

St. Rita Catholic Church

August 20, 2023
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4401 Bayou Rapides Road
Office Hours Monday - Thursday 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Closed on Fridays
Alexandria, LA 71303



St. Rita
CATHOLIC CHURCH
the hands and heart of Christ

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.

Code QR for
OnLine Giving
St. Rita Website



Dial Direct to Extensions: 445-7141

Rev. Anthony Dharmaraj, MSFS., Pastor (ext 212)
Rev. Joshua Burch, Associate Pastor (ext 211)
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
Ms. 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.

FAITH FORMATION GRADES PRE-K - 5, JR. HIGH YOUTH GRADE 6th, 7th, 8th, CONFIRMATION 11TH GRADERS

*please go to our website www.strita.org and register your child
as soon as possible, so we can plan the year!*

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, August 19

4:00 -Mass for Cheryl Arbour, Victor Beaudoin, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Kenneth Dufour, Dr. Kara Vaughn Jackson, Billie Jeansonne, Bob & Leah Leonard, Richard Love, John Marzullo, Mary Margaret Matassa, Mary Robichaux, Raymond Villmarette, Living & deceased members of the Paul Jerome & Lillie Mae Andries Thiels family
5:30 -Mass for the Intention of Marie Crooks, Renee Saucier Crooks

Sunday, August 20

8:00 -Mass for Davey & Don Weitzel
9:30 -Mass for Wanda Burrows
11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish
12:30 -Spanish Mass for all deceased members of the Spanish

Community

5:30 -Mass for Mary Lee Lazarone

Monday, August 21

8:00 -Mass for Gerald Robichaux

5:15 to 5:45-Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 -Bible Study (HFC)

Tuesday, August 22

8:00 -Mass for Dan Schmidt

10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for the intention of Stacey Ardoin

6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, August 23

8:00 -Mass for Mary Robichaux

5:30 -CCD Teacher Meeting (Moreau room)

Thursday, August 24

8:00 -Mass for Carolyn R. Gibson

Friday, August 25

8:00- Mass for Andy Beaubouef, Bernadine Forest, Billie Jeansonne, Gerald Leglue, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shawn Mathews, Wayne Wells

Saturday, August 26

4:00 -Mass for Melissa Close, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Ronnie Hair, Billie Jeansonne, Gerald Leglue, Richard Love,

Paul & Peggy Marcotte, John Marzullo, Mary Margaret Matassa, Missy Metrejean, Wally Metrejean, Mary Robichaux

5:30 -Mass for Barbara Smith

Sunday, August 27

8:00 -Mass for Billie Jeansonne

9:30 -Mass for Laura Murchison

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

12:30 -Spanish Mass for all living & deceased parishioners of the Spanish Community

5:30 -Mass for Mary Robichaux

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in memory of Howard Shores by the Shores 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 Toni Lynn Hogue by Jorge and Phyllis Vilar; and Gerald Robichaux on his birthday by his family. 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 deceased Eric Hess. 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: Is 22:19-23 Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8 Rom 11:33-36 Mt 16:13-20 Catechism 172-175

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

Regular Collection	
Sunday Gifts the week of Aug 13	\$ 15,359.00
Online & EFT Gifts Aug 13	\$ 7,335.00
Contributions for Aug 13	\$ 22,694.00
BLDG/Maintenance Fund August	\$ 450.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT August	\$ 710.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES: Donna Robinson

OUR SICK: Shirley Agliano, Joan Andries, John Curley, Stan Fryer, Janet Thiels, Jackie Whitcher

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Stacey Ardoin, Pierce Babineaux, Theresa Basco, Phillip Brouillette, Jean Brunson, Bobbi Chatelain, Lillian Costa, Sandra Deville, Farrell LaCombe, James Ray Lachney, Bessie LeJeune, Paul Medica, Cynthia Parker, Caroline Pearson, Baby Cal Stevens, Kara Franks Thomas, Cyndee Whittington, Patsy Wilmore, Joel Wood

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, James Dupont, Grace Ellis, Brenda Evans, Micki Faraldo, Mary Fontenot, Philip Frank, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzalez, Peggy Guillory, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Kathy Lacour, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Josephine Marcotte, Zadie Marcotte, Patty Marian, Helen Mathews, Mildred McCarthy, Nettie Medica, Gladys Morris, Constance Nasello, Clea Perry, June Peterson, Bettie Piazza, Rose Ponthieux, Lee Procel, Anita Ray, Nanette Redman, James Schoolcraft, Bobby Thevenote, Susan Turner, Jenny Valley, Virginia Verzwylt, Anna Villemarete, 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 dbrown@strita.org. Please keep all military and their families in your prayers.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION will be held on Mondays, before bible study in church from 5:15 - 5:45 PM. Everyone is invited.

MARYHILL RENEWAL CENTER COLLECTION: Established in the 1940s by Bishop Charles P. Greco, Maryhill is used extensively by many seeking a spiritual and restful place to hold retreats and functions throughout the year. It continues to serve as the spiritual heart of the Diocese of Alexandria. Funds from this collection will be used for the ongoing maintenance of the structures and grounds in order to keep this sacred gift available to us. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope and drop in the collection basket. Please give generously.

CATHOLIC INQUIRY (OCIA – Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): If you are interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith, please call the church office at 445-7141 ext. 214. Classes will begin in September. We are glad to work within your schedule and help you in any way to become a Catholic. – Fr. Raj, Ann Masden, Patti Williams

ST. RITA CHORISTERS (for students in 2nd grade and up) will begin rehearsals Wednesday, September 6th from 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the St. Dymphna Room in the Holy Family Center. If you would like more information, please call Miss Brittany Nugent at 730-0632.

MASS INTENTIONS: Our Mass Intention book for 2023 is full! We have had an overwhelming request for Masses this year. As in the past we ask that you consider allowing us to share your Intentions, and the stipend of course, with smaller parishes. Unlike large parishes like ours, there are smaller parishes in our own Diocese that may go weeks with no Mass

Intention and no stipend for the priest. If you would like to request Masses for 2023, we will be happy to send those Masses to one of the smaller parishes for you. Please consider this as an option when remembering your beloved deceased!

We will not be scheduling Masses for 2024 until December.
— Ms. Etta Ohrt

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER IS ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL please let us know! *Due to the Privacy Act now in place at all the hospitals, we are no longer able to get a list of patients from the hospitals.* During office hours you may call 445-7120. If you are admitted to the hospital after office hours or on the weekend, please call 445-7141 ext 4.

If you have a surgery scheduled in advance, you may see one of the priests in the Sacristy or confessional before Mass, or call us at anytime. Please remember in emergencies to call us at 445-7141 ext 4. This will ensure that a priest or one of our hospital visitors from St. Rita will be able to see you. We will also know to pray for you in a special way!
— Fr. Raj

FAITH FORMATION - Registration for the 2023-2024 School Year! Registration is now OPEN!! You can register on our website, www.strita.org for grades PK thru 5th grade! Classes will start on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

FAITH FORMATION - 6th 7TH & 8TH GRADE YOUTH: Registration is now OPEN!! You can register on our website, www.strita.org. Classes start on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

ATTENTION ALL 11TH 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!

DOWNLOAD OUR PARISH APP!! The St. Rita App is available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Our App allows us to send you useful and important messages throughout the week regarding our parish life and events. So be sure to download the App by visiting myparishapp.com or searching for myparish on your phone's App store.

GENESIS OF EVE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE will be held the weekend of September 8 - 10 at the Riverfront Center downtown. This is a weekend is full of spiritual encounter, intellectual empowerment and apostolic evangelization. The 2023 Genesis of Eve

conference theme this year is "Be Not Afraid." Joan of Arc is our featured saint for this year's conference. To purchase your ticket, please visit genesisofoeve.org.

RETROUVAILLE PROGRAM: Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage.

Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information about the upcoming local Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, (September 15-17) contact: Randall and Robin Bellard @ 225-271-4092 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org

WIDOWED, SEPARATED or DIVORCED? Don't know where to turn? Struggling with grief or loss? Beginning Experience of Alexandria is registering now for a weekend away that provides an individual with the opportunity to encounter self and to grow with a purpose to achieve inner peace. The experience is to help close the door gently on the past and move on with renewed hope and purpose. The weekend will be held at Maryhill Renewal Center - Pineville, LA on September 15 – 17, 2023. Cost is \$185.00 which includes two nights' lodging and meals.

For more information the website is: www.beginningexperience.org or to register contact: Anna at (318) 448-1990 or (318) 452-2678 asweat7@aol.com or John at (504) 355-6524 tubamaniem@gmail.com

HEART OF LOUISIANA CREDIT UNION: If you or any member of your family are parishioners of St. Rita Church, you are eligible to join Heart of Louisiana Credit Union. By joining you begin a lifetime of benefits. Your savings deposited earn dividends and loans can be made for any purpose. All deposits are insured up to \$250,000. Stop by any of our locations or call 473-4562 for more information.