



St. Rita Catholic Church

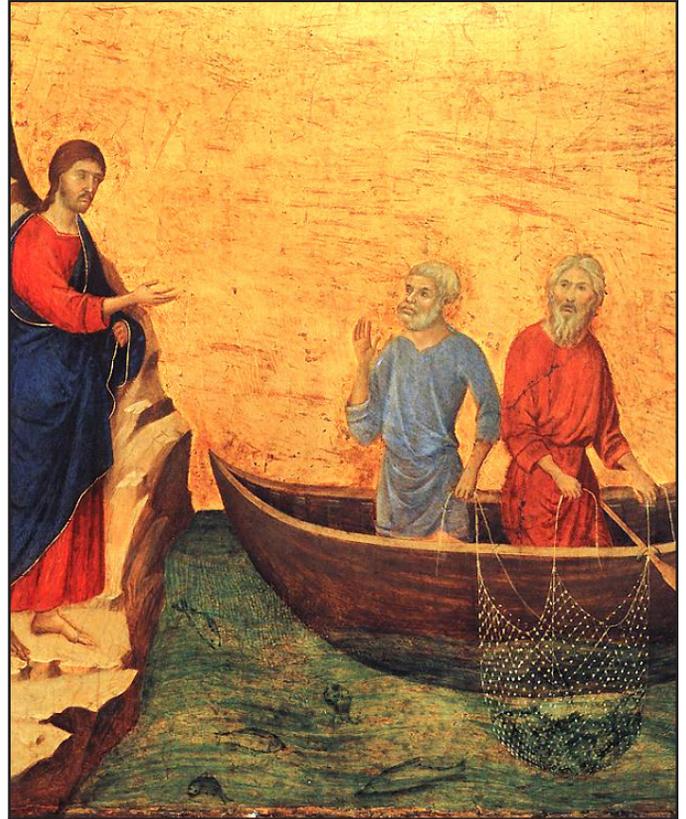
3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305 | 703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)

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

January 25, 2026: 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
In Residence	Rev. Paul Berghout ihmpadre@gmail.com	Ext. 15
Permanent Deacon	Deacon Stephen J. Dixon deacondixon.strita@gmail.com	
Retired Permanent Deacon	Deacon Chris DiGrado cjdigrado@me.com	
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	



As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:18-19)

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, January 26, 2026

Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Bishops

7:00 am Leona Babb ☩

7:30 pm Emma Oliverio

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Saint Angela Merici, Virgin and Religious Founder

7:00 am Jeffrey McMahon ☩

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Bobby and Dana Wann ☩

7:30 pm Danny Black ☩

Thursday, January 29, 2026

Thursday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Charlie Kirk ☩

Friday, January 30, 2026

Friday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Patricia and Michael

7:30 pm Ray Brothers ☩

Saturday, January 31, 2026

Saint John Bosco, Priest

8:00 am Daisy Thackrah ☩

5:00 pm Owen Minnich

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Tina Strassburg ☩

8:00 am Mackenzie Wolf

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm En Accion de Gracias

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Jeffrey McMahon ☩, Elizabeth Hexter, Travis Renee Baldwin ☩, Oskar Egger ☩

Saint Rita School News

Catholic Schools Week is **January 25-31**. Student servers will be serving at Mass on **Sunday, January 25**. All St. Rita School students are encouraged to wear their school uniform and join us for the 11:00am Mass. All are invited to the School Hall **after the 11:00 am Mass** for coffee, donuts, tours, and fellowship. There will also be a second collection for financial aid at all Masses. You can also donate at <https://bit.ly/3YAQq23> or by scanning the QR Code.



First Saturday Pro-Life Rosary



Come join the monthly Pro-Life Rosary on the first Saturdays of the month at the abortion clinic at **2616 Sherwood Hall Lane**. The next First Saturday is **Saturday, February 7**. Plan to be there **a little before 10:00 am**, and we will form a group with the others who are there, and pray the Rosary together. For more information contact **Rick Strobach** at rick.strobach@gmail.com or **Jay Moret** at felix.moret@gmail.com.

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!

Christ House Volunteers Needed



Volunteers are needed for an upcoming dinner service at the Christ House Shelter on **Sunday, January 25 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 ericco9@yahoo.com or **713-206-8759**.

Middle School Ministry

Calendar for February through May 2026

Wednesday, February 11th – Middle School Ministry Night

Friday, February 13th – Galentine's Day (girls only)

Wednesday, March 11th – Middle School Ministry Night

Thursday, April 2nd – Seven Churches Pilgrimage

Wednesday, April 8th – OFF for the Easter Octave

Saturday, April 25th – Diocesan BASH

Wednesday, May 13th – Middle School Ministry Night

All monthly Wednesday night Ministry events take place in the School Hall from 6:15-7:30pm and dinner will be provided!



For more information and to register your 6th - 8th graders contact Maria Goitandia at mgoitandia.strita@gmail.com

Upcoming Second Collections

January 25: St. Rita School Tuition Assistance

February 1: Repairs and Replacements

Thank you for your continued generosity!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Coffee and Donuts after the 11am Mass for Catholic Schools Week

10:30 am St. Rita Young Adult Brunch

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, January 26, 2026

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

3:30 pm Homeschool Schola Practice

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour

6:15 pm Religious Education Classes

6:30 pm Legion of Mary

Thursday, January 29, 2026

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, January 30, 2026

12:15 pm Respect Life Mass and March for Life

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, January 31, 2026

9:00 am OCIA

Sunday, February 1, 2026

9:00 am Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

5:30 pm Teams of our Lady

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

ST. RITA'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
is hosting a

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



SUNDAY, February 1st

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

In the Parish Center Reception Room

\$10 per person \$25 per family

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

BRING A FRIEND!

Candlemas



*The Presentation of the Lord/La Presentación del Señor
Monday, February 2/Lunes 2 de Febrero*

7:00 am Mass in English (Misa en inglés)

7:30 pm Mass in English (Misa en inglés)

On Monday, February 2, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, the blessing of candles will take place at the beginning of each Mass. Please bring your own candles to be blessed, and place them on the designated table before Mass begins. Please note that we will not be able to bless any candles after Mass.

El lunes 2 de febrero, la fiesta de la presentación del Señor, la bendición de las velas tendrá lugar al comienzo de cada misa. Por favor, traiga sus propias velas para ser bendecidas y colóquelas sobre la mesa designada antes que comience la misa. Tenga en cuenta que no estaremos disponibles para bendecir ninguna velas después de la misa.



LIVE THE LIFE
STRENGTHENING MARRIAGES AND FAMILIES

ADVENTURES
in Marriage

FEBRUARY 6-8, 2026

LEARN HOW TO LOVE BETTER!

Most couples don't know how to be married. Come find out why independent researchers are calling this one of the MOST effective marriage programs in the country!

You'll learn:

-  How to communicate
-  How to resolve conflict
-  How to meet the emotional needs of one another

COST: \$50 (+free Childcare!)

Friday: 6 PM - 8 PM
Saturday: 9 AM - 1:30 PM
Sunday: 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM (Mass at 11 AM)

St. Rita Catholic Church
3815 Russell Road
Alexandria, VA 22305

TO REGISTER PLEASE
SCAN THE QR CODE




LIVETHELIFE.ORG

Formed.org

FORMED 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.

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:
Judy Burke, Renuka Carlitti, Josephine Cunningham, Barry Foust, Julie Gunlock, Jennifer Jacobs, Kimberly Meredith, Constance Richardson, Hayden Ruffin, 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, Daniel Lee Beiro, John Francis Garrity, III, David Langley, Oscar Merino, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, Jane Rippy, Fermin L. Vilar

2025 Tax Letters

2025 Tax Letters will be mailed or emailed to you by the end of January. If you would prefer to receive the letter through the mail, please contact the parish office at **703-836-1640** or aramirez.strita@gmail.com.

Las Cartas de Impuestos de 2025 se le enviarán por correo o correo electrónico a finales de enero. Si prefiere recibir la carta por correo, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial al **703-836-1640** o aramirez.strita@gmail.com.

Annual All Saints' Car Raffle

St. Rita will once again be participating in the annual car raffle conducted by All Saints' Catholic Church. Prizes include four cars and cash prizes up to \$42,000. All registered parish families will be receiving tickets in the coming weeks. Proceeds will in part benefit our parish, so we strongly encourage all parishioners to participate by purchasing or selling their tickets. Further instructions will be found in the letter enclosed with the tickets.

Sorteo Anual de Autos de Todos los Santos

St. Rita volverá a participar en la rifa anual de autos realizado por la Iglesia Católica de Todos los Santos. Los premios incluyen cuatro autos y premios en efectivo de hasta \$42,000. Todas las familias parroquiales registradas estarán recibiendo boletos en las próximas semanas. Los ingresos beneficiarán en parte a nuestra parroquia, por lo que animamos encarecidamente a todos los feligreses a participar mediante la compra o venta de sus entradas. Encontrará más instrucciones en la carta adjunta a los boletos.



Bishop's Lenten Appeal 2026

The theme for this Year's Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) is *In Christ, We Are One*. Commitment Weekend will be **February 7/8**. Your participation helps our parish reach our goal while strengthening ministries the parish depends on - seminarian formation, religious education training, youth ministry support, Catholic Charities services, and more. Every gift counts. Every family matters. Monthly recurring gifts are encouraged to spread generosity throughout the year. You can also give a one-time gift or pledge. You may give at arlingtondiocese.org/bla or by scanning the QR code.




Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2026

El tema de la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de este año es *En Cristo, Somos Uno*. El fin de semana de compromiso será **el 7/8 de febrero**. Su participación ayuda a nuestra parroquia a alcanzar su meta y a fortalecer los ministerios de los que depende: la formación de seminaristas, la capacitación en educación religiosa, el apoyo al ministerio juvenil, los servicios de Caridades Católicas y mucho más. Cada donación cuenta. Cada familia es importante. Se recomienda hacer donaciones mensuales recurrentes para compartir la generosidad a lo largo del año. También puede hacer una donación única o un compromiso de donación. Done en arlingtondiocese.org/bla o escanee el código QR.

