



St. Rita Catholic Church

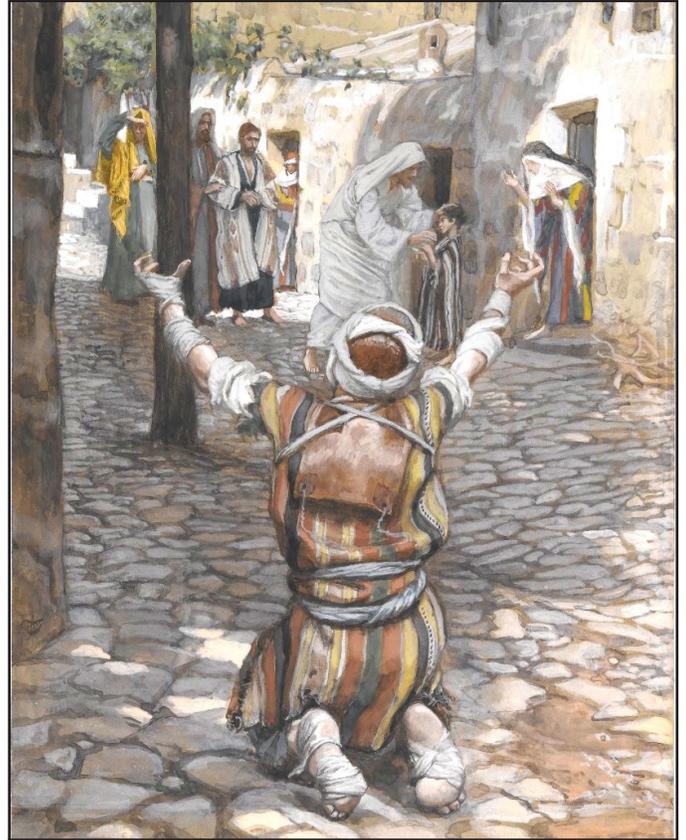
3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305 | 703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)

www.stritaalexandria.com | Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9 am - 9 pm

October 12, 2025: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen fccc41@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 and Bulletin Editor	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
Maintenance Manager	Adan Aguilar aaguilar.strita@gmail.com	



And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. (Lk 17:15-16)

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

(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

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)

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Monday, October 13, 2025

Monday of the Twenty-Eighth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Thomas Hart

7:30 pm The President

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Saint Callistus I, Pope and Martyr

7:00 am All the Souls in Purgatory †

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Mickey Minto †

7:30 pm Joseph Durel

Thursday, October 16, 2025

Saint Hedwig, Religious; Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

7:00 am Patricia Carter †

Friday, October 17, 2025

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 am Jutta Grumm †

7:30 pm Mary Patricia Devene †

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Saint Luke, Evangelist

8:00 am Geri Durholt †

5:00 pm Cecilia Sierra

Sunday, October 19, 2025

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Renuka Carlitti

8:00 am Jane and Mac Quinn

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Por Nuestros Hermanos Inmigrantes

Perseguidos y Sus Familias

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Jose de Jesus Orellana †, Alexandra Oakes, Jon and Elisa Schnur, Santiago Soutuyo †

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face Meeting Today

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



No Birchmere Parking and

No Coffee and Donuts Next Sunday

Due to an event at the Birchmere, there will be no Birchmere Parking and no Coffee and Donuts on **Sunday, October 19**. Coffee and Donuts will resume on Sunday, November 16.

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!



Women's Group Meeting:

Friday, October 17

Women of St. Rita...Please join other parish women and Fr. Christensen on **Friday, October 17**, in the Parish Center Reception Room. We will gather at **7:00 pm** for snacks and social time, followed by a talk by Fr. Christensen at **7:30 pm**. Come and connect with other women while growing in your Faith!

Make Your Offertory Commitment Online

Thank you to every one who has already made an offertory commitment for the coming year. If you have not yet made your offertory commitment, you may easily complete your commitment form online by scanning the QR code or by visiting our parish website at www.stritaalexandria.com. Thank you for your generosity and for supporting the mission of St. Rita Parish!



"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (1 Peter 4:10)

St. Teresa of Jesus on Prayer (Feast: October 15)

However quietly we speak, He is so near that He will hear us; we need no wings to go in search of Him but have only to find a place where we can be alone and look upon Him present within us.



*The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, October 13**, in observance of **Columbus Day**.*

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, October 12, 2025

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, October 13, 2025

Parish Office closed in observance of Columbus Day

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

8:00 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2025

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

6:30 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, October 17, 2025

7:00 pm Vespers

7:00 pm Women's Group Meeting

Saturday, October 18, 2025

9:00 am OCIA

9:00 am Legion of Mary

6:30 pm Teams of our Lady

Sunday, October 19, 2025

No Birchmere Parking and No Coffee and Donuts

5:00 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

St. Rita Date Night



RT's Restaurant
3804 Mt. Vernon Ave
Alexandria, VA 22305

SAT, OCT 18

7-8:30PM

**SIGN UP
HERE!**

Whether you've been married for years or are still in the early chapters, or even just dating, this simple night out creates space to strengthen your bond and return home refreshed. More than just dinner, it's an intentional time to invest in one another and be reminded of the gift of community.



SPECIAL KIDS/ NEEDS



FUNDRAISER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

To learn more & donate:
Para mas informacion y donar:
Portocharities.org/sksn

October 25-26

The second collection will benefit Porto Charities, a non-profit organization serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Diocese of Arlington.

Our diocesan schools require extra financial support to ensure these valued students have the resources to thrive. By supporting Porto Charities you are helping our diocese to continue to serve those who want and deserve a Catholic education and faith formation. I encourage you to prayerfully consider a gift to support this very important mission.

100% of ALL donations goes to our Catholic Schools serving students with disabilities!

100% de TODAS las donaciones son para nuestras Escuelas Catolicas sirviendo estudiantes con discapacidades



Octubre 25-26

La segunda colecta beneficiará a Porto Charities, una organización sin fines de lucro que sirve a personas con discapacidades intelectuales en la Diócesis de Arlington.

Nuestras escuelas requieren apoyo financiero adicional para garantizar que estos valiosos estudiantes tengan los recursos para prosperar. Al apoyar a Porto Charities, está ayudando a nuestra diócesis a continuar sirviendo a aquellos que quieren y merecen una educación católica y una formación en la fe. Los animo a que consideren en oración un regalo para apoyar esta misión tan importante.



all Young Adults invited to attend

ALL SAINTS' DAY

Masquerade Ball

6:00 PM ——— 10:00 PM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
ST. RITA'S SCHOOL HALL

scan here for more details and to purchase your tickets



First-ever Diocesan Week of Service



In November, St. Rita Parish and School will join the Diocese of Arlington in a powerful witness of our faith. Through a Fall/Winter Clothing Drive, we will offer the hands and heart of Christ to our neighbors in need. Look for details in future bulletins.

Faith is contact with the mystery of God.
St. John Paul II

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Catherine Addington, Daughters of St. Paul; Sr. Giovanna Lamarra, Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles; Br. Nathaniel Labs, Order of Preachers; Mark Martinez, Archdiocese of Santa Fe; Seminarians for the Diocese of Arlington, especially John Murphy and Daniel Usewick

For the Sick in our Parish:

Veronica Abarre, Renuka Carlitti, Josephine Cunningham, Barry Foust, J.G., Jennifer Jacobs, Kimberly Meredith, Constance Richardson, Susan Tracey, 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:

Jose Luis Arranda, Michael Barker, Hessie Bannon, Daniel Lee Beiro, Lee Edwards, John Francis Garrity, III, David Langley, Oscar Merino, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, John Martin Rice, Jane Rippy, Fermin L. Vilar

Christ House Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for an upcoming dinner service at the Christ House Shelter on **Sunday, October 26 at 5:00 pm**. Most importantly, we are looking for volunteers to cook a batch of beef stew or make brownies or cookies and deliver the food to the shelter between **4:15-4:30 pm** that day. If interested, please contact **Eric Co** at erico9@yahoo.com or **713-206-8759**.



Volunteers for Refugee Adjustment Workshop at St. Rita



Hogar Immigrant Services - Legal of Catholic Charities Diocese of Arlington is hosting a Refugee Adjustment Workshop at **St. Rita School (School Hall)** on **Saturday, November 1**, from **9:30 am - 4:30 pm** to assist Refugee's applications for adjustment of status (lawful permanent residence or "green cards") to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Training on completing the green card application will be provided. No prior immigration law experience is needed. Attorneys: only an active law license in any U.S. jurisdiction is required. Interpreters and Law Students are welcome, as well. The Volunteer Registration deadline is **5:00 pm** on **Thursday, October 30**. You can volunteer by scanning the QR Code. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **Hogar Legal** at VolunteerHogar@ccda.net. Thank you!

Upcoming Second Collections

- October 19: World Mission Sunday
- October 26: Porto Charities
- November 1: All Saints Day

News from the Diocese and Beyond

27th Annual Christ the King Men's Retreat

Arm yourself for the war being waged against God by the evil one's unrelenting assault on human life. The Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by Father Francis de Rosa, will be held on **Saturday, October 25** from **8:30 am - 1:15 pm** at **St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church**. There is no charge for this event, but you must register before **October 20** at www.waywomen.com/mensretreat. Donations gratefully accepted. For more information, contact **Robin Maas** at rmvmaas@gmail.com.

International Week of Prayer and Fasting

Join others throughout the world for nine days of prayer and fasting from **November 15-23**. The Opening Day of Prayer for the 33rd International Week of Prayer and Fasting will be held on **Saturday, November 15**, from **8:30 am - 5:00 pm** at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC, with Mass at noon, Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary, Confessions, and speakers. This Year's theme is **MERCY & HEALING: For the Jubilee Year of Hope**. The Virtual Conference on November 17-19 will feature additional speakers. Talks are free during the actual day of the presentation, or are available for purchase online for future viewing. Please register at www.iwopf.org or call **703-707-0799**. This is a FREE event; however, online donations are welcomed to help support our ministry.