

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



March 30, 2025: Fourth Sunday of Lent

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, March 31, 2025

Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent

7:00 am Edgar Gonzalez †

7:30 pm Joanie O'Connell †

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent

7:00 am Ruth N. Bakatukanda †

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit

7:00 am Cecilia Castillo

7:30 pm Kristin Lowe

Thursday, April 3, 2025

Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent

7:00 am Dorthy Oliverio

Friday, April 4, 2025

Saint Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Jeffrey Leonard East †

7:30 pm Tere Wallace †

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent

8:00 am Matt and Richael Clasen

5:00 pm Martha Kopacz †

Sunday, April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:00 am Orah Cobb-Adams

8:00 am The Families of the President and Vice President

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Zoila Lemus

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Maureen Koshakji, Ailsa Skuodas, Jon Schnur

Upcoming Second Collections

March 30: Catholic Relief Services

April 6: Repairs and Replacements

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Mother of Light Center Lenten Cross

The Mother of Light Center Lenten Cross is in the Russell Road vestibule of the church filled with many cards/items needed by the Mother of Light Center. Choose a card, fulfill the request, and bring items back to the church vestibule now through **Wednesday, April 23**. The items will go directly to the clients of Mother of Light Center. Thank you for your generosity!

La Cruz de Cuaresma del Centro Madre de la Luz

La Cruz de Cuaresma del Centro Madre de la Luz se encuentra en el vestíbulo de Russell Road, llena de tarjetas y artículos que el Centro Madre de la Luz necesita. Elija una tarjeta, complete la solicitud y devuélvala al vestíbulo de la iglesia desde ahora hasta **el miércoles 23 de abril**. Los artículos se destinarán directamente a los clientes del Centro Madre de la Luz. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!

Bulletin/Newsletter Submissions

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

Soup and Stations

Join us **every Friday in Lent** at **5:30 pm** for a simple soup supper in the Parish Center followed by Stations of the Cross (**6:00pm en Español; 6:30pm in English**) in the Church. Please bring a pot of meatless soup to share. Bread and water will be provided by the hosting group. The hosting group for this Friday will be the Knights of Columbus.

St. Rita Parish Festival

Please join us on **Saturday, May 24**, from **6:00 - 10:00 pm** for *An Evening in Cascia*, an adults-only evening with dinner and dancing. We will have live music, and an Italian-themed meal. More details and ticket sales will be available in the coming weeks. Please note that this event will take the place of the daytime festival we have had in previous years. We hope to see you there!

Come Holy Spirit

On **Monday, April 7**, Bishop Coffey of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA will celebrate our Confirmation Mass at St. Rita Church. We will have about 35 Confirmandi from our parish who have been preparing all year with a retreat, service, and catechesis. Please keep them in your prayers as they are sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation Scheduling Note

Please note that there will be no Adoration, Confessions or 7:30 pm Mass on **Monday, April 7** due to our Confirmation Mass with Bishop Coffey scheduled that night.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, March 30, 2025

9:00 am - 2:00 pm Clothing Drive (Teen Dress Clothes)

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, March 31, 2025

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes

8:15 pm Young Adult Men's Group

8:15 pm Young Adult Women's Lenten Series

Thursday, April 3, 2025

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:00 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, April 4, 2025

5:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper

6:00 pm Via Crucis en Español

6:30 pm English Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, April 5, 2025

9:00 am OCIA

9:15 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, April 6, 2025

4:00 pm Confirmation Rehearsal

5:30 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Procession in Honor of the Holy Face of Jesus

*Sunday, April 6
about 10:30 am*



*Please join us for a small procession
in honor of the Holy Face of Jesus as a way to enter into
Passiontide, the two weeks leading up to Easter.*

ST. RITA PARISH FESTIVAL:
AN EVENING IN CASCIA

Buona Festa!

Dinner & Dancing

Saturday, May 24, 2025

6pm – 10pm

Catered Dinner

Open Bar

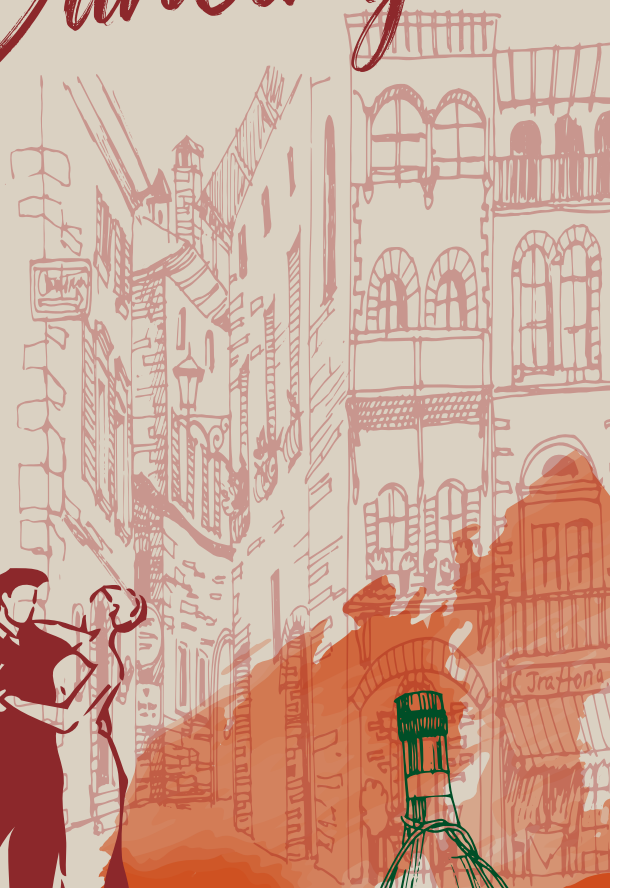
Rita's Italian Ice

Live Music and Dancing

Tickets: \$25 each or \$40 per couple

This event is for adults

*Live Music by the Scott Ragsdale Orchestra
with guest vocalist Daniel Murray*



CYO Track and Field

Do you have a third through eighth grader who is interested in competing in throwing the shot put or turbo javelin, long jumping, sprinting or running longer distances on the track? St. Rita has a CYO track and field program open to all St. Rita School Students or registered parishioners. Homeschool students, as well as all students registered for the Religious Education program qualify to participate! The track team is a great community that unites all the parts of our parish into a competitive team. We train the children according to their talents in sprints, distance, throws, jumps and relays. If you want your child to be fit and make friends or get involved in a sport he or she might want to do in high school, you will be interested in this program. Please email **Coach Lisa McNichols** at stritchtrack@gmail.com with any questions.

Annual All Saints' Car Raffle



Thanks to all those who have returned their car raffle tickets—special thanks to those who have requested extras to sell to their relatives, friends, co-workers, bowling team, etc. Please note that raffle tickets must be processed at All Saints and checks must be made payable to All Saints. Please mail your tickets and payment directly to All Saints in the envelope provided. If you would like additional tickets, please email

strita.car.raffle@gmail.com.

Sorteo Anual de Autos de Todos los Santos

Gracias a todos los que devolvieron sus boletos para la rifa de autos, y en especial a quienes solicitaron boletos adicionales para vender a sus familiares, amigos, compañeros de trabajo, etc. Tengan en cuenta que los boletos deben procesarse en All Saints y los cheques deben hacerse a nombre de All Saints. Envíen sus boletos y el pago directamente a All Saints en el sobre proporcionado. Si desean boletos adicionales, envíen un correo electrónico a strita.car.raffle@gmail.com.

2025 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)

Thank you to those who have pledged to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal! If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on your blessings and consider making a commitment. The BLA unites us as a diocesan family to support programs, ministries and services which help tens of thousands of people. Every donation, large or small, is essential. You may make a pledge at www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



SCAN ME

Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2025

Gracias a todas las personas que ya han hecho una promesa de contribución a la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo. Si todavía no han hecho su ofrenda, reflexionen, en espíritu de oración, sobre las bendiciones recibidas y piensen en hacer una oferta hoy. La Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo nos ofrece una singular oportunidad de unirnos como familia católica para apoyar los programas, ministerios y servicios que ayudan a decenas de miles de personas. Cada donación, grande o pequeña, es vital para el éxito de la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo. Pueden enviar una donación a www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA o escanear el código QR. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!



ESCANÉAME

Registration Now Open For St. Rita Summer Camp

It's time to start planning for a summer full of adventure and fun! Our exciting Summer Camp lineup is ready, with themed weeks that will spark creativity, curiosity, and new friendships! Check out the details below and sign up today!

Summer Camp Themes & Dates:

Week 1: June 30th – July 3rd (no camp on July 4th)

Ancient World Week – Legends of the Lost Civilization

Explore the wonders of the ancient world, uncovering the secrets of lost civilizations!

Week 2: July 7th – July 11th

Medieval Week – Quest for the Holy Grail

Embark on a knightly adventure as we journey through the medieval era in search of the Holy Grail!

Week 3: July 14th – July 18th

Inventors and Innovators

Channel your inner inventor and discover the groundbreaking innovations that have shaped our world!

Sign up for this year's summer camp at <https://bit.ly/strita-summercamp2025> by **April 4, 2025** to secure your spot. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact our Summer Camp Director, **Estela Lizano** at elizano@saintrita-school.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., Kimberly Meredith, 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, Jose Luis Arranda, Michael Barker, Hessie Bannon, Bob D'Sylva, Lee Edwards, John Francis Garrity, III, Mary Gleeson, William C. Haas, Oscar Merino, Joanne Robertson, George Szele, Rafael Vasquez-Coubert

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Vocations

"While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him." (Luke 15:20) Our Father calls us to run toward the path He has prepared for us. Is He inviting you to share this compassion with others through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Talk to your priest or reach out to the **Vocations Office** at **(703) 841-2514** or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.