

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

November 8, 2026: Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

CLERGY AND STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Christopher P. Christensen frcc41@gmail.com	Ext. 17
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Will Nyce frwill.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

"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 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.



"Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'" (Matthew 25: 5-6)

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, November 9, 2026
The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
7:00 am All Souls Novena ✞
7:30 pm Frank Downing ✞

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
7:00 am All Souls Novena ✞

Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop
7:00 am David Cuddy ✞
7:30 pm Michael and Patricia

Thursday, November 12, 2026
Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr
7:00 am Shirley Indelicato ✞

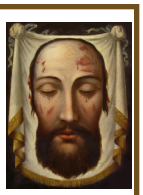
Friday, November 13, 2026
Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin
7:00 am Fr. Denis Donahue
7:30 pm Virginia Simmons ✞

Saturday, November 14, 2026
Saturday of the Thirty-Second Week in Ordinary Time
8:00 am Leola Hronek ✞
5:00 pm Edward C. Kimlin ✞

Sunday, November 15, 2026
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:00 am Lauren O'Neill
8:00 am The Von Guggenberg Family
11:00 am Missa Pro Populo
1:00 pm Ever Aguilar

Additional Mass Intentions this Week:
Joseph and Mary Gorczyca ✞, Caitlin Rockwell, Theodore B. Olsen ✞, Santiago Soutuyo ✞

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, November 8**, at **3:45 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/**.

St. Rita Men's Fellowship Meeting



The St. Rita Men's Fellowship will meet on **Friday, November 13**, 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, "Patron of the Dying." 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!*

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!

Veterans Day Ceremony Honoring Rocky Versace

Join St. Rita American Heritage Girls and other members of the faith community at a Veterans Day Ceremony on **Wednesday, November 11**, to remember former St. Rita parishioner Capt. Rocky Versace, other Fallen Alexandrians who made the ultimate sacrifice, and all Veterans in attendance. The highlight of this year's ceremony will be a Pearl Harbor Rememberance. The Ceremony will take place at **1:00 pm** in the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center adjacent to the Capt. Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial at **2701 Commonwealth Ave.** For additional information please visit: **https://www.virginia.org/event/veterans-day-ceremony-2026/41317/**, or scan the QR Code.

St. Rita Knights of Columbus Advent Candle Sales



The St. Rita Knights of Columbus will be selling Advent Candles in front of the church after all Sunday Masses on the weekends of **November 14-15** and **November 28-29**. Advent Candles are **$10** per set, and all proceeds will benefit St. Rita's Seminarians.

Upcoming Second Collections

November 8: Retirement Fund for Religious
November 22: Catholic Campaign for Human Development
November 26: Thanksgiving

Thank you for your continued generosity!

The Parish Office will be closed on Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11.

This Week at St. Rita

Sunday, November 8, 2026
2:00 pm Ritual de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos
3:45 pm Archconfraternity of the Holy Face
4:30 pm Solemn Vespers
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group

Monday, November 9, 2026
5:30 pm Legión de María (en Español)
6:15 pm Religious Education Classes
7:00 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
7:00 pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, November 11, 2026
Parish Office Closed in Observance of Veterans Day
No Religious Education Classes
6:30 pm Legion of Mary
6:00 pm Middle School Youth Ministry

Thursday, November 12, 2026
4:00 pm Junior Legion of Mary
6:30 pm High School Youth Ministry

Friday, November 13, 2026
7:30 pm Men's Fellowship

Saturday, November 14, 2026
10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
6:30 pm Hispanic Young Adult Group

Sunday, November 15, 2026
2:00 pm Ritual de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos
4:30 pm Solemn Vespers
6:00 pm Hispanic Prayer Group



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



Thank you to all who volunteered and participated in our First Annual All Hallows' Eve Celebration!



















ST. RITA SCHOOL
PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES
OPEN HOUSE

K-8TH GRADE- NOVEMBER 17, 2026

PRESCHOOL- NOVEMBER 19, 2026

Catholic / Classical / Community

"The soul of education is the education of the soul"

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

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

K-8TH GRADE REGISTRATION

Registration required

3801 RUSSELL RD. ALEXANDRIA, VA (703) 548-1888

SAINT RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

The 6th Annual

ST. NICHOLAS MARKET



SUNDAY, DEC 6, 2026, 10:30AM-3:30PM

3815 RUSSELL ROAD, ALEXANDRIA VA 22305

FINE ART • APPAREL • HOME GOODS AND MORE!
LIVE MUSIC • FOOD & DRINK

For more information, visit
StRitaAlexandria.com/st-nicholas-market

St. Rita 5K - This Saturday, November 14

It's not too late to sign up for the St. Rita 5K, taking place this **Saturday, November 14**. Whether you're a serious runner, a casual stroller, or a pint-sized sprinter, we've got a race for you. Help us support St. Rita Catholic School while enjoying a fun-filled morning of fitness, fall colors, and community spirit in the heart of Alexandria. To register, please scan the QR Code, or go to **www.strita5k.com**. We hope to see you there!

Lo invitamos a nuestra celebración en honor a la Reina de la Paz, Patrona de El Salvador.



El Sábado 21 de Noviembre del 2026
En la iglesia de Santa Rita
1:20 pm - Rezo del Santo Rosario
2:00 pm - Santa Misa
(Por favor vestir a los niños de blanco o trajes típicos)
Después de la misa tendremos chocolate caliente y pan en el Salón de la escuela.

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, Jorge Roberto Chavarria, Celia Coleto, Gary Culpeper, Barry Foust, Rosemary Guida, Shirley Indelicato, Mickey Kimball, Oscar Merino, Fr. Martin McGuill, Charles Stulb

St. Rita Middle School YOUTH MINISTRY

All Middle Schoolers (grades sixth-eighth) are invited every 2nd Wednesday of the month from October-May from 6:00-7:30pm in the Convent for dinner, discussion, and fellowship!

Next Meeting: November 11

For more information and to register for Youth Ministry contact mgoitiandia.strita@gmail.com

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**.

Birchmere Parking Rules

The Birchmere at 3701 Mount Vernon Avenue has graciously allowed St. Rita 100% free use of their parking lot during our Masses on Sunday. Please see the rules below.

The lot is available for St. Rita use on Sundays from 7:30 AM to 2:30 PM ONLY.

Please use only the front portion of the lot.

Signs will be posted on St. Rita property indicating that the Birchmere lot is available. If signs are not posted, please do NOT use the Birchmere lot.

Please vacate the Birchmere lot by 2:30 PM.
They have evening events for which they need to prepare.

In your gratitude and Christian charity,
please respect the generosity and kindness of the Birchmere!

News from the Diocese and Beyond

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**.