

# St. Rita Catholic Church

May 14, 2023  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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)  
**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.



**Happy Mother's Day**

"Nothing is far from God"

St. Monica, Patron Saint of Mothers

## 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](http://www.strita.org). You can also view all our Live Streamed Masses anytime on our website, [www.strita.org](http://www.strita.org).

### Saturday, May 13

4:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark, Lambert & Bertha Vel Coco, Frank Crooks, Sr., Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Bernadine Forest, Darlene Koury Gremillion, Freddie Lavesphere, Richard Love, John Tyler Lyles, Mary Margaret Matassa, Mary Robichaux, Michael Gerald Robichaux, Shirley Sayes

5:30 -Mass for John Marzullo

### Sunday, May 14

8:00 -Mass for all living & deceased mothers of the parish

9:30 -Mass for all living & deceased mothers of the parish  
11:00 -Mass for all living & deceased mothers of the parish  
12:30 -Spanish Mass for all living & deceased mothers of the parish

5:30 -Mass for all living & deceased mothers of the parish

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

### Monday, May 15

8:00 -Mass for Eric Spangler

### Tuesday, May 16

8:00 -Mass for Mary Robichaux

10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for John Crawford

6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

### Wednesday, May 17

8:00 -Mass for Wally Metrejean

### Thursday, May 18

8:00 -Mass for Ann Powell

### Friday, May 19

8:00 -Mass for Gerald Leglue, Mary Margaret Matassa, Missy Metrejean, Sid Rud, Shirley & Rickey Sayes, Kayla Spangler, David Voelker

### Saturday, May 20

4:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Maynette Dobard, Darlene Koury Gremillion, Freddie Lavesphere, Richard Love, John Tyler Lyles, Mary Margaret Matassa, Barbara Dobard Rigby,, Mary Robichaux, Shirley & Rickey Sayes, Barbara Estes Smith, Raymond Villmarette  
5:30 -Mass for Paul & Peggy Marcotte

### Sunday, May 21

8:00 -Mass for Kayla Spangler  
9:30 -Mass for Ronnie Hair  
11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish  
12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community  
5:30 -Mass for Michael Robichaux  
6:30 -NO High School Youth Group (HFC)

**ALTAR FLOWERS** were provided in loving memory of Paul Marcotte by the Marcotte Family. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214.

**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 Jessie Griffin. 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 1:1-11 Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 Eph 1:17-23 Mt 28:16-20 Catechism 659-664

### OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
<b>Sunday Gifts the week of May 7</b>	<b>\$ 17,072.25</b>
<b>Online &amp; EFT Gifts May 7</b>	<b>\$ 8,802.00</b>
<b>Contributions for May 7</b>	<b>\$ 25,874.25</b>
<b>BLDG/Maintenance Fund May</b>	<b>\$ 390.00</b>
<b>BLDG/Main Online &amp; EFT May</b>	<b>\$ 605.00</b>

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

### 2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL:

St. Rita 2023 Goal: \$89,743.00  
Pledged to date: \$93,176.00  
Paid to date: \$82,925.50

WE HAVE MET OUR GOAL! Thank you! -Fr. Raj

**OUR SICK:** Theresa Basco, Donnie Bolton, Courtney Brinkman, Mickie Faraldo, Martha Kay Gleason, Michael Rachal, Patsy Wilmore, Leonard Wilson

**RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT:** Pierce Babineaux, Jean Brunson, Theresa DeSelle, Lillian Deville, Sandra Deville, Regina Dunn, John Duplan, James Gregory, Bettie Jeansonne, James Ray Lachney, Paul Medica, Tonya Nugent, Charlotte Pearson, Jonathan Rhea, Donna Robinson, Karen Schrock, Jean Serio, Chad Scroggs, Eutan Suire, Kara Franks Thomas, Cyndee Whittington, Mary Winn

**OUR SHUT- INS:** Joan Andries, Sadie Blakesley, Lela Bordelon, Joseph "Napp" Brouillette, Shirley Brouillette, Vergie Clay, Aline Cicardo, Elise Coco, Donald Coco, Doris Constance, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson Pat Despino, Odean Deville, Juanita Dodd, Elizabeth Drake, Nathan Ducote, Cecilia Dunn, Ebron Dunn, Emalae Dunn, Jennifer Dunn, Regina Dunn, John Duplan, James Dupont, Grace Ellis, Brenda Evans, Mary Fontenot, Philip Frank, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzague, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Leta Juneau, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Josephine Marcotte, Zadie Marcotte, Patty Marian, Helen Mathews, Mildred McCarthy, Nettie Medica, Gladys Morris, Constance Nasello, Cleta Perry, June Peterson, Bettie Piazza, Rose Ponthieux, Anita Ray, Nanette Redman, James Schoolcraft, Bobby Thevenote, Susan Turner, Jenny Valley, Virginia Verzwylt, Anna Villemarette, 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jackie E. Mathews, Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> 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 [dbrown@strita.org](mailto:dbrown@strita.org). Please keep all military and their families in your prayers.

### CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION COLLECTION:

This campaign connects people with Christ and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Alexandria to fund our communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! To learn more, visit [www.usccb.org/ccc](http://www.usccb.org/ccc). You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop in the collection basket.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to the Altar & Rosary Society for hosting and preparing the food for the reception for the first communicants and their families. The food was delicious and enjoyed by all. Thanks also to the Catholic Daughters and the Youth Group for the gift bags for the communicants.

### ATTENTION ALL LECTORS and ALTAR SERVERS:

Please remember if you are not going to be able to serve on the day you are scheduled, go to your APP for the Ministry Scheduler Pro and hit the swap button. The program will notify lectors that serve at that Mass and someone will pick up your assignment.

The schedule is now live on the website for ANYONE to view (no log in required). It is under the "Engage and Encounter" tab and listed as the "Current Minister Schedule". The schedule will

update as changes are made. You do not have to download the APP for this program to work for you! You can access it on any computer or ipad, however you will need your log in information which was emailed out in March. If you are having problems downloading the APP or getting your emails, please contact Courtney Brinkman at 445-7141 ext 217 and she will walk you through it. The new program is very simple and user friendly.

***FAITH FORMATION - CCD Registration for the 2023-2024 School Year!*** Registration is now OPEN!! You can register on our website, [www.strita.org](http://www.strita.org) for grades PK thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade! Classes will start on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

***FAITH FORMATION - 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>TH</sup> & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE YOUTH:*** Registration is now OPEN!! You can register on our website, [www.strita.org](http://www.strita.org). Classes start on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

***ATTENTION ALL 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS CONFIRMATION 2024 Registration is due NOW!*** Our confirmation program is a ONE year program for students that are entering their JUNIOR year. Classes will begin on September 6, 2023. Classes include BOTH Menard and public school students. Please visit our website and register today!

***VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL*** will be held June 19-23, 8:00 AM - 12:00. Cost is free for registered parishioners, \$25 for all others. You can go online at [www.strita.org](http://www.strita.org) and follow the "VBS Stellar" link to register your child (PK- Gr. 6) or as a volunteer (Gr. 7 - Adult). For more information, contact Courtney Brinkman at 445-7141 ext 217.

***2023 WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:*** If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60, 65 or 70th wedding anniversary in 2023, and you are a parishioner of St. Rita, 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.

***ST. RITA PRAYER GARDEN LEGACY BRICKS:*** Didn't get your legacy brick for your loved one who is living or deceased? We have had several requests to purchase a brick. We have 125 bricks available and the bricks are \$125 each. To order your brick call the church office at 445-7120, or stop by the office. There are also order forms on the round table in the church

foyer. For more information call, 445-7141 ext 214.

***MARK YOUR CALENDARS*** for the next Adult Religious program, beginning on Monday, August 7, 2023 for 5 weeks. Watch the bulletin for more details.  
—Jerry & Gwen Deville

***MALE EMPLOYEE NEEDED AT ST. VINCENT de PAUL THRIFT STORE:*** SVD is looking to hire a male employee who can lift boxes, unload merchandise, sweep and mop floors, etc..... This is a part time position, 20 hours per week, Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Great position for someone who is retired. For more information, call Etta Ohrt at 445-7141 ext 210.

***WOMEN'S SILENT RETREAT*** on July 14-16 at Maryhill Renewal Center. Retreat Director, Claire Gallagher, will lead a weekend silent retreat where she will invite women to sit at the feet of Christ. The retreat will explore the spirituality of the feminine genius. Claire will draw on scripture, the wisdom of St. Therese of Lisieux and her own life experiences to help women grow in their spirituality and intimacy with Christ. More information will be coming soon at the Diocese website and in the next edition of The Church Today. In the meantime, for more information, please reach out to Deacon Jason Lavergne @ [dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org](mailto:dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org)  
Sponsored by the Diocese of Alexandria

**VIRTUS™**  
***Protecting God's Children for Adults***

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***St. Joseph Catholic Center***  
***Alexandria***  
***Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> - 6:00pm***  
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Minors are not allowed because of the adult content

of the videos and discussions.

To pre-register: Go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org); click on the FIRST-TIME REGISTRANT button; complete all requested information.

Every adult who works/volunteers with minors in the Diocese of Alexandria's churches/schools is required to be trained in child sexual abuse awareness.

The session lasts 2½ - 3 hours.