

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 5, 2025: Epiphany 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 6, 2025

Saint André Bessette, Religious

7:00 am Michael Barker †

7:30 pm Pedro Dominguez †

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Saint Raymond of Peñafort, Priest

7:00 am Robert D'Sylva †

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

Christmas Weekday

7:00 am David Hogan †

7:30 pm Jolie Chenet

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Christmas Weekday

7:00 am Donald Trump

Friday, January 10, 2025

Christmas Weekday

7:00 am Michael Burley †

7:30 pm Cecilia Sierra

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Christmas Weekday

8:00 am Jim Lovelace †

5:00 pm Buzz Mogck †

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Baptism of the Lord

7:00 am Eileen Cesca †

8:00 am William Lowe

9:15 am Santiago R. Soutuyo †

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Alexis Flores

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Glen Rice †, Haley Lange, Rita Brogan †



*"We have seen his
star in the East,
and have come to
worship him."
Matthew 2:2*

Coffee and Donuts Today in the School Hall

Please join us for Coffee and Donuts today, **Sunday, January 5, 2025** in the School Hall after all Masses, starting after the 8:00 am Mass.



Gift for Life Giving Tree

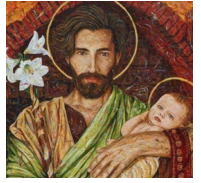
Please consider giving a *Gift for Life* this Christmas season. The tags on our Giving Tree in the Russell Road vestibule will support the Gabriel Project Pregnancy Assistance and Project Rachel After Abortion Care ministries. For more information or to donate online, please visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife.

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, January 10**, 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, "Foster Father of the Son of God." 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!*



Baptism Classes

The next Spanish Baptism class will take place on **Wednesday, January 8** at **6:00 pm**. English Baptism classes are scheduled on an individual basis with Fr. Schierer. Please contact the parish office for more information or to sign up for a class.

Upcoming Second Collections

January 5: Repairs and Replacements
January 19: Collection for the Church in Latin America
January 26: St. Rita School Tuition Assistance

Thank you for your continued generosity!

No Adoration or Confessions Thursday, January 9

There will be no Adoration or Confessions on **Thursday, January 9**, due to the School Epiphany Lessons and Carols.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, January 5, 2025

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, January 6, 2025

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, January 8, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Spanish Baptism Class

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

8:15 pm St. Rita Young Adult Women's Group

8:15 pm St. Rita Young Adult Men's Group

Thursday, January 9, 2025

No Adoration or Confessions

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

5:30 pm School Epiphany Lessons and Carols

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, January 10, 2025

7:00 pm Vespers

7:30 pm Men's Fellowship

Saturday, January 11, 2025

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, January 12, 2025

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

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** 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** si tiene alguna pregunta.

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.

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

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.



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**.

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face Next Sunday

All are welcome to join us for the next meeting of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face **next Sunday, 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/>.

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** to check the parish lost and found. Any lost items that are not claimed after 30 days are donated or discarded.

Saint Rita School Open House

St. Rita School is hosting an Open House on **Thursday, January 9 at 9:00 am** for all prospective preschool and K-8 families. Our presentations and tours will highlight our Catholic, classical approach to education within a strong community. To RSVP, please visit our website at saintrita-school.org.



ST. RITA SCHOOL
In the Classical tradition

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"They opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11) What gift can you offer Christ? If He is calling you to a vocation that serves the Church, He is asking for the gift of your life to serve His people. Talk to your priest or reach out to the **Vocation Office** at **(703) 841-2514** or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.