

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



February 9, 2025: Fifth 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 Goitandia mgoitandia.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

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, February 10, 2025

Saint Scholastica, Virgin

7:00 am Alma Ramirez

7:30 pm Napoleon Paredes ☩

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

Our Lady of Lourdes

7:00 am Emma Faustina Oliverio

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

Wednesday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Fr. Jack O'Hara

7:30 pm Maximilian Alexander Piereck

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Thursday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Violet Therese Oliverio

Friday, February 14, 2025

Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop

7:00 am Charles Rutherford ☩

7:30 pm Barbara Taylor ☩

Saturday, February 15, 2025

Saturday of the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Felice ☩ and Julia Litterio

5:00 pm Clarissa Piereck

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Cecilia Sierra

8:00 am Ava Ford

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Spanish Prayer Group

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Donna Glidewell ☩, Caitlin Rockwell, For the Flourishing of the TLM, Francisco Villasenor

Galentine's Day Party for High School Girls



All High School-aged girls are invited to a Galentine's Day party, hosted by the St. Rita Youth Ministry, **this Friday, February 14**, from **6:00-9:00 pm** in the St. Rita Convent.

The party will include pizza, crafts, karaoke, and Adoration. For more information, please contact **Maria Goitiandia** at mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com.

St. Rita Men's Fellowship Meeting



The St. Rita Men's Fellowship will meet on **Friday, February 14**, 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, "Spouse of the Mother 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!*

Bulletin Submissions

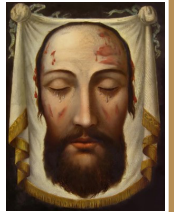
Please submit all announcements for the bulletin to **Elizabeth Vail** at bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com by **Wednesday**, ten days before the desired bulletin date. Thank you!

Volunteer Needed for Monthly Carpenter's Shelter Dinner

We are in need of a new volunteer to coordinate St. Rita's monthly dinner 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 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>.

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face Today

All are welcome to join us for the next meeting of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face **today, February 9**, 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/>.



Baptism Classes

The next Spanish Baptism class will take place on **Wednesday, February 12** 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.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, February 9, 2025

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, February 10, 2025

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

6:00 pm Spanish Baptism Class

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

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

Thursday, February 13, 2025

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, February 14, 2025

6:00 pm Galentine's Day Party

7:00 pm Vespers

7:30 pm Men's Fellowship

Saturday, February 15, 2025

9:15 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, February 16, 2025

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

2024 Tax Letters

2024 Tax Letters have been emailed and the mailing is on its way. If you received an email, but would prefer to receive your tax letter through the mail, please call the parish office to let us know. If you do not receive an email or a paper copy of your tax letter, please contact [Alma Ramirez](mailto:aramirez.strita@gmail.com) at aramirez.strita@gmail.com. If you give online, please obtain your tax letter directly from the Parish Giving site at parishgiving.org. If you primarily use Parish Giving (PG) but also received a tax letter from the church, add that sum to your PG total.

Las Cartas de Impuestos 2024

Se han enviado las Cartas de Impuestos 2023 por correo electrónico. Si no tenemos su correo electrónico enviaremos una copia por correo. Si no recibe un correo electrónico o una copia impresa de su carta de impuestos, comuníquese con [Alma Ramirez](mailto:aramirez.strita@gmail.com) a aramirez.strita@gmail.com. Si hace sus donaciones en línea, obtenga su carta de impuestos directamente del sitio Parish Giving en parishgiving.org. Si usa principalmente Parish Giving (PG) pero también recibió una carta de impuestos de la iglesia, agregue esa suma a su total de PG.

Homeschool Atrium Aide Needed



We are looking for a volunteer to assist as an aide in the Level II Atrium (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd) for our Wednesday Homeschool Atrium Program. Assistance is needed from **2:30-4:30 pm on Wednesday afternoons**. Prior experience is not necessary, but volunteers must have VIRTUS certification. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Elizabeth Vail](mailto:evail.strita@gmail.com) at evail.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, Michael Barker, Hessie Bannon, Bob D'Sylva, Lee Edwards, John Francis Garrity, III, Mary Gleeson, William C. Haas, Oscar Merino, Aileen Price, Joanne Robertson, Laura Maitre Stevens, George Szele, Rafael Vasquez-Coubert, Raymond Williams, Angela Wilson



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 may make a gift at www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code.



SCAN ME

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 o escanear el código QR.



ESCANÉAME

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.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"Leaving all things, they followed Him" (Luke 5:11) Are you being called to leave all things to follow Christ? Explore your vocation with openness. Talk to your priest or reach out to the [Vocations Office](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org) at (703) 841-2514 or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.