting October 7**)

Saturday: 8:30 am, 4:00 pm, & 7:00 pm

Sunday: 12:30 pm (en Español)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Friday: 8:00 pm - 8:00 am (Saturday)

ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

“The soul of education is the education of the soul”

<https://saintrita-school.org> | 703-548-1888

Principal

Malia Busekrus

Preschool Director

Caitlin Rockwell

PARISH MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to St. Rita Church! Please join us, as together we worship God and grow in love for one another under the protection of our patroness, St. Rita of Cascia. Registration forms can be found in the Russell Road entrance of the church, or online at www.stritaalexandria.com/parish-registration/.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements to attend a Baptism preparation class, scheduled individually with Fr. Schierer. Please note that it is possible for expectant parents to attend the preparation class before the birth of their child.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact the Parish Office to obtain an application to begin marriage preparation. Diocesan regulations require 6 months of marriage preparation. Living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the marriage preparation time.

HOSPITALIZED AND HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Please contact the Parish office so that the hospitalized and homebound may receive pastoral care from the priests and volunteers of St. Rita.

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Monday, November 4, 2024

Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

7:00 am All Souls Novena †

7:30 pm Andre and Paul Walsh †

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Tuesday of the Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am All Souls Novena †

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Wednesday of the Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am All Souls Novena †

7:30 pm Efrain Estrada Gomez †

Thursday, November 7, 2024

Thursday of the Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am All Souls Novena †

Friday, November 8, 2024

Friday of the Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am All Souls Novena †

7:30 pm Frank Downing †

Saturday, November 9, 2024

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:00 am All Souls Novena †

5:00 pm Michael W. Burley †

Sunday, November 10, 2024

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Billy Herrera

8:00 am All Souls Novena †

9:15 am Santiago R. Soutuyo †

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Andre Lopez

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

All Souls in Purgatory †, Taylor DeRosa, All Deceased Members of the Legion of Mary †

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

The next meeting of the St. Rita Chapter of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face will be **Sunday, November 10**, at **3:00 pm** in the church. All are welcome to join us for the devotion's powerful prayers, including a short meditative reflection for all attendees. This new prayer group is dedicated to offering reparation for blasphemies against Our Lord and His Holy Name, for sins against keeping Sunday holy, and for sins of revolution and communism. You can read about the devotion at <https://hisholyface.com/the-devotion/>. The meetings will continue at 3:00 pm on the second Sunday of each month.

Plenary Indulgence for the Faithful Departed

The month of November is dedicated to praying for the Souls in Purgatory. A Plenary Indulgence, applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, is available between the days of **November 1-8** for those who visit a cemetery and pray there for the departed. The usual conditions apply (Confession, Holy Communion, prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father, complete detachment from sin).

Bulletin Submissions

Please submit all announcements for the bulletin to **Elizabeth Vail** at bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com by **Wednesday**, ten days before the desired bulletin date. Thank you!

St. Rita Men's Fellowship Meeting



The St Rita Men's Fellowship will meet on **Friday, November 8**, at **7:30 pm** in the school courtyard, weather permitting, and in the Parish Center (enter through the back) if it rains. Please join us for prayer, conversation, and "manly solidarity" under our patron, St. Joseph, "Solace of the Wretched."

Bring a chair, cold beverages and food or snacks to share, and your rosary! Please contact **Rick Strobach** at rick.strobach@gmail.com for more information. New and past members are always welcome! *Sancte Joseph, ora pro nobis!*

Knights of Columbus Advent Candle Sales

Advent is approaching! To help you prepare, the Knights of Columbus will be selling Advent Candles after all Saturday evening and Sunday Masses on **November 16/17** and **November 23/24**. Candles are **\$10** per set of four, and all proceeds benefit diocesan seminarians!



Upcoming Second Collections

November 3: Repairs and Replacements
November 10: Retirement Fund for Religious
November 24: Catholic Campaign for Human Development
November 28: Thanksgiving

Thank you for your continued generosity!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, November 3, 2024

Coffee and Donuts after all Masses, beginning with the 8am Mass

5:30 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, November 4, 2024

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:30 pm RICA (en Español)

Thursday, November 7, 2024

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, November 8, 2024

7:00 pm Vespers

7:30 pm Men's Fellowship Meeting

Saturday, November 9, 2024

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, November 10, 2024

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Parking Notice

Please do not park in the spaces across from the Russell Road entrance to the church. These spaces are reserved and paid for by Presidential Greens residents. Please remember that we have permission from **The Birchmere** to use their front parking lot on **Sunday mornings from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm**. Please follow the signs and only park in the designated areas. Please vacate the lot by **2:30 pm**.

Formed.org

Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier! Did you know that St. Rita Parish has a subscription to Formed.org? Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! To sign up for free, visit signup.formed.org and enter "St. Rita Church" to create your free account.



St. Nicholas Market: Save the Date

Mark your calendars and bring the entire family to the 4th Annual St. Nicholas Market on **Sunday, December 8**, from **10:30 am - 3:30 pm**. This annual event brings together hundreds of families for Christmas shopping, fellowship, and merrymaking, and fosters our strong parish community. If you are interested in being a vendor or helping with the committee, please email **Amanda** at saintrita hospitality@gmail.com. We also have a number of corporate and family sponsorships available this year! Sponsorship information is available on our website (<https://stritaalexandria.com/st-nicholas-market/>). Please consider joining us!



News from the Diocese and Beyond

Solemn Vespers with Bishop Burbidge

Bishop Burbidge invites you to join him for the celebration of Solemn Vespers to be held in thanksgiving for the naming of six priests of the Diocese of Arlington as "Chaplains to His Holiness" by Pope Francis and bestowing on them the title of Monsignor. Solemn Vespers will be held at the **Cathedral of Saint Thomas More**, Arlington, at **7:00 pm**, on Sunday, November 24, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. All are invited to a dessert reception to follow in Burke Hall. Learn more at arlingtondiocese.org/event/solemn-vespers-2024.

A Man for All Seasons at Bishop Ireton

Bishop Ireton High School's Theater Arts Department presents *A Man for All Seasons*, **November 15, 16, 17 and 22 at 7:00 pm**, and **November 23 at 2:00 pm** in **Garwood Whaley Auditorium at Bishop Ireton High School**, 201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, VA 22314. Tickets and further information are available at <https://www.bishopireton.org/fine-arts/theater-arts>.

Lectors Needed

Become a lector and help to spread the Word of God and contribute to our parish. Lectors are needed for all Masses. Scheduling is flexible and training is provided. Please consider volunteering for this ministry. To volunteer, or if you would like more information, please contact **Frank Donahoe** at **703-960-0719** or fpdonahoe137@gmail.com.



Substitute Teachers Needed

Saint Rita School is looking for substitute teachers (Pre-K-8th Grade) to fill in on a daily basis and occasionally for extended periods. A good rapport with children is essential, but a teaching license is not required. Candidates must have a Bachelor's Degree. For more information or to apply to get on our substitute list, please send a resume and cover letter to:

Pre-School: **Caitlin Rockwell** at rockwell@saintrita-school.org
K-8: **Malia Busekrus** at mbusekrus@saintrita-school.org

Volunteers Needed

for St. Martin de Porres Senior Center

The St. Martin de Porres Senior Center provides a variety of services to prevent the isolation of seniors and promote their wellness, happiness, and independence, by providing congregate meals, health screenings, exercise, educational activities, and numerous activities. Many volunteers are need to provide these services. For more information or to volunteer, contact **Maria Mellor** at **703-751-2766** or maria.mellor@ccda.net.

Seminarian Education Endowment Fund

Please support our seminarians by contributing to SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously! For more information and to donate, please visit <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/development/the-foundation/financially-support-seminarian-education/>.

National Vocations Awareness Week

It's National Vocations Awareness Week, a good time to ask if God is calling you to pray for, support, promote or discern a vocation. Visit www.ArlingtonVocations.org or contact **Fr. Michael Isenberg** in the Office of Vocations, michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org or **(703) 841-2514** to learn more.

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Maria Josepha, Labor Mariae; William Manaker, Society of Jesus; Catherine Addington, Daughters of St. Paul; Vayla Lamarra, Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles; Seminarians for the Diocese of Arlington, especially Deacon Joseph Connor, John Murphy, and Daniel Usewick

For the Sick in our Parish:

Renuka Carlitti, Karen Davidson, J.G.

If you know of someone who should be on the list, please contact Elizabeth at bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com. Names will remain on the above prayer list for 30 days from the time they are requested. At the end of that time, you may renew your request.

Thank you!

For the Deceased in our Parish:

John Abarre, HESSIE BANNON, Bob D'Sylva, Mary Gleeson, William C. Haas, Oscar Merino, Aileen Price, Joanne Robertson, Laura Maitre Stevens, George Szele, Rafael Vasquez-Coubert, Raymond Williams, Angela Wilson