



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

July 12, 2026: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frec41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Will Nyce Please contact aramirez.strita@gmail.com	Ext. 30
In Residence	Rev. Noah Morey noah.morey@arlingtondiocese.org	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	



*"And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying:
'A sower went out to sow.'" (Mt. 11:28-29)*

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. Classes are offered in both English and Spanish. 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)

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday - Thursday: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Friday: 8:00 pm - 8:00 am (Saturday)

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Monday, July 13, 2026

Saint Henry

7:00 am Joanne Robertson ☩

7:30 pm Hannah and Thomas O'Shea ☩

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

7:00 am Norma Folz ☩

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am The Thomas Family

7:30 pm Fr. Andrew Burkamper

Thursday, July 16, 2026

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7:00 am The President

Friday, July 17, 2026

Friday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Joana Gonsalves ☩

7:30 pm Pedro Agbayani ☩

Saturday, July 18, 2026

Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest

8:00 am Carol Rabbit ☩

5:00 pm John and Veronica Abarre ☩

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Julie Gunlock

8:00 am Lani McKeague

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Alexis Flores

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

John and Veronica Abarre ☩, Azucena Paredes ☩, 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 **July 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!

Vespers Update

Join us for Solemn Vespers every Sunday at **4:30 pm** in the Church.

Vespers, also known as Evening Prayer, is one of the principal Hours of the Liturgy of the Hours. It includes Psalms, a reading, and other prayers. Vespers will be a mixture of English and Latin chants. For more information, please scan the QR Code or visit <https://stritaalexandria.com/june-21-2026/>.



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 High School Youth Ministry trip to the



museum of the Bible



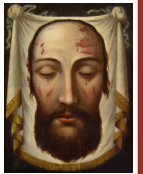
Saturday, July 18th | 9am-3pm

Our High School Youth Ministry will be taking a trip to the Museum of the Bible on Saturday, July 18th. To sign up, please fill out the permission form by scanning the QR Code and return it to the Parish Office or email it to mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com.

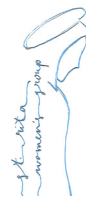
The cost of the trip is covered but please consider making a donation in order to keep the Youth Ministry program accessible to all participants.

Archconfraternity of the Holy Face Today

All are welcome to join us for the next meeting of the Archconfraternity of the Holy Face on **Sunday, July 12**, 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/>.



Women's Group Meeting



Dear Women of St. Rita—All are invited to join a gathering of parish women on **Friday, July 17**, at **7:00-8:30 pm**, in the Parish Center. We will gather with refreshments, conversation, and a Rosary at **7:30 pm**. A brief discussion following the Rosary will focus on future speaker and activity preferences. Hope to see you there!

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, July 12, 2026

3:00 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face
4:30 pm Solemn Vespers
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, July 13, 2026

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

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

6:30 pm Legion of Mary
7:45 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting

Thursday, July 16, 2026

No events scheduled

Friday, July 17, 2026

7:30 pm Women's Group

Saturday, July 18, 2026

6:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult Group

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Coffee and Donuts after all Masses starting after the 8am Mass

4:30 pm Solemn Vespers
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

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

We are also in need of adult and teen volunteers to help with
Vacation Bible School. Please contact Chloe Holloway at
cholloway.strita@gmail.com to volunteer.

St. Rita High School Youth Ministry

Summer Schedule

July

18th – Trip to the Museum of the Bible (sign up only)

29th – Diocesan King's Dominion Day (sign up only)

August

3-7th – Vacation Bible School (sign up to volunteer)

21st – Summer Friday in the Convent from 7-9pm

September

4th – Summer Friday in the Convent from 7-9pm

24th – First Thursday Night YM of the 2026-2027 Year

for all 'sign up only' events please contact
mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com or see flyers / forms in the vestibule



Coffee and Donuts

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



Welcome Father Will and Father Noah!

Father William Nyce was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Arlington in 2019 by Bishop Michael Burbidge. He is the oldest of six siblings and had a transient childhood with his father's work abroad in the Middle East. He graduated from Bishop O'Connell High School in Falls Church in 2008 and from the University of Virginia in 2011. A pilgrimage to the Holy Land turned into extended discernment and he entered formation for the diocese of Arlington in 2013 and studied at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio and the North American College in Rome. He has served as parochial vicar at St Philip in Falls Church, St William of York in Stafford, and is currently assigned as parochial vicar at St Rita's Catholic Church in Alexandria.

Father Noah Morey grew up in Seattle, the sixth of eight children. He graduated from Christendom College and Mount Saint Mary's Seminary. Having served as a parochial vicar at All Saints in Manassas and chaplain at Bishop Ireton High School, he now serves as Vocation Director for the Diocese of Arlington, where he oversees the formation of seminarians and guides young men and women to discern and follow God's call. He enjoys all sports, particularly baseball and soccer, and reading biographies, the occasional whodunit, and anything by P.G. Wodehouse.

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.

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Catherine Lucia Phoebe 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, 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, Celia Coletto, Gary Culpeper, Rosemary Guida, Shirley Indelicato, Mickey Kimball, David Langley, Oscar Merino, Fr. Martin McGuill, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, Jane Rippy

Volunteers Needed for St. Rita Middle School Ministry

The St. Rita Middle School Ministry is seeking male and female volunteers to help run our boys and girls middle school small groups. The small groups meet once a month during the school year (differing nights for boys/girls) on a **Wednesday** evening from **6:00 - 7:30 pm** in the St. Rita Convent for dinner, discussions, and fellowship. If you are interested in being a volunteer, please fill out the following form by going to <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfm3myHr4fyLQYmVEYIBP2eH57oT61wLOg70hVfE2QV2ZC3ew/viewform> or scanning the QR Code.



2026-2027 Homeschool Atrium Aides Needed

We are looking for aides for our Wednesday afternoon Homeschool Atrium. Aides do not need to have prior experience, but will need to complete VIRTUS certification. For more information, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Elizabeth Vail** at evail.strita@gmail.com.



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.



Magnifica Humanitas

Copies of Pope Leo XIV's first Encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, are available for purchase in the parish office for **\$15**. The parish office is open Monday - Friday from 9:00 am - 9:00 pm.



News from the Diocese and Beyond

St. Martin de Porres Senior Center

Summer season is arriving! Catholic Charities St. Martin de Porres Senior Center (SMdP) has volunteer opportunities awaiting for your summer fun. SMdP provides services to prevent the isolation of seniors and promote their wellness, happiness, and independence. Volunteers are needed for breakfast and lunch; greeting participants at the front desk; activities; nurse to conduct health screenings; arts and crafts; exercise instructor; and more. Volunteer opportunities are listed online at <https://ccda.net/find-help/senior-services/>. Center hours are **Monday-Friday** from **8:45 am - 1:30 pm**. Flexible schedules based on availability. SMdP is located at 4650 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304. Contact maria.mellor@ccda.net; phone: 703-751-2766.