

St. Rita Catholic Church

April 16, 2023
Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday of Divine Mercy

4401 Bayou Rapides Road

Office Hours Monday - Thursday 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Closed on Fridays

Alexandria, LA 71303

Church Office: 445-7120; FAX: 448-0704

Religious Education: 445-7141 ext 217

St. Vincent de Paul: 473-0887

Sacristy: 448-9599

EMERGENCIES: 445-7141 ext 4

Website: <http://www.StRita.org> Check our website for individual email addresses.

Download our parish app by visiting [myparish](#) on your Smart Phone's app store.



St. Rita

CATHOLIC CHURCH

the hands and heart of Christ



Code QR for
OnLine Giving
St. Rita Website

Dial Direct to Extensions: 445-7141

Rev. Anthony Dharmaraj, MSFS., Pastor (ext 212)

Rev. David Braquet, Sacramental Assistance

Deacon Kenny Sayes, Permanent Deacon

Mrs. Debbie Brown, Parish Manager (ext 214)

Ms. Etta Ohrt, Director of Finance & Personnel (ext 210)

Mrs. Courtney Brinkman, Director of Youth Religious Education (ext 217)

Miss Brittany Nugent, Director of Music Ministry

Mr. Maxwell Moreau, Director of Buildings & Maintenance

Miss Kathryn Velotta, Director of Youth Ministries

BAPTISMS:

Contact Debbie Brown, 445-7141 ext 214

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:

Contact Debbie Brown, 445-7141 ext 214
(6 months prior to desired wedding date)

ANointing OF THE SICK:

Ask in the sacristy before or after any
Mass or contact Fr. Dharmaraj

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays, 3:30 - 3:55, or 15 minutes
before any Mass or by appointment.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY this Sunday
*join us at 3:00 PM in church as we recite
the Divine Mercy Chaplet in English and Spanish.
Everyone is invited to attend!*

SUNDAY BREAKFAST
after 8:00 & 9:30 AM Mass this weekend

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY RELIGIOUS ITEMS SALE
after all Masses this weekend in the church foyer

LIVE STREAMED Masses every week are 4:00 PM Saturday and at 8:00 AM on Wednesday. The 8:00 AM Wednesday Mass can also be heard on Radio Maria at 580 AM.

Please join us on FaceBook or at www.strita.org. You can also view all our Live Streamed Masses anytime on our website, www.strita.org.

Saturday, April 15

4:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Janet

Lapeyre Freddie Lavesphere, Leah Leonard, Richard Love, John Tyler Lyles, Mary Margaret Matassa, Mary Robichaux, Shirley Sayes, Gretchen Sternfels, Dave Weitzel, Don Weitzel,

5:30 -Mass for Alfred Baillio

Sunday, April 16

8:00 -Mass for Kayla Spangler

9:30 -Mass for Marvin Finney

11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish

12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community

5:30 -Mass for Marion Polk

6:30 -**NO** High School Youth Group (HFC)

Monday, April 17

8:00 -Mass for Andrew J. Henry
 6:00 -Acts Ladies Team Meeting (HFC)

Tuesday, April 18

8:00 -Mass for John Tyler Lyles
 10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for Ronnie Crawford
 6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)
 6:00 -RCIA (Moreau Room)

Wednesday, April 19

8:00 -Mass for Al Schexnaider
 4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
 6:00 -Faith Formation, CCD, 6th, 7th & 8th Grade & Confirmation (HFC)

Thursday, April 20

8:00 -Mass for Frank Crooks, Sr.
 5:00 -Catholic Daughters Meeting (HFC)

Friday, April 21

8:00 -Mass for Christian Bohrer, Ronnie Hair, John Tyler Lyles, Paul & Peggy Marcotte, Mary Margaret Matassa, Sid Rud, David Voelker

Saturday, April 22

4:00 -Mass for Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Maynette Dobard, Gerald Leglue, Richard Love, John Tyler Lyles, Paul & Peggy Marcotte, Mary Margaret Matassa, Barbara Dobard Rigby, Mary Robichaux, Rickey Sayes, Shirley Sayes, Raymond Villmarette, Rivers Wilson
 5:30 -Mass for John Marzullo

Sunday, April 23

8:00 -Mass for Stephen Ardoin
 9:30 -Mass for Henry Ardoin
 11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish
 12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community
 5:30 -Mass for Mary Robichaux
 6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in loving memory of Michael Robichaux by family and loved ones. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. ***The Easter Flower Memorial list will be in the April 23rd bulletin.***

ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMPS were provided in loving memory of Earleen Baillio by Bobby Baillio. If you are interested in having a loved one remembered by providing the sanctuary lamps, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. Cost is \$7.50 per candle.

BEREAVEMENT CANDLE this week is in memory of Donna Luneau Swinnen. The Bereavement Blue candle is located next to the Blessed Mother Statue. Each week the candle will be in memory of deceased parishioners who have died in the previous weeks.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Acts 2:14, 22-23
 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11 1 Pt 1:17-21 Lk 24:13-34
 Catechism 1084-1109 or 1373-1375

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEAL: 4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center, this week's menu: Pulled Pork, Dirty Rice, Coleslaw, Dessert and Tea. Cost is

\$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team and servers this week is the Knights of Columbus #1134. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Sunday Gifts the week of April 9	\$ 18,840.16
Online & EFT Gifts April 9	\$ 7,282.99
Contributions for April 9	\$ 26,123.15
Lenten Weekday Collection	\$ 8,305.00
BLDG/Maintenance Fund April	\$ 190.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT April	\$ 555.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL:**

On behalf of Bishop Marshall and myself thank you for your generosity to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your gift can make a real difference by supporting faith formation, education of our youth and in the education and formation of our seminarians. If you have not made your gift it is not too late. Pledge envelopes are available in the pews. They can be placed in the collection basket, brought to the parish office or mailed directly back to the diocese.

-Fr. Raj

St. Rita 2023 Goal: \$89,743.00
 Pledged to date: \$78,156.00
 Paid to date: \$65,587.10
 Still needed to meet goal: \$11,587.00

OUR SICK: Theresa Basco, Carolyn Branigan, Theresa DeSelle, Sandra Deville, Regina Dunn, Billie Jeansonne, Laura Murchison, Michael Rachal, Jean Serio

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Pierce Babineaux, Michael Branigan, Jerry Brown Phillip Brouillette, Ann Marie Bruner, Jean Brunson, Kayla Busby, Lillian Deville, Bernis Ebarb, Stacy Ford, Bettie Jeansonne, Tiffany Johnson, James Ray Lachney, Paul Medica, Charlotte Pearson, Jonathan Rhea, Donna Robinson, Karen Schrock, Judy Stokes, Eutan Suire, Kara Franks Thomas, Cyndee Whittington, Mary Winn

OUR SHUT- INS: Joan Andries, Victor Beaudoin, Lela Bordelon, Joseph "Napp" Brouillette, Shirley Brouillette, Vergie Clay, Aline Cicardo, Elise Coco, Donald Coco, Doris Constance, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson Odean Deville, Juanita Dodd, Mary Doine, Elizabeth Drake, Cecilia Dunn, Ebron Dunn, Emalae Dunn, Jennifer Dunn, Regina Dunn, James Dupont, Mary Fontenot, Philip Frank, Gordon Frederick, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzague, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Leta Juneau, Billie Jeansonne, Audrey Jusselin, Donna Leblanc, Gerald Lachney, Deanna Lemoine, Josephine Marcotte, Zadi Marcotte, Patty Marian, Helen Mathews, Sam Medica, Gladys Morris, Constance Nasello, Yvonne Perrin, Cleta Perry, June Peterson, Bettie Piazza, Rose Ponthieux, Anita Ray, Nanette Redman, James Schoolcraft, Bobby Thevenote, Susan Turner, Virginia Verzwylt, Willie Voorhies, Veronica Walters, Betty Wilmore, Marilyn Ruth Wilson, Pamela Wilson, Anita Wooley, Barbara Wynn

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY: CW02 Brad Canrak, Major Brian J. Clayton, CW3 Ron Cole, Staff Sgt. Robert Crawford, Lance Cpl. Amy Fogleman, Major Mike Frazier, 1st Lt. Jackie E. Mathews, Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy McKnight, PO2 Nicholas Peralta, Sgt. Cole Pleche, PFC Brandon Rashall, Capt. Rachel Salpietra, Capt. Sean P. Turner, Capt. Timothy C. Turner. If you have members of your family who have been called to active military duty, or are already on active duty, please call 445-7141 ext 214. or e-mail us at

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY is this Sunday, April 16 and you are invited to join us at 3:00 PM in church as we recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet in English and Spanish. Everyone is invited to attend!

ATTENTION ALL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

We will be distributing communion like we did before COVID. We will need 2 captains and 6 ministers. Please review the new guidelines located in the bulletin insert or in the Sacristy. If you are a Eucharistic Server, please go to the Sacristy before Mass and get your medal. Thank you for your service.

THANK YOU for your donations to the LENTEN COLLECTION. We collected \$8,305, which will be sent to the St. Columbus Substation, Kabalmula in Africa to build a small chapel. Thank you for your generous support.

SPECIAL THANKS: Our Holy Week and Easter Masses and services were beautiful and inspirational! Many thanks to Brittany Nugent, Music Director, Julie DeKeyser and Mark Daniels, Cantor; Melva Villard, the Choristers Youth Choir and all who helped us raise our hearts and minds to God through their music!

Many thanks to the Parish Staff and the ladies of the Altar and Rosary Society and all their helpers for the beautiful Easter decor in our Church.

Thanks to the 11 Confirmation Candidates with their instructor Gabriel Johnson who had their feet washed at the Holy Thursday *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper*.

I also want to thank all of our Altar Servers, Lectors, and Eucharistic Servers who offered themselves in service during Holy Week. As you know, there is a lot of "behind the scenes" work that occurs prior to the celebration of the *Easter Triduum* and *Easter Day*. Our liturgies include a lot of planning and participation from many, and I know God rewards our efforts!

– Fr. Raj

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME to Serena Belgard, Sandy Deville, Candi Faraldo, Sophia Garcia, Daron Garron, Kellen Guillory, Brady Simms, Hunter Swent, who received the Sacraments of Initiation this Easter. We rejoice in the Lord with you! Our prayers and support are with you as you join us in growing ever closer to the Risen Lord in your daily lives. Many thanks to the sponsors and to Ann Masden, Patti Williams, Gwen and Jerry Deville who have journeyed with the candidates these past months.

EASTER EGG HUNT on Easter Sunday morning was a great success! Thanks to all the youth for stuffing the eggs and Jacob Coutee, Vic Enger and Gabe Smith for hiding the eggs. Special thanks to Erin Rachal for being our Easter Bunny! The children had a great time!!!

– Courtney Brinkman & Kathryn Velotta

INFIRM PRIESTS COLLECTION: Your donation to the Infirm Priests Fund will help to replenish the fund, which provides assistance for our sick priests when illness exceeds the extent of our group health coverage limits. This is a wonderful expression of gratitude to the priests who have served you so well over the years. Please use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop it in the collection basket. And please remember them in your prayers, recalling their generosity to you.

2023 WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60, 65 or 70th wedding anniversary in 2023, we would like to honor you on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at the 11:00 Mass and present you with a Papal Blessing in honor of your marriage from the Holy Father, Pope Francis. If you would like to participate, please call the Church Office at 445-7141 ext 214. We have to order the blessing early. Deadline for calling is July 1, 2023.

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY will be selling religious items this weekend April 15th & 16th after all Masses. We will have items for First Communion, Confirmation, Baptism, Crucifixes, Rosaries and various religious items.

– Mrs. Debbie Brown, President

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS will meet on Thursday, April 20 at 5:00 PM in the Holy Family Center. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us.

– Mrs. Ona Wilson, Regent

WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT: Applications for the 1st St. Rita ACTS Women's Retreat are out. The Retreat will begin on the evening of Thursday, May 18th and end at the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, May 21st. It is a wonderful opportunity to rekindle your relationship with God, as well as make beautiful friendships with other women here at St. Rita Church. We have extended our application deadline to Sunday, April 23rd. There are applications and more information on the round table in the church foyer.