

# St. Rita Catholic Church

September 17, 2023  
Twenty-Fourth 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



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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.

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## CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2023:

*"Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened; Matthew 11:28"*  
*this Sunday at the 9:30 AM Mass.*

## SUNDAY BREAKFAST

*this Sunday after the 8:00 & 9:30 AM Mass.*

## CATHOLIC DAUGHTER'S COOKBOOKS

*are available at the church office.*

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**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, September 16

4:00 -Mass for Cheryl Arbour, Andy Beaubouef, Melissa Close, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Dr. Kara Vaughn Jackson, Leta Juneau, Bob & Leah Leonard, Richard Love, Joan Mahfouz, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shawn Mathews, Mary Robichaux, Wayne Wells

5:30 -Mass for Missy Metrejean, Wally Metrejean  
**Sunday, September 17**  
8:00 -Mass for Houston, Lucille & Paul Dunn  
9:30 -Mass for Billie Jeansonne  
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 Victor Beaudoin  
6:30 -High School Youth Group Meeting (HFC)  
**Monday, September 18**  
8:00 -Mass for Mrs. Charles Dekeyzer  
5:15 to 5:45 - Adoration  
6:00 -Bible Study (HFC)  
**Tuesday, September 19**  
8:00 -Mass for Al Schexnaider  
10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for Leta Juneau

6:00 -Men's ACTS Team Meeting (HFC)  
 6:00 -Spanish Religious Education (KC Meeting Room)  
 6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

### **Wednesday, September 20**

8:00 -Mass for Mary Robichaux  
 4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)  
 6:00 -Faith Formation Pre-K - 5<sup>th</sup> (Church Foyer)  
       -6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Group (HFC)  
       -11<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation (KC Meeting Room)

### **Thursday, September 21**

8:00 -Mass for Gerald Leglue  
 6:00 -High School Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)  
 5:00 -Catholic Daughters Meeting (HFC)

### **Friday, September 22**

8:00 -Mass for Leta Juneau, Mary Margaret Matassa, Zachary Veillon, Davey & Don Weitzel, Living & deceased members of the Paul Jerome & Lillie Mae Andries Thiels family

### **Saturday, September 23**

4:00 -Mass for Andy Beaubouef, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Kenneth Dufour, Ronnie Hair, Leta Juneau, Gerald Leglue, Richard Love, Paul & Peggy Marcotte, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shawn Mathews, Mary Robichaux, Raymond Villmarette  
 5:30 -Mass for the Intention of Marie Crooks, Renee Saucier Crooks

### **Sunday, September 24**

8:00 -Mass for Zachary Veillon  
 9:30 -Mass for Joan Mahfouz  
 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  
 6:30 -High School Youth Group Meeting (HFC)

**ALTAR FLOWERS** were provided in memory of Peggy 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 Marvin Finney by Frances Finney & family; and Toni Lynn Hogue by Jorge & Phyllis Vilar. 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 Rose Ponthieux. 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 55:6-9 Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a Catechism 1996-2005

**WEDNESDAY EVENING MEAL** 4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center, this week's menu: Pork Loin, Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert and Tea. Cost is \$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team this

week is Carl & Cheryl Verzwylt, Flo Sanders, Katherine Beard, Helen Harrod, Alan & Brenda Daenen, Heather Reynaud, Theresa Deselle, Harry & Mary Vermaelen. Servers this week are Brianna Gardner, Cindy Campbell, Lena Connella, Joan Connella, Anna Sweat, Greta Roaix, Linda Vidrine, Fay Day, Chris Everett, Paula Newton, Earline Pentecost. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

### **OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS**

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
<b>Sunday Gifts the week of September 10</b>	<b>\$ 17,062.00</b>
<b>Online &amp; EFT Gifts September 10</b>	<b>\$ 8,552.00</b>
<b>Contributions for September 10</b>	<b>\$ 25,614.00</b>
<b>BLDG/Maintenance Fund September</b>	<b>\$ 415.00</b>
<b>BLDG/Main Online &amp; EFT September</b>	<b>\$ 365.00</b>

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**OUR SICK:** Shirley Agliano, Barbara Alewine, Charlene Beurlot, Shannon Bray, Donnie Rivers, Pam Rivers, Janet Thiels, Ann Setliff, Debbie Setliff

**RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT:** Stacey Ardoin, Pierce Babineaux, Jennifer Brossette, Bobbi Chatelain, Stan Fryer, Caroline Pearson, Jackie Whitcher

**OUR SHUT- INS:** Shirley Agliano, 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 Gonzague, Peggy Guillory, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Audrey Jussein, Gerald Lachney, Kathy Lacour, 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, Lee Procel, 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.

**PLEASE DO NOT** display any yard signs of any kind on church property. Church property CANNOT be used for any activity related to the support of or opposition to any candidate for political office. Political signs and use of church property is forbidden by Diocesan law, as the church is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization as defined by the IRS. Any yard signs will be taken up and discarded.

– Fr. Raj

**WELCOME TO** St. Rita Parish, new parishioners, Gloria Lopez, Adam and Bridgette Soileau, Antonia Torres Vera and their families. Please join us in welcoming them to our parish family.

**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

**ACTS COMMISSIONING** for the next Men's ACTS team will be this Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the 11:00 AM Mass. The retreat has been scheduled for January 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Maryhill. The directors will be Ken Wasmer, Nic Ohrt and Paul Coreil.

Applications to attend the retreat will be made available soon! Please keep these men in your prayers.

**SUNDAY BREAKFAST** this weekend after the 8:00 and 9:30 AM Mass in the Holy Family Center. Prepared by the KC Council #1134.

**CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2023: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are burdened; Matthew 11:28"** Sunday, September 17 is Catechetical Sunday. We invite and encourage all Faith Formation Teachers and aides, Confirmation team, Youth Ministry team, Bible Study\Adult Education facilitators, and the OCIA team to be present for a commissioning at the 9:30 AM Mass. We thank you for the great ministry you provide to our parish!

–Mrs. Courtney Brinkman, Fr. Raj

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS COURT BISHOP DESMOND** will meet on Thursday, September 21 at 5:00 PM in the Holy Family Center. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us.

–Mrs. Ona Wilson

**CDA COOKBOOKS** are available at the church office, Monday - Thursday, 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM. Cookbooks are \$20 each.

**RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION** for our priests who have reached retirement age after years of faithful and dedicated service to the Diocese. With costs continually escalating, the monthly retirement benefit for our retired priests must be adjusted periodically as well. We appreciate your generosity in helping to assure that the needs of our retired priests will continue to be met, and ask that you remember them in your prayers. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop it in the collection basket.

**ATTENTION ALL  
Public & Private School Students  
JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP**

grades 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>

Wednesdays 6-00-7:00 PM

**Wednesday, September 20**

Edge Lesson:

Social Night: Relationships with others

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

grades 9 - 12<sup>th</sup>

Sundays, 6:30 PM

**Sunday September 17**

Life Teen Lesson:

Game Night! Getting to know you games

**Both Groups will meet in the  
Holy Family Center**

For more information contact:

Miss Kathryn Velotta, 623-5337

**ST. RITA FALL FESTIVAL 2023**

**Saturday, October 28**

**Watch the bulletin for more information!**

**We are collecting items for our SILENT  
AUCTION such as small furniture,  
antiques, collectibles, etc.....**

**We are ALSO collecting Bingo Prizes and  
Halloween Candy.**

**Your donations may be dropped off at the  
MAINTENANCE SHOP located behind the  
Holy Family Center between the hours of  
7:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday - Thursday  
ONLY.**

**Drop off the items in front of the garage door  
of the shop.**

**WE DO NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES TO  
PICK UP ANY ITEMS.**

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ANY ITEMS  
AT THE PARISH OFFICE!**

**Contact Debbie Brown, 445-7141 ext 214 or  
Etta Ohrt, 445-7141 ext 210  
for further information.**