



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

May 31, 2026: The Most Holy Trinity

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
Facilities Manager	Craig Webb cwebb.strita@gmail.com	



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, June 1, 2026

Saint Justin, Martyr

7:00 am Fernando Ramirez

7:30 pm Kim Barry

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

7:00 am Lauren O'Neill

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

7:00 am John Mahoney †

7:30 pm Robert Volini †

Thursday, June 4, 2026

Thursday of the Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am David Pence †

Friday, June 5, 2026

Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

7:00 am Anthony DeFeciani †

7:30 pm Kenneth Hirl †

Saturday, June 6, 2026

Saint Norbert, Bishop

8:00 am Janice Tarantino †

5:00 pm Harry and Josephine Cooke †

Sunday, June 7, 2026

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

7:00 am Fr. Christopher P. Christensen

8:00 am Frederick Hamm

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Naily Ventura

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

The Rulo Family, Mahina Gates, The Kelly Family, The President

Adoration for Marriage and Family

This year, St. Rita will once again be participating in the Adoration for Marriage and Family. The purpose of Adoration for Marriage and Family is to pray for those who are being led away from God and from a fulfilling life by the lies of the world, and to offer reparation for the sins of the world, as Our Lady of Fatima asked. St. Rita adds this to our intentions for our Friday overnight Adoration **from 8:00 pm Friday - 8:00 am Saturday morning, for all the Fridays in the month of June.** Prayers and materials are available at <https://catholiccaravan.org/materials>.



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.

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!

INTO THE DEEP

Save the Date for Vacation Bible School
Monday - Friday, August 3rd-7th, 2026
8:45am - 12pm in the St. Rita School Hall
Open to all rising 1st to 6th graders

Registration opens Friday, May 1
Registration forms will be available
in the vestibules and online at
<https://stritaalexandria.com/vacation-bible-school/>

2026-2027 Homeschool Atrium Aides Needed



We are looking for aides for our Wednesday afternoon Homeschool Atrium (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd). Aides do not need to have prior experience, however, aides must have VIRTUS certification. For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Elizabeth Vail** at evail.strita@gmail.com.

Offertory Counters Needed

The Offertory Counters have the important job of counting the weekly Sunday collections. Volunteering is low-commitment and only requires meeting once a month. If you are interested in volunteering as an offertory counter, please contact Jill Bender at nymectsva@yahoo.com.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, May 31, 2026

10:30 am St. Rita Young Adult Brunch

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, June 1, 2026

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, June 2, 2026

3:30 pm Homeschool Schola Practice

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

6:30 pm Legion of Mary

Thursday, June 4, 2026

4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary

Friday, June 5, 2026

7:00 pm Vespers

Saturday, June 6, 2026

6:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult Group

Sunday, June 7, 2026

3:00 pm Corpus Christi Procession

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Corpus Christi Procession

Sunday, June 7

3:00 pm

We will sing hymns in Latin, English and Spanish and there will be two outdoor altars set up along the way for Benediction. Come bear witness to our Faith!



Procesión Eucarística

Domingo, 7 de Junio

3:00 pm

Cantaremos himnos en latín, inglés y español y habrá dos altares al aire libre instalados a lo largo del camino para la Bendición. ¡Ven a dar testimonio de nuestra Fe!

★ 250 YEARS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ★



DIOCESAN FESTIVAL

★ CELEBRATING FAITH + FREEDOM ★

SATURDAY
JUNE 13
3:45 - 9:30 PM

CLARKE COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS

BERRYVILLE, VA



FREE EVENT FOR ALL AGES
REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE COMPLIMENTARY FOOD

MASS WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE ★ MUSIC ★ FOOD

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**.

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**.



St. Rita History Books and Magnets for Sale in Parish Office

Copies of *A History of St. Rita Parish*, published in honor of our 100th Anniversary last year, are available for purchase in the Parish Office, for the discounted price of **\$10 per book**. We also have St. Rita Parish magnets available for **\$1 each**. The magnets were also designed especially for our 100th Anniversary, and include colors taken from the church sanctuary, as well as symbols representing elements from the life of St. Rita, including a crown of thorns, a drop of blood, and bees.



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, Fr. Martin McGuill, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, Jane Rippy

Upcoming Second Collections

June 7: Repairs and Replacements
June 28: Peter's Pence Collection

Thank you for your continued generosity!

O My God, Trinity whom I adore! Help me to become wholly forgetful of self, that I may be immovably rooted in Thee, as changeless and calm as though my soul were already in eternity. May nothing disturb my peace or draw me forth from Thee, O my unchanging Lord, but may I, at every moment, penetrate more deeply into the depths of Thy mystery.
(Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity)

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Ordinations of Seven New Diocesan Priests

Please pray for the seven men that Bishop Michael Burbidge has called to be ordained to the Priesthood: Reverend Mr. James Matthew Harbour, YA, Reverend Mr. Donghan Stan Lee, Reverend Mr. Sean Edward Mazary, YA, Reverend Mr. Eric Martin McDade, YA, Reverend Mr. Alexander Jacob Solsma, Reverend Mr. Teko Galey Teko-Agbo, and Reverend Mr. Aaron Frank Zanca. The ordinations will take place on **Saturday, June 6, at 11:00 am** at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington. The Mass will also be live-streamed since Cathedral seating is limited. Learn more about the men who will soon be priests for our Diocese, the celebration of their First Mass, and what happens at an Ordination at arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/ordinations.

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King will be opening at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria this fall. Chesterton high schools have a strong Catholic identity anchored in daily school Mass, a rigorous classical curriculum, screen-free discussion-based learning, and affordable tuition. Our 2026-2027 tuition rate of \$13,900 will be locked in for our founding families, and need-based financial aid is available. Interested students and their families are invited to learn more about the school while enjoying afternoons of ice cream and fellowship on our campus at monthly "Sundaes on Sundays" events throughout the spring and summer. Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more, RSVP for our next event, and to apply.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Married Couples: If you enjoy the warmth of summer, why not sign up for the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and bring some more warmth and intimacy to your marriage. It's a positive, simple, common sense, private experience between husband and wife that revitalizes your marriage. And, it is now Vatican Approved! Space is limited so make your reservation now! Upcoming experiences are:

- August 28-30, 2026 in Bristow, VA (lodging is on your own—couples return home each night)
 - October 23-25, 2026 in Hampton, VA (lodging provided)
 - November 6-8, 2026 in Emerald Isle, NC (lodging provided)
 - February 12-14, 2027 in Waynesboro, VA (lodging provided)
- For more information please call **757-690-1369** or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location.