

St. Rita Catholic Church

December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

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

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. Joshua Burch, Associate Pastor (ext 211)
Deacon Kenny Sayes, Permanent Deacon (451-4555)
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
Ms. Kathryn Velotta, Director of Youth Ministries
Mr. Conrad Ducote, Director of Maintenance & Buildings

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. Raj or Fr. Joshua

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

ANOINTING OF THE SICK *after all Masses this weekend*

BEAUTIFUL EUCHARISTIC BOOKLET
*found in the pews, our Christmas Gift to you,
one per family please*

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
Monday December 11 at 5:30 - 7:30 PM in HFC

FAITH FORMATION GRADES 3RD - 8TH Grade,
Confirmation Penance Service
Wednesday, December 13, 6:00 PM

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE
Thursday, December 14, 6:00 PM

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, December 9

4:00 -Mass for Jean Brunson, Leta Juneau, Hank Lichtman, John Tyler Lyles, James Marien, Mary Margaret Matassa, Gerald & Mary Robichaux, Sr.
 5:30 -Mass for Paul & Peggy Marcotte

Sunday, December 10

8:00 -Mass for U.J. Henry
 9:30 -Mass for Gerald Leglue
 11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish
 12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community
 5:30 -Mass for Cheryl Arbour
 6:30 -High School Youth Group Meeting (HFC)

Monday, December 11

8:00 -Mass for Billie Jeansonne
 5:30-7:30 -Christmas Celebration (HFC)

Tuesday, December 12

8:00 -Mass for John Tyler Lyles
 10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for Ronnie Crawford
 6:00 -Men's ACTS Team Meeting (HFC)
 6:00 -OCIA (Moreau Room)
 5:00 -Spanish Faith Formation (KC Room)
 6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, December 13

8:00 -Mass for Paul & Peggy Marcotte
 4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
 6:00 -Faith Formation Pre-K - 2nd (Church Foyer)
 -Penance Service, Faith Formation 3rd - 5th
 -Penance Service - 6th, 7th & 8th Youth Group (HFC)
 -Penance Service - 11th Grade Confirmation (Church)

Thursday, December 14

8:00 -Mass for Katie Nasello
 6:00 -Parish Penance Service
 6:00 -High School Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)

Friday, December 15

8:00 -Mass for Andy Beaubouef, Victor Beaudoin, Louise Bordelon, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shawn Mathews, Kevin Thiels, Zachary Veillon, Davey & Don Weitzel

Saturday, December 16

4:00 -Mass for Cheryl Arbour, Andy Beaubouef, Jean Brunson, Bob & Leah Leonard, Bob Mahfouz, James Marien, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shawn Mathews, Gerald & Mary Robichaux, Sr.,
 5:30 -Mass for Missy Metrejean, Wally Metrejean

Sunday, December 17

8:00 -Mass for Marion Polk
 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 Louise Bordelon
 6:30 -High School Youth Group Meeting (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS are not allowed during the season of Advent. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. **Flowers are \$75 for both arrangements.**

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 deceased members of the parish. 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: 2: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 Lk 1:46-50, 53-54 1Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 Catechism 7569-769

ADORATION CHAPEL: WILL BE CLOSED from MONDAY DECEMBER 18TH for 6 weeks for construction of the new canopy. We will be sending out emails to everyone who signed for the code when we reopen the chapel. Thank you for your patience during this construction.

Sacred Heart in Pineville has an adoration chapel 24/7. You have to go the church office, Monday - Thursday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM to get the code.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor has adoration on Fridays 7:00 - 5:00 in the church.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEAL 4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center, this week's menu: Chicken & Sausage Gumbo, Rice, Sweet Potato, Crackers, Dessert, and Tea. Cost is \$6.00 for dine in or take out. **Cook Team and Servers** this week are members of the **Knights of Columbus Council 1134**. For more information call 445-7141 ext 214. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

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| Regular Collection | |
| Sunday Gifts the week of December 1 | \$ 20,038.00 |
| Online & EFT Gifts December 1 | \$ 6,654.00 |
| Contributions for December 1 | \$ 26,692.00 |
| BLDG/Maintenance Fund December | \$ 415.00 |
| BLDG/Main Online & EFT December | \$ 205.00 |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

OUR SICK: Shirley Agliano, Theresa Brocato, Sis Delrie, Ebron Dunn, Jason Holt, Paul Medica, Jr., Georgiana Robinson, Mary Winn

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Pierce Babineaux, Danny Cezar, Bobbi Chatelain, Nona Dorgan, Bob Morrisette, Caroline Pearson, Donnie Rivers, Karen Schrock, Kathy Fryer Thomas, Donnie Welch, 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 Gonzaque, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Kathy Lacour, Norris LaFleur, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Josephine Marcotte, Zadie Marcotte, Patty Marian, Helen Mathews, Mildred McCarthy, Nettie Medica, Gladys Morris, Cleta Perry, June Peterson, Bettie Piazza, Lee Procel, Anita Ray, Nanette Redman, Larry Robin, Marguerite Robin, James Schoolcraft, Bobby Thevenote, Susan Turner, Jenny Valley, Virginia Verzwuyvelt, 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, 1st Lt. Jackie E. Mathews, Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy McKnight, PO2 Nicholas Peralta, Sgt. Cole Pleche, PFC Brandon Rashall, 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.

RETIRED FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious the week of Dec. 10. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope marked and drop in the collection basket. Please be generous to this collection.

ANOIDING OF THE SICK AFTER ALL MASSES NEXT WEEKEND: The law of the Church regarding eligibility is as follows: "The anointing of the sick may be administered to the faithful who have the use of reason (age 7 and above) and *begin to fall into danger as a result of illness or old age*...among those who may be anointed, the Ritual mentions in particular: those undergoing surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery; elderly people who have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present; sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament."

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Monday - Friday at 7:45 am in church. Please join us!

MANY THANKS to all who participated and helped with the St. Nicholas Celebration! The children had a great time with the songs, crafts and refreshments. Special thanks to the ladies of the parish for preparing and serving the refreshments, Hunter Andries for being St. Nic, Janet Cargle for providing the music and Rachal Cargle Duncan for helping with music and taking pictures for us. — Mrs. Debbie Brown

MANY THANKS to everyone who supported the Altar and Rosary sale this past weekend. The raffle winners were; 1st place; Bobbi Leckie; 2nd place; Theresa Slater; 3rd place; Maxine Beard. All the money they raise on their fund raisers and flower memorials are spent on flowers and supplies for the church. The A&R ladies also work most all the receptions and functions we have at St. Rita. We want to thank them for all that they do for our parish. Your support is very important to their fund raisers and we thank you for your generosity.

2024 CALENDARS are still available for \$2.00. If you would like a calendar, stop in the Sacristy after Mass or the church office.

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES: As a parish family, we will adopt several families again this year. If you would like to make a donation for the families, you may do so with a pew envelope. Mark it Christmas Families and drop it in the collection basket.

— Mrs. Courtney Brinkman

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CHRISTMAS PROJECT: The Catholic Daughters Court Bishop Desmond are collecting white socks for the patients at St. Christina Nursing Home for their Christmas stockings. There are boxes in the church foyer for your to drop off your donation. Thank you.

ALTAR & ROSARY CHRISTMAS PARTY this Sunday, December 10 at 1:00 PM in the Holy Family Center. Bring your favorite potluck and a wrapped \$5 ornament. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us!! — Mrs. Debbie Brown

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND: Remember your loved ones by donating to the Christmas flower fund. A list of the donors and the names of those being remembered will be published in the January 15 bulletin. Donations for the decorating fund is **\$15**. Make checks payable to the St. Rita Altar and Rosary Society, and please include the name(s) of those to be remembered. **Please print the names on the envelope, so we can read the spelling of the names.** Thank you for your support!

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

grades 6th, 7th & 8th

Wednesdays 6-00-7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 13

Youth Penance Service/Cookie Party

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

grades 9 - 12th

Sundays, 6:30 PM

Sunday December 10

Wrap gifts for the Christmas Families

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

For more information contact:
Miss Kathryn Velotta, 623-5337