

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



January 12, 2025: The Baptism of the Lord

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	

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.

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

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

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, January 13, 2025

Saint Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Glen Rice †

7:30 pm James and Brigid Hickman

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Tuesday of the First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am John Pedulla

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Wednesday of the First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Joanne Robertson †

7:30 pm Donna Connor

Thursday, January 16, 2025

Thursday of the First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Donald Trump

Friday, January 17, 2025

Saint Anthony, Abbot

7:00 am Peggy Swartz †

7:30 pm Cecilia Sierra

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Saturday of the First Week in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Jolie Chenet

5:00 pm The Whittaker Family

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Donald Trump

8:00 am Brian Lynch

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Francisca Umaña †

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

David Connor, Lisa McNichols, Helena Briggs, Jennifer O'Connell

2024 Tax Letters

2024 Tax Letters will be mailed or emailed to you by the end of January. If you would prefer to receive the letter through the mail, please contact the parish office at [703-836-1640](tel:703-836-1640) or aramirez.strita@gmail.com.

Las Cartas de Impuestos de 2024 se le enviarán por correo o correo electrónico a finales de enero. Si prefiere recibir la carta por correo, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al [703-836-1640](tel:703-836-1640) o aramirez.strita@gmail.com.

Lost and Found

Are you looking for lost items? Please stop by the rectory office [weekdays](#) between [9:00 am - 9:00 pm](#) or call the office at [703-836-1640](tel:703-836-1640) to check the parish lost and found. Any lost items that are not claimed after 30 days are donated or discarded.



Coffee and Donuts Next Sunday in the School Hall

Please join us for Coffee and Donuts [Sunday, January 19, 2025](#) in the School Hall after all Masses, starting after the 8:00 am Mass.

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!

Together We Celebrate Life: March for Life 2025

The March for Life is an inspiring, peaceful, vibrant, and joy-filled rally of women, men, young people, and children from all across the country who gather every year to march on Capitol Hill near the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade ruling which legalized abortion in all 50 states. Please join other St. Rita parishioners for [Mass at noon](#), a light lunch, and then a bus ride to the Mall for the March on [Friday, January 24, 2025](#). We will return to St. Rita Church around [5:00 pm](#). Look for a sign-up list in the vestibule. Please contact [Chris Durel](#) at [571-289-7228](tel:571-289-7228) if you have any questions.



Juntos celebramos la vida: Marcha por la vida 2025

La Marcha por la vida es una manifestación inspiradora, pacífica, vibrante y llena de alegría de mujeres, hombres, jóvenes y niños de todo el país que se reúnen cada año para marchar hacia el Capitolio cerca del aniversario del fallo Roe v. Wade de la Corte Suprema de 1973 que legalizó el aborto en los 50 estados. Únase a otros feligreses de St. Rita para [la misa al mediodía](#), un almuerzo ligero y luego un viaje en autobús al centro comercial para la [marcha el viernes 24 de enero de 2025](#). Regresaremos a la iglesia de St. Rita alrededor de las [5:00 pm](#). Busque una lista de inscripción en el vestíbulo. Comuníquese con [Chris Durel](#) al [571-289-7228](tel:571-289-7228) si tiene alguna pregunta.

Upcoming Second Collections

January 19: Collection for the Church in Latin America
January 26: St. Rita School Tuition Assistance

Thank you for your continued generosity!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, January 12, 2025

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, January 13, 2025

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

No events scheduled.

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

8:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, January 16, 2025

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, January 17, 2025

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, January 18, 2025

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

6:30 pm Teams of our Lady

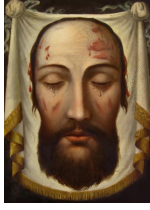
Sunday, January 19, 2025

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face Today

All are welcome to join us for the next meeting of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face **today, January 12**, at **3:00 pm** in the church. This 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 more about the devotion at <https://hisholyface.com/the-devotion/>.



Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is a lay apostolate whose members are dedicated to serving the Church through prayer and apostolic works, under the leadership of our Lady. The English Adult Legion group meets on **Saturdays at 9:15 am** in the Parish Center conference room.



Junior Legion

The Junior Legion of Mary, open to children in grade 3 and higher, meets on **Thursdays at 4:00 pm**. They visit Alexandria Rehab Center as their work.

For more information, or if you are interested in joining in the work of the Legion of Mary, please contact **Vivian Moran** at vivian.b.moran@gmail.com or call or text her at **(703) 888-8196**.

New Mass Intention Limit

Having a Mass offered for someone is a great way to practice the spiritual work of mercy of praying for the living and the dead. It can also be a consolation to a family who has lost a loved one, or a wonderful gift for a birthday, wedding, or any other special occasion. The typical Mass stipend is \$10. Please note that we have a new limit of **10 Masses every three months**, in order to give all parishioners an opportunity to schedule a Mass. To schedule a Mass, please contact Alma Ramirez at 703-836-1640 or aramirez.strita@gmail.com.

Traditional Latin Mass Schola

The St. Rita Traditional Latin Mass Schola will be recruiting members after **Sunday Masses** on **Sunday, January 19**. The schola is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about sacred music, Gregorian chant and the liturgy while contributing your musical talents! All experience and skill levels are welcome! If you are interested in singing with us, come talk to us outside the church on the 19th, contact **Helen McDonough** at hamcdo@gmail.com, or come to one of our practices. We practice at **around 8:00 pm** on **Tuesday** evenings and at **8:00 am** on **Sunday** mornings in the **Parish Center Conference Room**.

WorkCamp 2025

Registration is open for WorkCamp 2025! High School students, parents, and adult volunteers are invited to attend this sleep-away camp from **June 21-27, 2025**. WorkCamp is an opportunity for students to experience a community of faith, service, and fun! Find more information and complete our parish registration form at <https://stritaalexandria.com/workcamp/>. If you are interested in serving as an adult volunteer, please complete the interest form found at <https://stritaalexandria.com/workcamp-adult-volunteer-interest-form/>. Registration will close in early February and is first come, first served, so don't delay! Contact **Maria Goitiandia** at mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com with any questions.

First Saturday Pro-Life Rosary

Come join the new monthly Pro-Life Rosary on the first Saturdays of the month at the abortion clinic at **2616 Sherwood Hall Lane**. The next First Saturday is **Saturday, February 1**. Plan to be there **a little before 10:00 am**, and we will form a group with the others who are there to pray the Rosary together. For more information contact **Rick Strobach** at rick.strobach@gmail.com or **Jay Moret** at felix.moret@gmail.com.

Saint Rita School Admissions

If you would like your child to join our quest for the good, the true, and the beautiful, please consider applying now for the 2025-2026 school year. Applications are due on **January 13, 2025**. Registered, active Saint Rita parishioners receive priority consideration. After January 13, applications will be processed on a rolling basis, with spaces awarded as they remain available. Visit our school website at saintrita-school.org/admissions/apply or call our Admissions Director, **Mrs. Ciatti**, at **(703) 548-1888 ext. 24** with any questions.

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 park only in the designated areas. Please vacate the lot by **2:30 pm**.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"You are my beloved Son; with you, I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22) God takes great pleasure in those who respond to His call. Do you hear His voice? He may be calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life. Talk to your priest or reach out to the **Vocation Office** at **(703) 841-2514** or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Maria Josepha, Labor Mariae; Deacon William Manaker, Society of Jesus; Catherine Addington, Daughters of St. Paul; Sr. Giovanna 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., Constance Richardson, Col. Christie Walton

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, Lee Edwards, Mary Gleeson, William C. Haas, Oscar Merino, Aileen Price, Joanne Robertson, Laura Maitre Stevens, George Szele, Rafael Vasquez-Coubert, Raymond Williams, Angela Wilson