



St. Rita Catholic Church

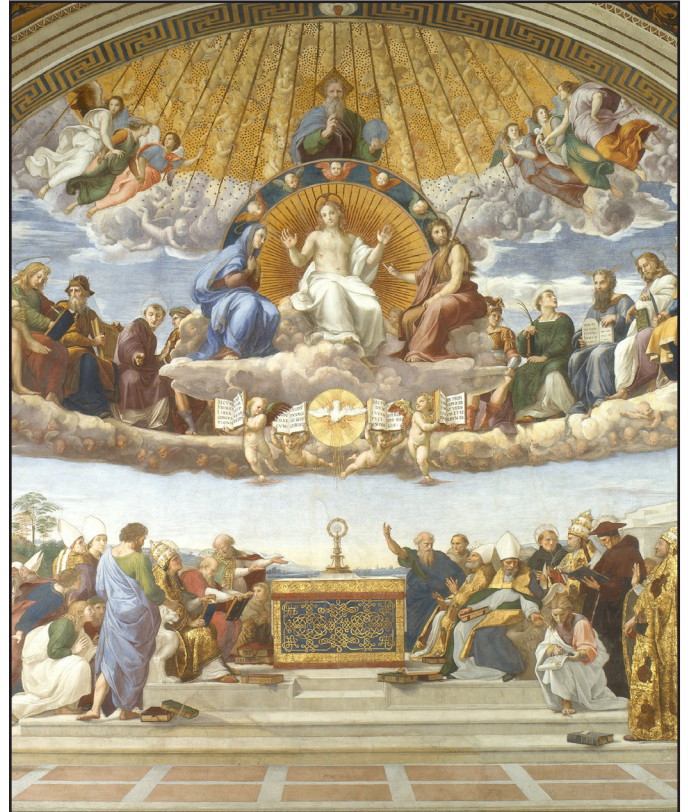
3815 Russell Road | Alexandria, VA 22305 | 703-836-1640 (office) 703-706-0484 (fax)

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

**June 7, 2026: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
(Corpus Christi)**

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	



*“Jesus said to the Jewish crowds:
‘I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will
give is my flesh for the life of the world.’” (Acts 2:4)*

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 8, 2026

Monday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Justine M. Aronne ☩

7:30 pm Alyssa Belizonsi ☩

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Saint Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Fr. Nicholas Schierer

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Wednesday of the Tenth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Fr. Gregory Thompson

7:30 pm Kirsten Ruhland

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Saint Barnabas, Apostle

7:00 am Mary Ann Babendreier ☩

Friday, June 12, 2026

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

7:00 am Llewellyn Cecil Smith ☩

7:30 pm Calixta A. Manligas ☩

Saturday, June 13, 2026

The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary;

Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church

8:00 am Lois Anne Raine ☩

5:00 pm Bernard Ruhland

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Michael Rigo ☩

8:00 am Gesualda Pantano ☩

9:15 am Len Pawlak

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

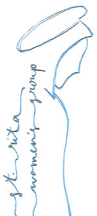
1:00 pm Accion de Gracias a Dios por Todas las
Benediciones

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Fr. Edwin Perez, Celebrant's Intention, Balan Family

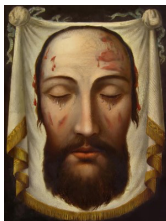
St. Rita Women's Group

Dear Women of St. Rita—All are invited to join a gathering of parish women on **Friday, June 19**, from **7:00-8:30 pm**, in the Parish Center. We will gather with refreshments, conversation, and a Rosary at 7:30 pm. A brief facilitated discussion will follow the Rosary. Hope to see you there!



Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

All are welcome to join us for the next meeting of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face on **Sunday, June 14**, at **3:00 pm** in the church. This prayer group is dedicated to offering reparation for blasphemies against Our Lord and His Holy Name, for sins against keeping Sunday holy, and for sins of revolution and communism. You can read more about the devotion at <https://hisholyface.com/the-devotion/>.

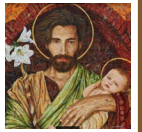


Bulletin/Newsletter Submissions

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!

St. Rita Men's Fellowship Meeting

The St. Rita Men's Fellowship will meet on **Friday, June 12**, at **7:30 pm** in the school courtyard, weather permitting, and in the Parish Center (enter through the back) if it rains. Please join us for prayer, conversation, and "manly solidarity" under our patron, St. Joseph, "Terror of Demons." Bring a chair, cold beverages and food or snacks to share, and your rosary! Please contact **Rick Strobach** at rick.strobach@gmail.com for more information. New and past members are always welcome! *Sancte Joseph, ora pro nobis!*



Baptism Classes

The next Spanish Baptism class will take place on **Wednesday, June 10** at **6:00 pm**. English Baptism classes are scheduled on an individual basis with Fr. Schierer. Please contact the parish office for more information or to sign up for a class.

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 nymeetsva@yahoo.com.



Remember, O most sweet Jesus, that no one who has had recourse to Thy Sacred Heart, implored its help, or sought its mercy was ever abandoned. Encouraged with confidence, O tenderest of hearts, we present ourselves before Thee, crushed beneath the weight of our sins. In our misery, O Sacred Heart of Jesus, despise not our simple prayers, but mercifully grant our request. Amen.

Upcoming Second Collections

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

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, June 7, 2026

3:00 pm Corpus Christi Procession

6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, June 8, 2026

5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)

7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

6:00 pm Spanish Baptism Class

6:30 pm Legion of Mary

Thursday, June 11, 2026

No events scheduled

Friday, June 12, 2026

7:00 pm Vespers

7:30 pm Men's Fellowship

8:30 pm St. Rita Young Adult Sacred Heart Social

Saturday, June 13, 2026

6:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult Group

Sunday, June 14, 2026

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face

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!

Join us in sharing our thanksgiving
and wishing our farewells to

Fr. Berghout and Fr. Schierer



Sunday, June 21st in the School Hall
starting after the 8AM Mass

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Fr. Berghout – 8AM / 1PM

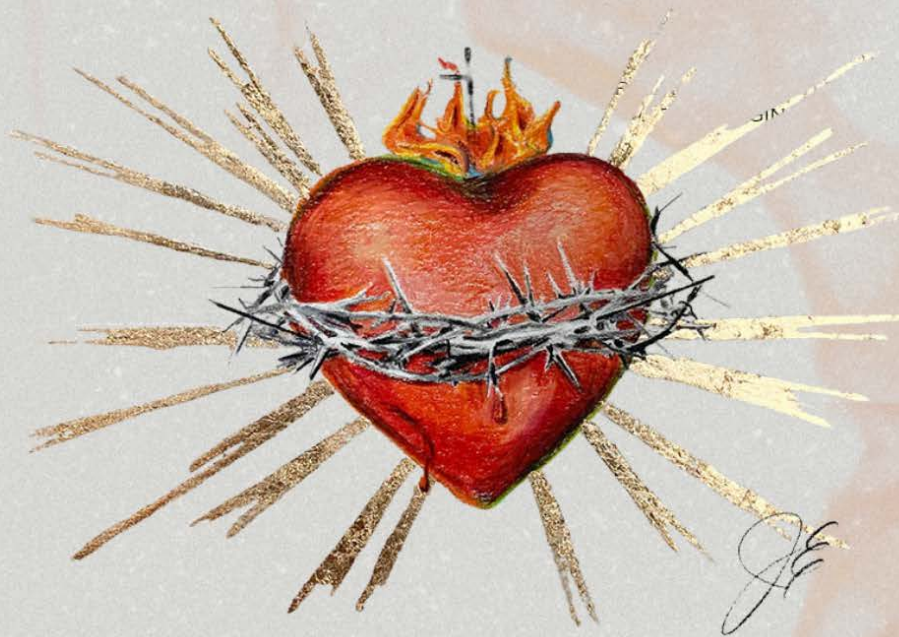
Fr. Christensen – 5PM (Vigil) / 11AM

Fr. Schierer – 7AM / 9:15AM



CELEBRATION FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE

Sacred Heart of Jesus



All St. Rita Young Adults are invited to a post Mass social in celebration of the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 12th following the 7:30PM Mass



INTO THE DEEP



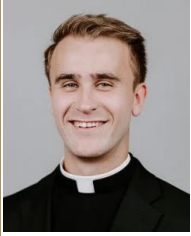
Save the Date for Vacation Bible School
Monday – Friday, August 3rd–7th, 2026
8:45am – 12pm in the St. Rita School Hall
Open to all rising 1st to 6th graders

Registration opens Friday, May 1

Registration forms will be available in the vestibules and online
at <https://stritaalexandria.com/vacation-bible-study/>

St. Rita Summer Seminarian (June 8-August 9)

Please give a warm welcome to Matthew Wright, who will be joining us at St. Rita this summer as our summer seminarian. Learn more about our summer seminarian below.



Praised be Jesus Christ! My name is Matthew Wright, and I was born the second of four brothers. I attended a homeschool co-op through high school, and then studied philosophy and music at Christendom college. After graduation I spent a year working as a project manager at a machine shop. While visiting the shrine of the Blessed Sacrament in Alabama, I heard the Lord calling me to discern the priesthood. I joined seminary for the Arlington Diocese in 2024, and just completed my second year of seven before ordination. Some of my favorite hobbies include running, soccer, hiking and rock climbing. I love to spend time outside, and to try new experiences. I'm very blessed and excited to spend the summer at St. Rita's, and I look forward to meeting all of you soon!

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>.



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; Seminarrians 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, Alex Deeds, 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, Shirley Indelicato, Mickey Kimball, David Langley, Oscar Merino, Fr. Martin McGill, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, Jane Rippy

2026-2027 Homeschool Atrium

Catechist and Aides Needed



We are looking for a Level I Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Catechist (3-6 year olds), as well as aides for our Wednesday afternoon Homeschool Atrium. The Catechist must hold Level I Certification from CGSUSA. Aides do not need to have prior experience, but both catechists and aides will need to complete VIRTUS certification. For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Elizabeth Vail](mailto:Elizabeth.Vail@gmail.com) at evail.strita@gmail.com.

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Diocesan Festival: Celebrating Faith + Freedom



Save the date for the 2026 Diocesan Festival on **Saturday, June 13** in Berryville, Virginia! Join thousands of Catholics from across the Diocese at the Clarke County Fairgrounds for a joyful celebration of faith, freedom and community. As in years past, the festival will open by giving thanks to God with a Vigil Mass celebrated by Bishop Burbidge, followed by live music, food and drink, amusement rides for children, local vendors, and so much more fun for the whole family. More details and registration are available at arlingtondiocese.org/festival.

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.

After Abortion Retreats

The next After Abortion Day of Prayer and Healing will take place on **Saturday, June 27**. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats, 1 location). There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries and registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: **(703) 841-2504** or info@helpafterabortion.org.

Retiros después de Aborto Provocado

Retiros Después de Aborto Provocado: Un Día de Oración y Sanación para mujeres que han experimentado un aborto provocado se llevará a cabo **el sábado 27 de junio**. Estos eventos de sanación en grupo se hacen en un ambiente privado y tranquilo, en inglés y español, basado en el modelo Entering Canaan (2 retiros separados en 1 ubicación). Habrá una oportunidad de escuchar de una participante anterior y de otras que han encontrado la sanación. No está sola. Tome el primer paso. Para preguntas confidenciales, llame al Proyecto Raquel: **(703) 841-2504** o info@ayudadespuesdelaborto.org.