



St. Rita Catholic Church

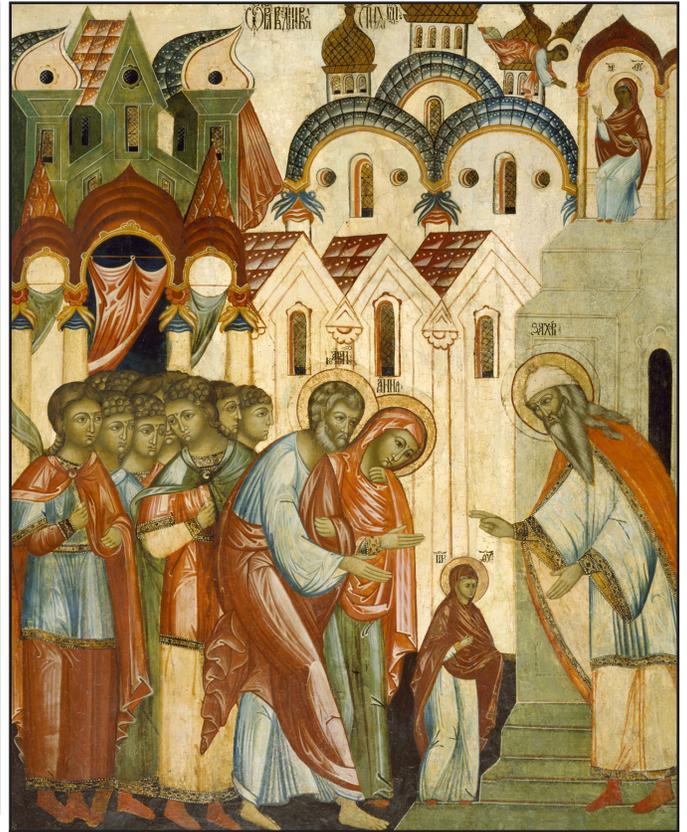
3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305 | 703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)

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

November 16, 2025: Thirty-Third 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	



*The Presentation of Mary (Feast: November 21)
Mary, therefore, is blessed because she heard
the word of God and kept it. (St. Augustine)*

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, November 17, 2025

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

7:00 am Charlotte Kodrich †
7:30 pm Ana LeBlanc

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles; Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin

7:00 am The Sanchez Family

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Wednesday of the Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Conrad Johnson †
7:30 pm Cristina Gore

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Thursday of the Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am In Honor of the Immaculate
Conception of the Blessed Virgin
Mary

Friday, November 21 2025

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 am Luke Larson
7:30 pm (en Español) Lois Kane †

Saturday, November 22, 2025

Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 am Angela Marks and Laura Durel
5:00 pm Jeannine Mantz

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

7:00 am Randy Hart †
8:00 am George Giammittorio †
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo
1:00 pm Maria Elena Reyes †

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Wickstrom, Caitlin Rockwell, Malia Busekrus, The President

Evening Mass on Friday, November 21

The **7:30 pm Mass** on **Friday, November 21** will be in Spanish for the celebration of La Reina de la Paz, Patroness of El Salvador. All are welcome to join the Hispanic community for this celebration which will begin at **7:00 pm** with a procession of children dressed in white, or in traditional Salvadorian attire. After Mass, there will be tamales, hot chocolate and sweet bread in the School Hall to continue the celebration. *Please note that there will be no Vespers on Friday, November 21. Confessions will take place, as usual, at 6:30 pm.*



Upcoming Second Collections

November 23: Catholic Campaign for Human Development
November 27: Thanksgiving

Thank you for your continued generosity!

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!



★ Please visit our table during ★
Donut Sunday, November 16.



Help St Rita American Heritage Girls honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Alexandria National Cemetery

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/VA0710P



Coffee and Donuts Today

Join us for Coffee and Donuts in the School Hall on **Sunday, November 16**, after all Masses, starting after the 8:00 am Mass.



This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Coffee and Donuts after all Masses starting after the 8am Mass
American Heritage Girls Wreaths Across America Sales
Knights of Columbus Advent Candle Sales after all Masses
5:00 pm Teams of our Lady
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, November 17, 2025

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

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour
6:15 pm Religious Education Classes
8:00 am Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, November 20, 2025

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

Friday, November 21, 2025

7:00 pm Celebración en honor a la Reina de la Paz

Saturday, November 22, 2025

Knights of Columbus Advent Candle Sales after 5:00pm Mass
9:00 am OCIA
9:00 am Legion of Mary

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Knights of Columbus Advent Candle Sales after all Masses
10:30 am St. Rita Young Adult Brunch
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

The St. Rita Knights of Columbus

Advent Candles

Available after all Sunday Masses in front of the church:

November 15th and 16th

November 22nd and 23rd

\$10.00 per set

All proceeds benefit St. Rita's seminarians!





ST. RITA SCHOOL
PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES
OPEN HOUSE

K-8TH GRADE- NOVEMBER 18, 2025

PRESCHOOL- NOVEMBER 20, 2025

Catholic / Classical / Community

"The soul of education is the education of the soul"

JOIN US FOR PRESENTATIONS AND
TOURS OF OUR PRESCHOOL & K-8
PROGRAMS



ST. RITA
SCHOOL
In the Classical tradition

Registration required



3801 RUSSELL RD. ALEXANDRIA, VA (703) 548-1888

Lo invitamos a nuestra celebración en honor a la Reina de la Paz, Patrona de El Salvador.



El Viernes 21 de Noviembre del 2025

En la iglesia de Santa Rita

7:00 pm - Procesión con los niños

7:30 pm - Santa Misa.

(Por favor vestir a los niños de blanco o trajes típicos)

Después de la misa tendremos chocolate caliente y pan en el Salón de la escuela.

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

The 5th Annual

ST. NICHOLAS MARKET



SUNDAY, DEC 7, 2025, 10:30AM-3:30PM

3815 RUSSELL ROAD, ALEXANDRIA VA 22305

FINE ART • APPAREL • HOME GOODS AND MORE!
LIVE MUSIC • FOOD & DRINK

For more information, visit

StRitaAlexandria.com/st-nicholas-market



PREPARE FOR JESUS
with
Waiting
WELL
ADVENT with FR. MIKE SCHMITZ



Advent can often feel like a countdown to Christmas, a time of frantically getting ready for the holidays. In fact, this liturgical season is all about waiting—not for a short-lived celebration, but for a person.

Waiting doesn't need to be passive. It can be active preparation, a beautiful opportunity to open the door of your heart to welcome Jesus into every part of your life.

This Advent, join Fr. Mike Schmitz as he shows you how to invite Christ in and share in his lasting peace.

Waiting Well is a prayer journal designed to help you slow down for 10 to 15 minutes a day during the Advent season. Through Fr. Mike's daily reflections, you'll learn how to joyfully anticipate Christmas, so that when Christ comes, you're ready to meet him in the manger.

Each participant will receive a *Waiting Well* journal, filled with beautiful art and meaningful meditations, to use throughout the Advent season.

Please join the St. Rita Women's Group for the Waiting Well Series in the Parish Center.

Monday, December 1 — 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Sundays, December 7, 14, & 21 — 3:30 to 5:00 pm

Please RSVP to saintritawomen@gmail.com by November 16.

Visit AscensionPress.com/WaitingWell.com for more details.



Thanksgiving
Mass Schedule
Thursday, November 27, 2025

7:00 am English
8:30 am English with Music

Please see the flyers in the vestibules or call the parish office for the full schedule of Masses.

Proceeds received from the Thanksgiving Collection will go to the Poor Box to help our neighbors in need.

There will be no Adoration and no 6:30 pm Confessions on Thanksgiving Day.

Parish Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28.

St. Rita Women's Group Leadership Meeting



Are you feeling called to help guide our parish women's group? Do you have ideas you'd like to share? If yes, please join a group of other interested women on **Friday, November 21** at **7:00 pm** in the Parish Center Reception Room. We will be working together to prayerfully establish priorities and activities for 2026. Please email saintritawomen@gmail.com if you have questions or input. Thank you!

Parking Notice

Please do not park in the spaces across from the Russell Road entrance to the church. These spaces are reserved and paid for by Presidential Greens residents. Please remember that we have permission from **The Birchmere** to use their front parking lot on **Sunday mornings from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm**. Please follow the signs and park only in the designated areas. Please vacate the lot by **2:30 pm**.



Formed.org

Did you know that St. Rita Parish has a subscription to Formed.org? Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! To sign up for free, visit signup.formed.org and enter "St. Rita Church" to create your free account.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

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:

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:

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

Knights of Columbus Mexican Martyr Relics



Come venerate the Knights of Columbus Holy Martyrs and heroic priests who gave their lives during the Cristero War, boldly proclaiming Viva Cristo Rey! Their relics now travel as a testament of hope, courage and fidelity to Christ. Events will take place at All Saints in Manassas on **Friday, November 21**, Queen of Angels in Woodbridge on

Saturday, November 22, and Saint Gabriel Mission in Manassas Park on **Sunday, November 23**. For more information and details about these events and to register for free, please visit <https://knightsinsurance.org/events> or scan the QR Code.

