



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 26, 2026: Seventeenth 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	

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

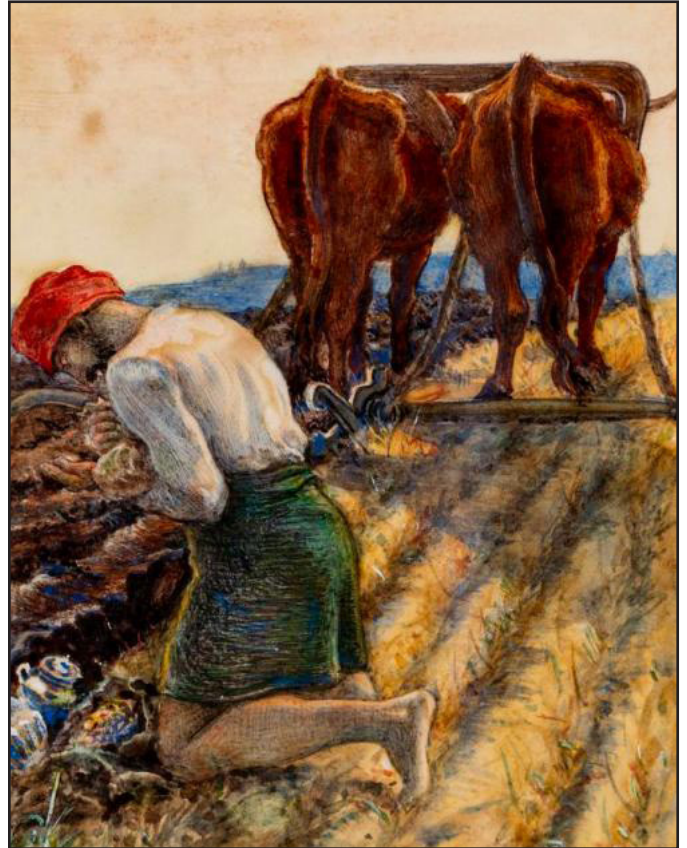
Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements to attend a Baptism preparation class. Please note that it is possible for expectant parents to attend the preparation class before the birth of their child.

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.



"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." (Matthew 13:44)

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 27, 2026

Monday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Ted Abadilla ☩

7:30 pm Alexis Luna ☩

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Tuesday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Hubert Purification ☩

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

7:00 am Prodiop Gonsalves ☩

7:30 pm Rodney Wilson

Thursday, July 30, 2026

Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am Jon and Elisa Schnur

Friday, July 31, 2026

Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

7:00 am Charles "Chuck" Franklin ☩

7:30 pm Germaine L. Paredes

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

8:00 am Noe Ramirez

5:00 pm Kathryn Jackson ☩

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Edwin Beck ☩

8:00 am Colette Wilmes

11:00 am Missa Pro Populo

1:00 pm Lucas Rivas

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Paul Ciatti ☩, Francisco Javier Grandes ☩, Elena Esparza

June 2026 Collections

Regular Offertory:	\$33,855
Parish Giving Offertory:	\$71,726
Repairs & Replacements:	\$2,949
Parish Giving Repairs & Replacements:	\$8,755
Poor Box:	\$7,522
Parish Giving Poor Box:	\$5,616

Upcoming Second Collections

August 2:	Repairs and Replacements
August 15:	Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus (July 29)

"In the household of Bethany the Lord Jesus experienced the family spirit and friendship of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, and for this reason the Gospel of John states that he loved them. Martha generously offered him hospitality, Mary listened attentively to his words and Lazarus promptly emerged from the tomb at the command of the One who humiliated death." (From the Decree of the Congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments)

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!

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

Join us in the Parish Center today, **July 26, following 4:30 pm Vespers** (Evening Prayer), for a gathering for all those who are interested in becoming Catholic or receiving Sacraments as an adult (Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation). Please RSVP to [Chloe Holloway](mailto:Chloe.Holloway@cholloway.strita@gmail.com) at cholloway.strita@gmail.com if you are interested in attending, or just show up.



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.

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, August 1**. 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](mailto:Rick.Strobach@gmail.com) at rick.strobach@gmail.com or [Jay Moret](mailto:Jay.Moret@gmail.com) at felix.moret@gmail.com.

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.



This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, July 26, 2026

10:30 am	St. Rita Young Adult Brunch
4:30 pm	Solemn Vespers
5:00 pm	Open House for those interested in becoming Catholic
6:00 pm	Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, July 27, 2026

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

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

7:00 pm	Hispanic Bible Study
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Wednesday, July 29, 2026

6:30 pm	Legion of Mary
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Thursday, July 30, 2026

No events scheduled

Friday, July 31, 2026

No events scheduled

Saturday, August 1, 2026

6:30 pm	Hispanic Young Adult Group
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Sunday, August 2, 2026

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





**Knights of
Columbus®**



St. Rita Parish Blood Drive



Saturday, August 22, 2026

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

3815 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA

The Inova Blood Donor Services Bloodmobile will be parked in the driveway between the church and school buildings.

Contact

Joshua Bowman

kofc15244@googlegroups.com

Donors will receive a special lifesaver T-shirt.*

Photo ID required. Allow one hour for your donation.

*While supplies last. Quantities are limited. Must complete screening process to receive giveaway.



Book your appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/SRP0822>

Call **1.866.256.6372**, use code **7611**

August 15, 2026

A very special Feast of the Assumption in honor of Blessed Karl's birthday

*"We take refuge under your protection,
O Holy Mother of God"*



**Holy Trinity Oratory at
Renaissance**

**12 pm Sung Mass,
Fr. John Audino, FSSP**

**Holy Family Academy,
Manassas, VA**

**2-4:30 pm - Luncheon and
Symposium**

**"Bl. Karl & Empress Zita,
Perfect Saints for Our
Time"**

followed by

**5 pm - Cocktails, dinner,
and dancing, including
traditional dance
instruction**



Lunch & talks -FREE -registration required ● Evening soiree - \$20 per person - tickets required
Tickets free for clergy with discount code BK2026

Robert Howard

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CORDA STRINGS



Religious Education Registration for 2026-2027

Registration for Religious Education classes is now open. Forms can be found in the Russell Road vestibule, on the Parish website, and in the Parish Office. Classes will begin **September 14** and are open to all children from 1st-12th grade. Please turn in registration forms and payment to the Parish Office.

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.



Portiuncula Indulgence (August 2)

The Portiuncula Indulgence is a plenary indulgence available on **August 2**, under the usual conditions (Confession, Holy Communion, prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father, complete detachment from sin), for all who visit a parish church and pray there the Our Father and the Creed. The history of this indulgence goes back to St. Francis and the small chapel of our Lady of the Angels which is at the heart of the Franciscan Order, and is also the place where St. Francis died. In his devotion to this place which was a source of so many graces for himself and his friars, St. Francis sought special permission for an indulgence for anyone who visited the chapel on August 2. The indulgence was later expanded to all Franciscan churches, and then to any parish church.



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, Julie Gunlock, Jennifer Jacobs, Kimberly Meredith, Constance Richardson, Hayden Ruffin, Susan Tracey, Marlena Villar, 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, Barry Foust, Rosemary Guida, Shirley Indelicato, Mickey Kimball, David Langley, Oscar Merino, Fr. Martin McGuill, Catherine Elizabeth Nugent, Jane Rippy

Vocations Crucifix

All parishioners are invited to host the St. Rita Vocations Crucifix for one week this year. Hosting the vocations crucifix is a wonderful way to deepen your family's prayer life, while praying for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. More information is available on the Sign-Up Genius, available online at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA5AF22A2F5CF8-64506456-vocations#, or by scanning the QR Code. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact **Karen Mah-Chamberlain** at mahcham@gmail.com.



SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish Picnic

Sunday, September 20
2:00 - 5:00 PM
held on the Parish grounds

JOIN US FOR FREE FOOD, DRINKS, & FUN!

- Burgers, hotdogs, pork, and delicious sides
- Beer and soft drinks
- Rita's Italian ice
- Team cornhole tournament
- Moonbounces and rides for kids and adults
- Live music

LA IGLESIA DE SANTA RITA

Picnic de la Parroquia

Domingo, 20 de Septiembre
2:00 - 5:00 PM
en el parqueo de Santa Rita

Estás invitado a comer, beber y divertirte!

- Hamburguesa, hot dogs, puerco asado, y antojitos
- Cerveza y refrescos
- Rita's Italian Ice
- Torneo de cornhole con equipos
- Juegos para los niños y adultos
- Música en vivo