



# 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 23, 2025: Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe**

## CLERGY AND STAFF

<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen fccc41@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	



## 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, November 24, 2025

*Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs*

7:00 am Mary Gore †  
7:30 pm For the Little Children of the Most High  
God Religious Community

### Tuesday, November 25, 2025

*Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr*

7:00 am David Sullivan

### Wednesday, November 26, 2025

*Wednesday of the Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Patricia and Michael  
7:30 pm Naomi Summers

### Thursday, November 27, 2025

*Thursday of the Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Aurelio and Sarah Miller  
8:30 am Frank and Alice Walsh †

### Friday, November 28, 2025

*Friday of the Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time*

7:00 am Alexandra Prettitore  
7:30 pm Jon and Elisa Schnur

### Saturday, November 29, 2025

*Saturday of the Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time*

8:00 am Elizabeth and Sylvester Downing †  
5:00 pm Mary Dowling †

### Sunday, November 30, 2025

*First Sunday of Advent*

7:00 am Mary Ann Kuczynski †  
8:00 am Teachers of St. Rita School  
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo  
1:00 pm Jahison Gonzalez Alvarado

*Additional Mass Intentions this Week:*

In Honor of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary, Celebrant's Intention, William (Bill) Folz †

### October 2025 Collections

Regular Offertory:	\$34,379
Parish Giving Offertory:	\$88,291
Repairs & Replacements:	\$2,569
Parish Giving Repairs & Replacements:	\$5,509
Poor Box:	\$1,834
Parish Giving Poor Box:	\$12,035

### Upcoming Second Collections

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

### Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions

*(Feast: November 24)*

This feast celebrates 117 martyrs (bishops, priests, and laypeople) who gave their lives in witness to Christ in Vietnam during several periods of persecution in the 17th-19th Centuries. They were canonized in 1988 by St. John Paul II.

### 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!

## 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.

### Act of Dedication to Christ the King

Today at all Masses we will pray the Act of Dedication of the Human Race to Christ the King, to which is attached a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions (Confession, Holy Communion, prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father, complete detachment from sin).

*"His empire includes not only Catholic nations, not only baptized persons who, though of right belonging to the Church, have been led astray by error, or have been cut off from her by schism, but also all those who are outside the Christian faith; so that truly the whole of mankind is subject to the power of Jesus Christ." (Pope Leo XIII)*



LECTORS

### Lectors Needed

Become a lector and help spread the Word of God and contribute to our parish. Lectors are needed for all English Masses. Scheduling is flexible and training is provided. Please consider volunteering for this ministry.

To volunteer, or if you would like more information, please contact [Frank Donahoe](mailto:Frank.Donahoe@strita.org) at 571-236-8495 or [fpdonahoe137@gmail.com](mailto:fpdonahoe137@gmail.com).

## This Week at St. Rita

### 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

### Monday, November 24, 2025

*No Religious Education Classes*

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)  
7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

### Tuesday, November 25, 2025

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

### Wednesday, November 26, 2025

*No Religious Education Classes*

### Thursday, November 27, 2025

*Parish Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving*  
No Scheduled Events

### Friday, November 28, 2025

*Parish Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving*

7:00 pm Vespers

### Saturday, November 29, 2025

9:00 am Legion of Mary

### Sunday, November 30, 2025

9:00 am Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast  
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group



## The Relics of St. Thérèse Are Coming Soon!

After 25 years, the magnificent reliquary of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face will once again grace the United States. Wherever St. Thérèse goes, hearts are moved, crowds gather, and countless graces flow. As she promised on her deathbed, **“I want to spend my Heaven doing good on earth.”**

The relics of this beloved Carmelite saint will visit several locations in DC and the surrounding area from November 19-30:

Nov. 19: Theological College, the National Seminary of the Catholic University of America

Nov. 20- 22: Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC

Nov. 23-25: Carmel of Port Tobacco, 5678 Mount Carmel Rd, La Plata, MD

Nov. 25-26: Carmel of Baltimore, 1318 Dulaney Valley Rd, Towson, MD

Nov. 26-29: Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Winchester, VA

Nov. 29-30: Our Lady of Victory Parish, 4835 MacArthur Blvd NW, Washington

**For the full local and national schedule, visit:**

<https://StThereseUSA2025.com>

**Don't miss this rare and grace-filled opportunity to welcome the Little Flower into your heart!**



As part of the Diocese of Arlington's Week of Service, the St. Rita Parish and School Fall/Winter Clothing Drive was **A HUGE SUCCESS.**

**Thank you** to all who generously donated clothing and to all who volunteered to collect, sort, and distribute the clothing.

In sharing Christ's love, we gave hope to 110 of our neighbors who "shopped", filled their bags, and left with smiles. And the Mother of Light Center was able to pack 11 large boxes for those they serve.



***"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."***  
Matthew 25:40

# PRAYER SERVICE *for* UNITY & HEALING *in the* UNITED STATES

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025**

7:00 PM

**CATHEDRAL of  
ST. THOMAS MORE**

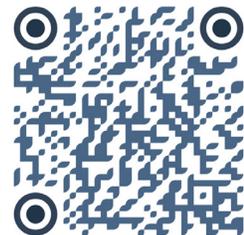
3901 Cathedral Ln, Arlington, VA 22203

**BISHOP MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE**

Bishop of Arlington  
Main Presider

**All are welcome** to join Bishop Michael Burbidge in prayer.

For more information, scan the QR code  
or visit us at [www.arlingtondiocese.org/event/acr2025](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/event/acr2025)



Catholic Diocese of Arlington | Office of Multicultural Ministries

**ST. RITA'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
is hosting a

# **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

after the 8:00, 9:15, and 11:00 Masses

**\$10 per person     \$25 per family**

**THIS IS A FUNDRAISING EVENT TO  
SUPPORT OUR WORK**

**BRING A FRIEND!**



### 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**.

### 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)*

### 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](https://signup.formed.org) and enter "St. Rita Church" to create your free account.

### 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](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:

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 Rippey, Fermin L. Vilar

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

# ST. NICHOLAS MARKET

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

3815 RUSSELL ROAD, ALEXANDRIA VA 22305

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

For more information, visit [StRitaAlexandria.com/st-nicholas-market](https://StRitaAlexandria.com/st-nicholas-market)

### News from the Diocese and Beyond

ST. JEROME INSTITUTE

# NOVA INFO NIGHT

Sunday, December 7  
5:30 pm



Saint Philip Catholic Church  
7500 St. Phillips Ct  
Falls Church, VA 22042

*The St. Jerome Institute is a Christ-centered, liberal arts high school that aspires to cultivate and develop what is most human in our students by incorporating them into the rich tradition of the Catholic faith.*

*We look forward to opening our second location, at St. Philip Catholic Church in Falls Church, VA. Come and see what makes SJi special!*

### CONTACT US

- (703) 576-2405
- [info@stjeromeinstitute.org](mailto:info@stjeromeinstitute.org)
- Explore SJi at [stjeromeinstitute.org](https://stjeromeinstitute.org)

