



St. Rita Catholic Church

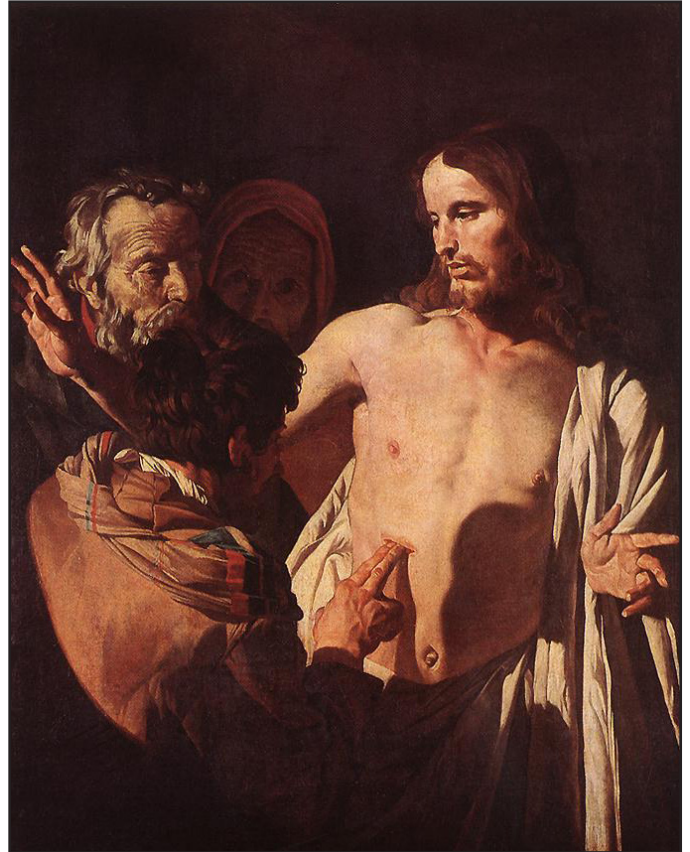
3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305 | 703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)

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

**April 12, 2026: Second Sunday of Easter
(or Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

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	



Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." (Jn 20:27)

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, April 13, 2026

Saint Martin I, Pope and Martyr

7:00 am Joseph Gleason †

7:30 pm Abiel Alvarenga

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter

7:00 am Noemi Neville

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter

7:00 am Donald McGraw

7:30 pm Raynaldo B. Paredes

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Thursday of the Second Week of Easter

7:00 am Pauline Saunders †

Friday, April 17, 2026

Friday of the Second Week of Easter

7:00 am Joseph Ferguson †

7:30 pm Roger Paredes

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Saturday of the Second Week of Easter

8:00 am Helen Skuodas †

5:00 pm Victoria Plaza †

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

7:00 am Robert Bridgford †

8:00 am Lerinda Heffron

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Elena Esparza

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

The Little Children of the Most High Religious Community,
Kate Ford, Eulalie Adele Peterson †, Santiago Soutuyo †

Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting



Men of St. Rita age 18 and up are invited to attend the Knights of Columbus regular meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at **7:45 pm** in the Parish Center. The next meeting will be **April 15**. Join us in our quest to work for Charity, Unity, and Fraternity at our parish and in our families. We are a service organization of "Practical Catholic Gentlemen." For information, contact **Ray McGowan**, Deputy Grand Knight, at raymcgowan@gmail.com —or just stop by our meeting!

Mass Intentions

Having a Mass offered for someone is a great way to practice the spiritual work of mercy of praying for the living and the dead. It can also be a consolation to a family who has lost a loved one, or a wonderful gift for a birthday, wedding, or any other special occasion. The typical Mass stipend is \$10, and we have various cards available to give to the person for whom you are having the Mass offered. To schedule a Mass, please contact Alma Ramirez at 703-836-1640 or aramirez.strita@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!

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday, April 12, 2026

On **Sunday, April 12**, there will be a Divine Mercy Holy Hour from **3 - 4 pm**. The Holy Hour will include praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Silent Adoration, and an opportunity for Confession.



3:00 - 4:00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Silent Adoration
Confessions
Benediction

On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy.

(Diary of St. Faustina, 699)

Coffee and Donuts Next Week

Join us for Coffee and Donuts in the School Hall on **Sunday, April 19**, after all Masses, starting after the 8:00 am Mass.



St. Rita Women's Group



Dear Women of St. Rita—All are invited to join a gathering of parish women on **Friday, April 17**, from **7:00-8:30 pm**, in the Parish Center. Let's celebrate the glorious Easter season with refreshments, conversation, a Rosary at 7:30 pm...and perhaps a visit from our priests! Hope to see you there!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, April 12, 2026

3:00 pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, April 13, 2026

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

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

3:30 pm Homeschool Schola Practice
7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

6:15 pm Religious Education Classes
6:30 pm Legion of Mary
7:45 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2026

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

Friday, April 17, 2026

7:00 pm Vespers
7:00 pm Women's Group Meeting

Saturday, April 18, 2026

6:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult Group

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Coffee and Donuts after all Masses, starting after the 8am Mass
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

SOLEMNITY OF ST. RITA
DINNER DANCE

Buona Festa!

Dinner & Dancing

Saturday, May 23, 2026

6pm – 10pm

Catered Dinner al Fresco

Open Bar

Rita's Italian Ice

Live Music

Dancing Under the Stars

Tickets: \$30 each or \$50 per couple

This event is for adults

*Live Music by the Scott Ragsdale Orchestra
with guest vocalist Daniel Murray*



Scan QR code to purchase tickets or visit
stritaalexandria.com/an-evening-in-cascia

CENA Y BAILE POR LA SOLEMNIDAD
DE ST. RITA

Felices Fiestas!

Cena y Baile

Sábado 23 de Mayo del 2026

6pm – 10pm

Cena fresca preparada

Bar abierto

Rita's Italian Ice

Musica en Vivo

Baile bajo las estrellas

Boletos: \$30 cada uno o \$50 por pareja

Este evento es solamente para adultos

*Música en vivo por la orquesta Scott Ragsdale
con el violinista Daniel Murray*



Los boletos estarán
disponibles pronto.

CAR RAFFLE

4 - 2026 VEHICLES plus 21 CASH Drawings

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ST. RITA YOUTH MINISTRY

1 - \$5.00 Ticket

gives you a chance to win all 25 prizes, including:

2026 FORD BRONCO SPORT

2026 FORD MAVERICK TRUCK

2026 FORD MUSTANG

2026 FORD ESCAPE

plus 21 CASH Drawings totaling \$42,000



Drawings held April 25, 2025 Beginning at 1:00pm at
ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

You do not need to be present at the drawing to win

Tickets have been mailed to all registered parishioners of St. Rita
Catholic Church for purchase!

Contact our St. Rita Car Raffle Coordinator
at strita.car.raffle@gmail.com

Sponsored by All Saints Catholic Church - 9300 Stonewall Road, Manassas, VA
20110 - 703-368-4500 - www.allsaintsva.org

Cars Provided By: Ourisman Ford of Manassas
Permit number G-25-01390-119504



Bereaved Mother's Day
**Morning of
Reflection**

FOR ALL MOTHERS OF CHILD LOSS

SATURDAY, MAY 2 | 9:15 - NOON

The heart of a grieving mother is holy ground.

Red Bird Ministries was founded to serve the hearts of parents carrying the extraordinary cross of child loss. Join local Red Bird leaders in the Diocese of Arlington for a Morning of Reflection created to care for your broken heart. All mothers of child loss, from pregnancy loss through adulthood, are welcome. Free registration.

Facilitated by Red Bird Leaders Elizabeth Leon & Sarah Kirk

Scan code to register or visit www.redbird.love/arlington-va

**MORNING STAR RETREAT CENTER,
10609 GEORGETOWN PIKE, GREAT FALLS, VA**

SAVE THE DATE: FALL GRIEF RETREAT SEPT. 18/19
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
ELIZABETH@REDBIRD.LOVE

SCAN ME



BASH



The St. Rita Youth Ministry will be attending the Diocesan BASH on **Saturday, April 25** and all Middle Schoolers (6-8 Graders) are invited to join! BASH is a celebration of our Catholic faith and love of the Lord. This event includes music, games, inspirational speakers, confessions, and a Vigil Mass for Sunday, with Bishop Burbidge as the principal celebrant. If you have any questions, or to register, please contact our Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry, **Maria Goitiandia**, at mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com.



Lost and Found

Are you looking for lost items? Please stop by the rectory office **weekdays** between **9:00 am - 9:00 pm** or call the office at **703-836-1640** to check the parish lost and found. Any lost items that are not claimed after 30 days are donated or discarded.

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, Brad Chester, 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, Daniel Lee Beiro, Celia Coletto, Gary Culpeper, Rosemary Guida, Mickey Kimball, David Langley, Oscar Merino, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, Jane Rippy, Fermin L. Vilar

Annual All Saints' Car Raffle

Thank you to all who have contributed to the success of the car raffle. If you are not able to participate, you can help by returning the tickets that you received in the mail. If you are purchasing your tickets, but haven't yet, please do it soon. The final deadline for ticket return is **April 21**. Please note that raffle tickets must be returned to All Saints. Please mail directly to All Saints in the envelope provided. Please make your check payable to All Saints.

Sorteo Anual de Autos de Todos los Santos

Agradecemos a todos aquellos que han contribuido al éxito de la rifa de autos. Si no les es posible participar, pueden ayudar devolviendo los boletos que recibieron por correo. Si tienen previsto adquirir sus boletos, pero aún no lo han hecho, por favor háganlo a la brevedad. La fecha límite final para la devolución de los boletos es **el 21 de abril**. Tengan en cuenta que los boletos del sorteo deben ser devueltos a All Saints. Por favor, envíenlos directamente a All Saints por correo, utilizando el sobre provisto. Asimismo, por favor emitan su cheque a nombre de All Saints.

Come and Adore the Lord!

Join us for all night Adoration **Friday night** from **8pm - Saturday, 8 am**. Our goal is to have two committed Adorers for each hour. Your commitment will be a source of grace for yourself, the parish, the Church, and the whole world. If you are interested in signing up to be a committed Adorer, please contact **Michael Cahill** at 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)

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 **Wednesdays** at **6:30 pm** 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 or call or text her at **(703) 888-8196**.

Bishop's Lenten Appeal 2026

Thank you to all who already donated to this year's Bishop's Lenten appeal. Every family matters in helping our parish reach its goal. No gift is too small. Your participation supports vital diocesan ministries that our parish depends on. If you have not yet made your commitment, you can give today at arlingtondiocese.org/bla or by scanning the QR code.



Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de 2026

Gracias a todos los que ya donaron a la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo de este año. Cada familia es importante para ayudar a nuestra parroquia a alcanzar su meta. Ninguna donación es pequeña.

Su participación apoya los ministerios diocesanos vitales de los que depende nuestra parroquia. Si aún no se ha comprometido, puede donar hoy mismo en arlingtondiocese.org/bla o escanee el código QR.

