

St. Rita Catholic Church

January 7, 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord

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.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS

start back this Wednesday, January 10, 4:30 - 6:00 PM

FAITH FORMATION -- Grades PreK - 5, - 6, 7 & 8 GRADE YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION

resume this Wednesday, January 10, 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, January 6

4:00 -Mass for Pauline Crawford, Clifford Juneau, Laura Longo, Michael Robichaux

Sunday, January 7

8:00 -Mass for Pete Snow
9:30 -Mass for Stephen Ardoin
11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish
12:30 -Spanish Mass for Spanish Community
5:30 -Mass for Michael L. Marchand
6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)
7:00 -Contemporary Adoration (Church)

Monday, January 8

8:00 -Mass for Billie Jeansonne

Tuesday, January 9

8:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark
10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for the intention of Henry Ardoin
6:00 -OCIA (Moreau Room)
5:00 -Spanish Faith Formation (KC Room)
6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, January 10

8:00 -Mass for Jimmy Marien

Thursday, January 11

8:00 -Mass for Freddie Lavesphere
6:00 -NO High School Youth Bible Study (Youth Room)

Friday, January 12

8:00 -Mass for Kevin Thiels, Roger Prevot

Saturday, January 13

4:00 -Mass for Weston Charles Johnson, Jr., Hank Lichtman, John Tyler Lyles, James Marien, Natalie Mendel

Sunday, January 14

8:00 -Mass for Mary Alice Weston
 9:30 -Mass for the intention of Michael Robichaux
 11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish
 12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community
 5:30 -Mass for Frank Crooks

ALTAR FLOWERS If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar in memory of a loved one or in celebration of special occasion, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. **Flowers are \$100 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 Ebron Dunn. 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: 65: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42

ADORATION CHAPEL: IS CLOSED until the end of January for construction of the new canopy. We will send 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: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Corn, Roll, Dessert and Tea. Cost is \$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team and servers this week are the Altar and Rosary Society. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

Regular Collection	
Sunday Gifts week of December 31	\$ 17,646.00
Online & EFT Gifts December 31	\$ 7,490.00
Contributions December 31	\$ 25,136.00

New Year's Day Collection	\$ 1,718.00
BLDG/Main Fund December	\$ 530.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT December	\$ 1,143.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The three wise men who came from the East to pay homage to the infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES: Lizzie Floyd

OUR SICK: Dorothy Brown, Meta Doggett, Brenda Evans, Paul Medica, Jr., Cynthia Parker, Sherry Reese, Georgiana Robinson, Elda Schoolcraft, Darrell Wilmore, Patsy Wilmore, Mary Winn, Tonya Wood

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Shirley Agliano, Jeannine Babineaux, Pierce Babineaux, Theresa Brocato, Bobbi Chatelain, Sis Delrie, Irving Douzart, Bettie Jeanssonne, Bobbi Leckie, Gene Leckie, Caroline Pearson, Donnie Rivers, Karen Schrock, Kathy Fryer Thomas, Jackie Whitchee

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, Luanne Davis, Pat Despino, Odean Deville, Juanita Dodd, Elizabeth Drake, Melba Ducote, Nathan Ducote, Cecilia Dunn, Jennifer Dunn, Regina Dunn, James Dupont, Grace Ellis, Brenda Evans, Micki Faraldo, Mary Fontenot, Patsy Franks, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Gracie Glorioso, Irma Gonzaque, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Norris LaFleur, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Josephine Marcotte, Zadie Marcotte, Helen Mathews, Mildred McCarthy, Sam Medica, Gladys Morris, Cleta Perry, Billie Phillips, Lee Procel, Anita Ray, Nanette Redman, Larry Robin, Sr., Marguerite Robin, James Schoolcraft, Jean Serio, David Stafford, Adrienne Stevens, Susan Turner, Virginia Verzwylt, Anna Villemarette, Willie Voorhies, Betty Wilmore, Marilyn Ruth Wilson, Patricia 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, PFC Roberto Lopez, 1st Lt. Jackie E. Mathews, 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.

LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION: For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop it in the collection basket. Please be generous.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER IS ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL please let us know! 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

2ND GRADE CCD SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is on Wednesday, January 24 at 6:00 PM in Church. – Mrs. Courtney Brinkman

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS: (New and Current) Altar Server Training will be on January 31st starting at 6:00 PM. Altar Servers enhance the quality of liturgical celebrations by serving the priest and Deacon at Mass and other liturgies. This is a great way for young people to learn more about the Mass and to take an active role in the Church family. Boys and girls in 3rd grade and older (must have received First Communion) are invited to join the Altar Serving Ministry. ALL servers (new, current and those that would like to see what it is all about) are required to attend this training.

If your child attends CCD, they will attend the training in place of class . If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Courtney Brinkman at cbrinkman@strita.org or 445-7141 x 217.

MEMORIAL MASS will be celebrated on Saturday, January 27 at 4:00 PM Mass for all members of St. Rita Church who have died July 1 - December 31, 2023. Those to be remembered are Cheryl Spencer Arbour, Nancy Marchand Benjamin, Louise Bordelon, Kenneth John Brocato, Sr., Jean Lanier Brunson, Ernest Ebron Dunn, Carlynn Carlyon Gardner, Lydia Hardy, Eric Gerard Hess, Leta Roberts Juneau, Joanne Mahfouz, Robert Mahfouz, Michael Larry Marchand, James Percy Marien, Edgar Charles Medlin, Constance Marie Nasello, Rose Mari Ponthieux, Donna Glorioso Robinson, Janet Theresa Thiels, Charles Fabian Vandersypen Sr. Ann Verzwylt, John Sharp Williams, Jr.

This Mass will be Live Streamed on our FaceBook page and our website.

DISPLAY FOR MEMORIAL MASS: If you lost a loved one from July 1 - December 31, 2023, we will have a table set up in the church foyer for you to display 1 (ONE) framed picture of your loved one.

Please put your contact information on the picture, so that we can return to you. The table will be set up in the foyer the weekend of January 20.

BEGIN THE NEW YEAR WITH ONLINE OR EFT GIVING where you can create or alter your contribution schedule at any time. You can also see reports of your contribution history that you can use for your records. By clicking the “OnLine Giving” link at www.strita.org you can take care your contributions yourself.

EFT Electronic Funds Transfer directly from your bank accounts or your credit/debit card.

EFT offers many benefits to the church and you, the parishioner. EFT transactions can be scheduled weekly on Monday, 10th, 20th or 30th of the month and allows you to make a contribution even if you are unable to attend a service.

To sign up for EFT, call 445-7141 ext 210 and we will mail a form to you. We will take care of setting everything up for you.
–Etta Ohrt

ST. RITA CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE Sunday, January 14, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM on the LifeShare Bus at church. Support your community, our church parish. Save a life by donating blood. All donors will receive a t-shirt and refreshments.

ST. RITA ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY: January is the month for all members to renew their dues. Dues are \$10.00 annually. You may mail your dues to St. Rita Altar Society, 4401 Bayou Rapides Rd., Alexandria, LA 71303 or drop in collection basket marked St. Rita Altar and Rosary dues.

Next meeting is Thursday, January 11 at 5:30 PM in the HFC.
– Debbie Brown, President

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

grades 6th, 7th & 8th, Wednesdays 6-00-7:00 PM

Wednesday, January 10

Edge Lesson: How to Win:

How can I know Right from Wrong?

Setting Course

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

grades 9 - 12th, Sundays, 6:30 PM

Sunday, January 7

Contemporary Adoration

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

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