



# 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 5, 2025: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## CLERGY AND STAFF

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frcc41@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 and Bulletin Editor</b>	Elizabeth Vail evail.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 11
<b>Maintenance Manager</b>	Adan Aguilar aaguilar.strita@gmail.com	



**Our Lady of the Rosary**  
(Feast: October 7)

## ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

“The soul of education is the education of the soul”

<https://saintrita-school.org> | 703-548-1888

<b>Principal</b>	Malia Busekrus
<b>Preschool Director</b>	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/](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.

## 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 6, 2025

*Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin*

7:00 am Sudisksha Konanki  
7:30 pm Patricia Stafford Broderick †

### Tuesday, October 7, 2025

*Our Lady of the Rosary*

7:00 am Elena Grilletta

### Wednesday, October 8, 2025

*Wednesday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Kathryn Jackson †  
7:30 pm Francisco B. Paredes, Jr. †

### Thursday, October 9, 2025

*Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs;*

*Saint John Leonardi, Priest*

7:00 am Jon and Elisa Schnur

### Friday, October 10, 2025

*Friday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am All the Souls in Purgatory †  
7:30 pm Helen Skuodas †

### Saturday, October 11, 2025

*Saint John XIII, Pope*

8:00 am Piero Cenni †  
5:00 pm The President, Vice President, and their Families

### Sunday, October 12, 2025

*Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Fr. Nicholas Schierer  
8:00 am Fr. Nicholas Schierer  
9:15 am Oskar Egger †  
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Isabel Moreno de Marques †

*Additional Mass Intentions this Week:*

Matthew Schnur, Aileen Warren, Patricia and Michael



### High School Youth Ministry

High School Youth Ministry meets every **Thursday** from **6:30-8:30 pm** in the Youth Ministry room located in the old St. Rita Convent. To register your high schooler please fill out the registration form, found in the vestibule, or online on our Youth Ministry page (<https://stritaalexandria.com/youth-group/>). Please contact Maria Goitiandia at [mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com](mailto:mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com) with any questions.

### Baptism Classes

The next Spanish Baptism class will take place on **Wednesday, September 10** 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.



### Bulletin/Newsletter Submissions

Please submit all announcements for the bulletin or email newsletter to [bulletin.submit.strita@gmail.com](mailto: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, October 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, "Support in Difficulties." Bring a chair, cold beverages and food or snacks to share, and your rosary! Please contact **Rick Strobach** at [rick.strobach@gmail.com](mailto:rick.strobach@gmail.com) for more information. New and past members are always welcome! *Sancte Joseph, ora pro nobis!*

### Hiking Retreat with Fr. Christensen for Men and Boys (girls ARE allowed!)

The St. Rita Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a hiking retreat on the **Billy Goat Trail (Section A) in Potomac, MD** on **Saturday, October 11**. The theme of this retreat is the Transfiguration. Even though the retreat will be oriented toward men and boys, women and girls can also join. We will meet in the Parish parking lot at **7:00 am**, and will probably return around noon. Bring **\$5**, snacks and water to share, a rosary, and any other devotional items you would like to have with you. Please sign up by contacting **Rick Strobach** at [rick.strobach@gmail.com](mailto:rick.strobach@gmail.com).



Please NOTE: The Billy Goat trail can be a strenuous hike with lots of ups and downs, rock scrambling, and a need for balance on high rocks and overlooks. We'll stop along the way for the retreat meditations. All children must be accompanied by an adult, and those younger than 8 may find the hike to be too difficult. Wear proper shoes and bring water!

## This Week at St. Rita

### Sunday, October 5, 2025

5:30 pm Teams of our Lady  
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

### Monday, October 6, 2025

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)  
6:15 pm Religious Education Classes  
7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

### Tuesday, October 7, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

### Wednesday, October 8, 2025

6:00 pm Spanish Baptism Class  
6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

### Thursday, October 9, 2025

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary  
6:30 pm High School Youth Ministry

### Friday, October 10, 2025

7:00 pm Vespers  
7:30 pm Men's Fellowship

### Saturday, October 11, 2025

7:00 am Hiking Retreat  
9:00 am Legion of Mary

### Sunday, October 12, 2025

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face  
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

### Archconfraternity of the Holy Face Meeting

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/>.



### Commitment Weekend – Make Your Offertory Commitment Online

This weekend, all parish families are invited to prayerfully make an annual offertory commitment to St. Rita Parish. You can easily complete your commitment form online by scanning the QR code or by visiting our parish website at [www.stritaalexandria.com](http://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)*

### Come and Adore the Lord!



St. Rita has Adoration every **Friday night** from **8pm - Saturday, 8 am**. Our goal is to have two committed Adorers for each hour. If you are interested in signing up to be a committed Adorer, please contact **Michael Cahill** at [Cahill09@hotmail.com](mailto:Cahill09@hotmail.com).

*“The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time that you will spend on earth.” (St. Teresa of Calcutta)*

### 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](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:

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



### 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 **9:00 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** during the school year. 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](mailto:vivian.b.moran@gmail.com) or call or text her at **(703) 888-8196**.

### Upcoming Second Collections

- October 5: Repairs and Replacements
- October 19: World Mission Sunday
- October 26: Porto Charities
- November 1: All Saints Day
- November 2: All Souls Day
- November 2: Repairs and Replacements

## News from the Diocese and Beyond

### Alexandria Life Chain Today

The Alexandria Life Chain will be held along **Franconia Road** from Saint Lawrence Catholic Church, 6222 Franconia Road, to the Springfield Mall, from **2:30 pm to 3:30 pm**, on **Sunday, October 5**, rain or shine. Life Chain signs for church and individual use will be available for pick-up at Hammond Hall adjacent to the church starting at 2:00 pm. Please join us for a respectful, prayerful witness to life.

### 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](http://www.waywomen.com/mensretreat). Donations gratefully accepted. For more information, contact **Robin Maas** at [rmvlmaas@gmail.com](mailto:rmvlmaas@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](http://www.iwopf.org) or call **703-707-0799**. This is a FREE event; however, online donations are welcomed to help support our ministry.