

# 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](http://www.stritaalexandria.com) / [www.saintrita-school.org](http://www.saintrita-school.org)



## January 26, 2025: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### CLERGY AND STAFF

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frc41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
<b>Parochial Vicar</b>	Rev. Nicholas Schierer fatherschierer@gmail.com	Ext. 30
<b>Permanent Deacon</b>	Deacon Stephen J. Dixon deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
<b>In Residence</b>	Rev. Paul Berghout ihmpadre@gmail.com	Ext. 15
<b>Director of Sacred Music</b>	Lawrence Bowie lbowie.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 29
<b>Parish Secretary and Hispanic Liaison</b>	Alma Ramirez aramirez.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 10
<b>Business Manager</b>	Debbie Beck dbeck.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 13
<b>Director of Religious Education</b>	Chloe Holloway cholloway.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 12
<b>Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry</b>	Maria Goitiandia mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 38
<b>Sacristan</b>	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	Elizabeth Vail bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com	
<b>Maintenance Manager</b>	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/](http://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 27, 2025

*Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder*

7:00 am Corey Comperatore †

7:30 pm David Hoffmaster, Jr. †

### Tuesday, January 28, 2025

*Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

7:00 am Kathleen McDonagh †

### Wednesday, January 29, 2025

*Wednesday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Paul Walker †

7:30 pm Joseph Watson †

### Thursday, January 30, 2025

*Thursday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Wendy Peters †

### Friday, January 31, 2025

*Saint John Bosco, Priest*

7:00 am Louis Antonio Piereck †

7:30 pm Matthew Schnur

### Saturday, February 1, 2025

*Saturday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time*

8:00 am Cecilia Sierra

5:00 pm Jose Paredes †

### Sunday, February 2, 2025

*The Presentation of the Lord*

7:00 am Donald Trump

8:00 am Reno Carlitti †

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Isais Saravia y Guadalupe Martínez †

*Additional Mass Intentions this Week:*

Donald Trump, Michael Taylor, Augustine O'Boyle, Oskar Egger †

### 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** or [aramirez.strita@gmail.com](mailto: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** o [aramirez.strita@gmail.com](mailto:aramirez.strita@gmail.com).



### December 2024 Collections

Regular Offertory:	\$41,157
Parish Giving Offertory:	\$57,465
Repairs & Replacements:	\$2,784
Parish Giving Repairs & Replacements:	\$8,255
Poor Box:	\$3,524
Parish Giving Poor Box:	\$6,755

### Bulletin Submissions

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

## Catholic Schools Week Second Collection and Coffee and Donuts



**ST. RITA SCHOOL**  
In the Classical tradition

Catholic Schools Week begins **January 26**. The second collection at this weekend's Masses will benefit the tuition assistance program at Saint Rita School. We hope that you can contribute to this collection to help more of our parish children attend Saint Rita School. Please stop by for coffee and donuts **after the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 26**, take a tour, and see the good things that are happening at our parish school!

### Candlemas

On **Sunday, February 2**, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the blessing of candles will take place at the beginning of each Mass. Please bring your own candles to be blessed, and place them on the table set up in the sanctuary before Mass begins. Please note that we will not be able to bless any candles after Mass.



### 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](mailto:rick.strobach@gmail.com) or **Jay Moret** at [felix.moret@gmail.com](mailto:felix.moret@gmail.com).

## This Week at St. Rita

### Sunday, January 26, 2025

*Coffee and Donuts after the 11am Mass for Catholic Schools Week*

10:30 am St. Rita Young Adult Brunch

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

### Monday, January 27, 2025

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

### Tuesday, January 28, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

### Wednesday, January 29, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

### Thursday, January 30, 2025

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

### Friday, January 31, 2025

7:00 pm Vespers

### Saturday, February 1, 2025

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

### Sunday, February 2, 2025

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

5:30 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

### 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](mailto:mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com) with any questions.



### 2025 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)

The 2025 BLA mailing was recently sent to parishioners. This year's theme is: "Abounding in Hope." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. Sharing your gifts with the more than 40 ministries and programs funded by the BLA truly impacts the lives of thousands across our diocese. You can make a gift at [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA) or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

### Volunteer Needed for Monthly Carpenter's Shelter Dinner



We are in need of a new volunteer to coordinate the dinner that St. Rita provides for the Carpenter's Shelter on the **second Sunday** of each month. The volunteer is responsible for organizing, coordinating and serving the donated food, a time commitment of about 2 hours a month. The volunteer must be over 18. Please contact Maria Smith at [mariasmith1040@comcast.net](mailto:mariasmith1040@comcast.net) if you are interested in coordinating this activity. Since 1988, Carpenter's Shelter, located at **930 N. Henry St.**, has provided safe, temporary housing and community support for families and individuals experiencing homelessness. More information about Carpenter's Shelter is available at <https://carpentersshelter.org>.

### Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2025

La correspondencia sobre la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2025 se envió recientemente a los feligreses. El tema de este año es "Abundando en la esperanza". Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones que Dios les ha dado, en espíritu de oración piensen en hacer una promesa de contribución. El hecho de compartir sus dones con los más de 40 ministerios y programas financiados por la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo realmente tiene una gran repercusión en la vida de miles de personas en toda nuestra diócesis. Pueden enviar una donación a [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA) o escanear el código QR.



ESCANÉAME

### Upcoming Second Collections

January 26: St. Rita School Tuition Assistance  
February 2: Repairs and Replacements

Thank you for your continued generosity!

### Annual All Saints' Car Raffle



St. Rita will once again be participating in the annual car raffle conducted by All Saints' Catholic Church. Prizes include four cars and cash prizes up to \$20,000. All registered parish families will be receiving tickets in the coming weeks. Proceeds will in part benefit our parish, so we strongly encourage all parishioners to participate by purchasing or selling their tickets. Further instructions will be found in the letter enclosed with the tickets.

### Sorteo Anual de Autos de Todos los Santos

St. Rita volverá a participar en la rifa anual de autos realizado por la Iglesia Católica de Todos los Santos. Los premios incluyen cuatro autos y premios en efectivo de hasta \$20,000. Todas las familias parroquiales registradas estarán recibiendo boletos en las próximas semanas. Los ingresos beneficiarán en parte a nuestra parroquia, por lo que animamos encarecidamente a todos los feligreses a participar mediante la compra o venta de sus entradas. Encontrará más instrucciones en la carta adjunta a los boletos.

### 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](mailto: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

### News from the Diocese and Beyond

#### Vocations

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor." (Luke 4:18) Are you being called to share Christ's message of hope through a life of service in the Church? Explore your vocation with openness. Talk to your priest or reach out to the **Vocation Office** at **(703) 841-2514** or via email: [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org).