



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

October 25, 2026: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frc41@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	
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	Cristhian Lopez clopez.strita@gmail.com	

ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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<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 or to schedule Baptism. Please note that it is possible for expectant parents to attend the preparation class before the birth of their child.

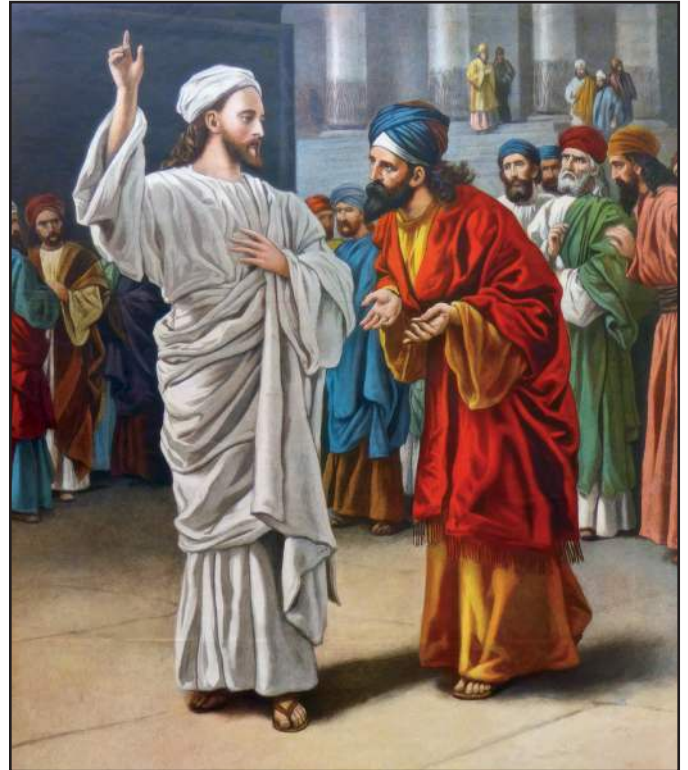
SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

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.



"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:37-40)

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)

SOLEMN VESPERS

Sunday: 4:30 pm

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Monday, October 26, 2026

Monday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am The Moen Family
7:30 pm Joseph and Mary Gorczyca †

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Tuesday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Ronald Risey †

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles

7:00 am The Cooksey Family
7:30 pm Cesar Anchiraico

Thursday, October 29, 2026

Thursday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am Jerry Werner †

Friday, October 30, 2026

Friday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 am The Descano Family
7:30 pm Judy and Steve Smith

Saturday, October 31, 2026

Saturday of the Thirtieth Week in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Liam Scott †
5:00 pm In Thanksgiving to Saint Rita

Sunday, November 1, 2026

All Saints

7:00 am Maria Goitiandia
8:00 am Brigid and Teresa Mah-Chamberlain
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo
1:00 pm Legionarios Difuntos

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:

Cathy Martin, Angelica Visk, Patricia Sullivan †, Timothy and Klarissa McNamara

Special Kids/Special Needs Collection Today

This weekend's second collection (**October 24-25**) will support Porto Charities, a non-profit in the Diocese of Arlington dedicated to providing young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with access to Catholic education, meaningful work, and opportunities for lifelong flourishing in their communities. All proceeds from this weekend's Special Kids/Special Needs collection will go directly to supporting parishes and Catholic schools in our diocese working to build a culture of true belonging for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



Christ House Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for an upcoming dinner service at the Christ House Shelter on **Sunday, October 25** at **5:00 pm**. Most importantly, we are looking for volunteers to cook a batch of beef stew or make brownies or cookies and deliver the food to the shelter between **4:15-4:30 pm** that day. We may also have a few slots open for volunteers to package food and serve meals. If interested, please contact Eric Co at erico9@yahoo.com or **713-206-8759**.

PRAY. FAST. VOTE NO.

**PLEASE JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY
IN OCTOBER AT 7:00 PM FOR
STATIONS OF THE CROSS**



**THE PRIESTS ALSO INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM AT 3:00 AM
ON SATURDAY MORNINGS, DURING OVERNIGHT EUCHARISTIC
ADORATION, TO PRAY FOR THE STOPPING OF THE ANTI-
FAMILY AMENDMENTS.**

All Hallows' Eve

Saturday, October 31st
6-7:30pm | School Hall

Come dressed up as your favorite Saint and celebrate the
Feast of All Hallows' Eve with an immersive journey to the Hall of Saints!

Families and children of all ages welcome to participate!



For more information about our All Hallows'
Eve celebration, please see Fr. Will's
promotional video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K6EkVX_gyJQ
or scan the QR Code.

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!

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, October 25, 2026

2:00 pm Ritual de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos
4:30 pm Solemn Vespers
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, October 26, 2026

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

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

2:30 pm Homeschool Holy Hour
6:30 pm Legion of Mary

Thursday, October 29, 2026

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

Friday, October 30, 2026

7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, October 31, 2026

10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
6:00 pm All Hallows' Eve Celebration
6:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult Group

Sunday, November 1, 2026

2:00 pm Ritual de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos
4:30 pm Solemn Vespers
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

The Solemnity of All Saints

*How glorious is the Kingdom in which
all the saints rejoice with Christ!*



Sunday, November 1

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Domingo, 1 de Noviembre

Horario habitual de misas dominicales

Solemnidad de Todos los Santos

*¡Qué glorioso es el Reino en el que todos los santos
se regocíjan con Cristo!*

All Souls' Day - Monday, November 2

Día de Todos los Difuntos - Lunes, 2 de Noviembre

7:00 am English

5:15 pm English

7:30 pm en Español

*Please see the flyers in the bulletin or call the Parish Office at
703-836-1640 for the full schedule of Masses.*

The All Souls' Novena of Masses will take place from **November 2 - 10**. If you would like your deceased loved ones to be included in the Novena, please place your envelope for the All Souls' Collection in the collection basket, or bring it to the Parish Office. You may also write the names of your loved ones on the slips of paper provided in the Russell Road vestibule and place them in the basket in the vestibule.

La Novena de Misas de todos los Difuntos se llevará a cabo del **2 al 10 de noviembre**. Si desea que sus seres queridos fallecidos sean incluidos en la Novena, coloque su sobre de la colecta de los difuntos en la canasta o tráigalo a la Oficina Parroquial. También puede escribir los nombres de sus seres queridos en los trozos de papel que se encuentran en el vestíbulo de Russell Road y colocarlos en la canasta que hay allí.

Eternal rest grant unto
them, O Lord, and let
perpetual light shine upon
them.



Dales, Señor, el descanso
eterno, y brille para ellos
la luz perpetua.

PRAY. FAST. VOTE NO.

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge calls all the faithful in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington throughout October to pray and fast, asking God to convert minds and hearts, transform lives, and inspire all Catholics to **vote "No"** on Virginia's Ballot

Questions #1 and #2. Voting is now underway.

PRAY.

- ✝ Pray the **Rosario** on Sundays
- ✝ Pray the **Stations of the Cross** on Fridays

FAST.

- 🕒 **Fast from social media** on Sundays
- 🕒 Commit to **one daily meal** and **no meat** on Fridays

VOTE.

- 🗳 **Vote early in-person** until October 31
- 🗳 Make a plan to **vote with family and friends**

Election day is November 3. Scan for Virginia election resources and more information about all that is at stake.



ORA. AYUNA. VOTA NO.

Mons. Michael F. Burbidge invita a todos los fieles de la Diócesis Católica de Arlington a orar y ayunar durante todo el mes de octubre, pidiendo a Dios que convierta las mentes y los corazones, transforme vidas e inspire a todos los católicos a **votar «No»** en las preguntas **n. 1 y n. 2** de la boleta electoral de Virginia. La votación ya está en marcha.

ORA.

- ✝ Reza el **Rosario** los domingos.
- ✝ Reza el **Vía Crucis** los viernes.

AYUNA.

- 🕒 Ayuna de las redes sociales durante unas horas los domingos.
- 🕒 Comprométete a hacer una sola comida al día y no comer carne los viernes.

VOTA.

- 🗳 Vota anticipadamente en persona hasta el **31 de octubre**.
- 🗳 Haz un plan para votar **con familiares y amigos**

El día de las elecciones es el 3 de noviembre. Escanea para consultar recursos electorales de Virginia y obtener más información sobre todo lo que está en juego.



THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN LIFE & MARRIAGE

calls for a consistent, universal response from Catholics to protect and preserve objective goods by which God blesses humanity.

As Catholics, we vote no on these ballot measures:

☐ YES **BALLOT 1: "Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment"**

- Eliminates common-sense health and safety regulations
- Allows unregulated abortion even for healthy babies up to birth for any reason with no limits
- Pushes parents out of irreversible, life-altering decisions involving their underage daughters
- Encourages even non-physicians to operate unlicensed abortion businesses

☐ YES **BALLOT 2: "Virginia Remove Constitutional Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendment"**

- Enshrines radical gender ideology through "sex" and "gender" language
- Conscience rights and religious liberty protections would be effectively denied
- Commercial surrogacy would continue to exploit vulnerable women and violate the rights of children

Pledge to Vote: CatholicsVoteNo.com

CATHOLICS VOTE NO



LA PROTECCIÓN DE LA VIDA HUMANA Y DEL MATRIMONIO

exige una respuesta coherente y universal por parte de los católicos para proteger y preservar los bienes objetivos con los que Dios bendice a la humanidad.

Como católicos, votamos no a estas medidas electorales:

☐ SI **1: «Enmienda de Virginia sobre el Derecho a la Libertad Reproductiva»**

- Elimina las regulaciones de salud y seguridad basadas en el sentido común
- Permite el aborto sin regulación, incluso de bebés sanos hasta el momento del nacimiento, por cualquier motivo y sin límites
- Excluye a los padres de decisiones irreversibles que cambian la vida y que involucran a sus hijas menores de edad
- Permite incluso que personas que no son médicos operen negocios de aborto sin licencia

☐ SI **2: «Enmienda de Virginia para Eliminar la Prohibición Constitucional del Matrimonio entre Personas del Mismo Sexo»**

- Consagra una ideología de género radical mediante el uso del lenguaje de "sexo" y "género".
- Los derechos de conciencia y las protecciones de la libertad religiosa quedarían, en la práctica, anulados.
- La gestación subrogada comercial continuaría explotando a mujeres vulnerables y vulnerando los derechos de los niños.

Comprométete a votar: CatolicosVotanNo.com

CATÓLICOS VOTAN NO





St. Rita Parish and
School are
participating in
the Diocesan Week of
Service
“Love in Action -
Service in Community”

FALL / WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE



fall or winter new
and gently used
men/women/
children clothing



- undergarments
- costumes
- tattered clothing

CLOTHING COLLECTION

- Before and after Oct 31/Nov 1 Masses and Nov 7-8 Masses
- during the week of Nov 2-10

Boxes will be at each church entrance

Monetary
Donations:



DISTRIBUTION

Saturday, November 14, 9 am-2 pm, in the School Hall



ST. RITA SCHOOL PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES OPEN HOUSE

K-8TH GRADE- NOVEMBER 17, 2026

PRESCHOOL- NOVEMBER 19, 2026

Catholic / Classical / Community

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JOIN US FOR PRESENTATIONS AND
TOURS OF OUR PRESCHOOL & K-8
PROGRAMS

PRESCHOOL
REGISTRATION



Registration required

K-8TH GRADE
REGISTRATION



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September 2026 Collections

Regular Offertory:	\$31,805
Parish Giving Offertory:	\$67,823
Repairs & Replacements:	\$3,533
Parish Giving Repairs & Replacements:	\$9,580
Poor Box:	\$1,664
Parish Giving Poor Box:	\$4,128

Upcoming Second Collections

October 25:	Porto Charities: Special Kids/Special Needs
November 1:	Repairs and Replacements
November 1:	All Saints' Day
November 2:	All Souls' Day
November 8:	Retirement Fund for Religious
November 22:	Catholic Campaign for Human Development
November 26:	Thanksgiving

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Seven Sisters Apostolate – Invitation to Join

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a beautiful ministry of intercessory prayer in which seven women commit to offering one Holy Hour per week for the spiritual needs of a parish priest. It is a quiet but powerful way to support the priests who faithfully shepherd our parish.

“Jesus knows better than any of us how much these men need prayers to get through their daily life and He loves that we spend at least one hour each week with Him in Adoration praying for those needs.” (Mary, Minnesota)

We are renewing our parish group that is now assigned to pray for Fr. Nyce since Fr. Schierer's departure. All Catholic women are invited to prayerfully consider joining this apostolate. If you feel drawn to deepen your own relationship with Christ while lifting up a priest in prayer, this may be the Holy Spirit's nudge. To learn more or to sign up, please contact [Mary McClusky](mailto:MaryMcClusky@maryjainet@hotmail.com) at maryjainet@hotmail.com.

Please Pray for These St. Rita Parishioners

For all those discerning Religious Vocations:

Sr. Catherine Lucia Phoebe Addington, Daughters of St. Paul; Hannah Hermann, Postulant, Daughters of St. Paul; Br. Nathaniel Labs, Order of Preachers; Sr. Giovanna Lamarra, Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles; 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, Constance Richardson, Douglas Taylor

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, Oscar Merino, Fr. Martin McGuill, Charles Stulb

ST. RITA 5K

AND 1 MILE FUN RUN

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY NOV 14, 2026

8:00 AM | 8:30 AM

MAIN LINE BLVD
ALEXANDRIA, VA





ST. RITA SCHOOL
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

**RUN WITH PURPOSE.
BUILD COMMUNITY.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

REGISTER TODAY!



www.StRita5k.com
Volunteer Opportunities on Parent Square Soon!

News from the Diocese and Beyond

Chesterton Academy of Christ the King Open House

Discover Chesterton Academy of Christ the King, a classical high school in the Catholic tradition dedicated to forming students in faith, reason, virtue, and truth. Join us for our Fall Open House on **Saturday, November 7** from **3:00–4:30 pm** on our campus at **Saint Lawrence Church in Alexandria**. Families are invited to learn more about the school, meet members of the faculty, and see what makes a Chesterton education truly special. To RSVP scan the QR Code, or visit our website at Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org.



St. Jerome Institute of Northern Virginia Open House

Come and see the St. Jerome Institute of Northern Virginia! A new high school in Falls Church, we prioritize seminar-style classrooms; an integrated Catholic curriculum; low-tech learning; and cultivating friendships, joy, and wonder. Bring your questions to our Open House on **Saturday, November 14**, from **3:00–5:00 pm**, and enjoy refreshments, a seminar demonstration for parents, and a seminar sample for students! For more information about the St. Jerome Institute, please visit <https://www.stjeromeinstitute.org/nova>.



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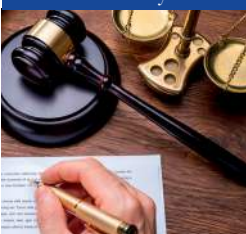
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