

St. Rita Catholic Church

January 21, 2024
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST

this weekend after the 8:00 & 9:30 Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION

Monday, January 22, 6:00 PM in church

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 20

4:00 -Mass for Ardoin Family, Anthony Connella, Ebron Dunn, Jimmy Marien, Johnny Olson, Dawin "PaPa" Dee Smart

Sunday, January 21

8:00 -Mass for Janet Thiels
9:30 -Mass for Jimmy Marien
11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish
12:30 -Spanish Mass for Spanish Community
5:30 -Mass for Tyler Thiels
6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

Monday, January 22

8:00 -Mass for Jimmy Marien
6:00 -Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Tuesday, January 23

8:00 -Mass for Lori Snow Stevenson
10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for Pauline Crawford
12:00 -Pastoral Council Meeting (HFC)
6:00 -OCIA (Moreau Room)
5:00 -Spanish Faith Formation (KC Room)
6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, January 24

8:00 -Mass for Anthony Connella
4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
6:00 -Faith Formation Pre-K - 5th (Church Foyer)
- 6th, 7th & 8th Youth Group (HFC)
- 11th Grade Confirmation (Church)

Thursday, January 25

8:00 -Mass for Janet Thiels

Friday, January 26

8:00 -Mass for Melvin & Delores Perkins, Sid Rud, David Voelker

Saturday, January 27

4:00 -Mass for Frank Crooks, John Tyler Lyles, William Smith, Jr.

Sunday, January 28

8:00 -Mass for Marvin Finney

9:30 -Mass for John Marzullo

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

12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community

5:30 -Mass for Mildred McCarthy

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in loving memory of Omega Dobord by Denise Dobard. 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 Jimmy Marien 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 Alvin Lilley. 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: 71: Dt 18:15-20
Ps 95: 1-2, 6-9 1 Cor 7:32-35 Mk 1:21-28

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: Chicken Spaghetti, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert and Tea. \$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team is Katherine Beard, Alan Daenen, Brenda Daenen, Theresa DeSelle, Helen Harrod, Elaine Pentecost, Heather Reynaud, Flo Sanders, Harry Vermaelen, Mary Vermaelen, Cheryl Verzwylt, Carl Verzwylt and servers this week are Cindy Campbell, Joan Connella, Lena Connella, Fay Day, Chris Everett, Paula Newton, Greta Roaix, Anna Sweat and Linda Vidrine. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Sunday Gifts week of January 14	\$ 14,994.00
Online & EFT Gifts January 14	\$ 7,603.83
Contributions January 14	\$ 22,597.83
BLDG/Main Fund January	\$ 1,805.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT January	\$ 465.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

There is a certain urgency in today's Gospel as Jesus calls His first disciples – Andrew and Simon, James and John. Each one follows Jesus immediately, unhesitatingly abandoning nets and boats and father and fellow-workers. To what is Jesus calling me – at this moment, in these circumstances? What will I need to abandon in order to follow Him?

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES: Mildred McCarthy

OUR SICK: Shirley Agliano, Brenda Evans, John Kurfis, Mildred McCarthy, Paul Medica, Jr., Cynthia Parker, Georgiana Robinson, Darrell Wilmore

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Pierce Babineaux, Theresa Brocato, Dorothy Brown, Bobbi Chatelain, Faye Day, Irving Douzart, Carolyn Heard, Bettie Jeansonne, Caroline Pearson, Donnie Rivers, Karen Schrock, Gail Sylvia, Kathy Fryer Thomas, Jackie Whitcher, Mary Winn, Tonya Wood

OUR SHUT- INS: Shirley Agliano, Joan Andries, Doris Billeaudeau, 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, James Dupont, Grace Ellis, Brenda Evans, Micki Faraldo, Mary Fontenot, Patsy Franks, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Gracie Glorioso, Irma Gonzague, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Norris LaFleur, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Josephine Marcotte, Zadie Marcotte, Helen Mathews, 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, CWT1 Christian Perkins, 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.

2023 TAX STATEMENTS have been sent out. If we have your email address, your statement was emailed. We emailed 442 statements, saving us \$288 and mailed 168 statements. If you would like to send your email address to us, please email etta@strita.org. If you did not receive a statement, please call Etta Ohrt at 445-7141 ext 210.

CHURCH TODAY collection is for our diocesan newspaper -- the Church Today. Every month, this 20-page newspaper is mailed FREE to every Catholic household in the diocese. All donations to this special collection go directly to the Church Today to help defray the cost of printing and mailing. If you, or someone you know, would like to receive the Church Today FREE each month, call 318- 445-6424, ext 209 to request it. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop in the collection basket.

EUCCHARIST ADORATION AND BENEDICTION on Monday, January 22 at 6:00 PM in church. Everyone is invited.

PASTORAL COUNCIL meeting on Tuesday, January 23 at 12:00 noon in the Holy Family Center.

FINANCE COUNCIL meeting on Tuesday, January 30th at 12:00 noon in the Moreau Room.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST after the 8:00 & 9:30 AM Mass this weekend. Prepared by the KC Council #1134. Please join us.

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, Jennifer Lynn Dunn, Joy Lizzie Floyd, 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, Tyler Thiels, Charles Fabian Vandersypen Sr. Ann Verzwylvelt, John Sharp Williams, Jr.

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.

TRAVELING VOCATIONS STOLE: Please consider signing up for the St. Rita Parish Traveling Vocations Stole! We ask that you volunteer to take the Priest Stole home with you for one week, and to pray daily for vocations with those in your house. The sign up sheet is located in the church foyer. Please call 445-7120 for more information.

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.

New officers were elected at the meeting on January 11, Gina Lachney, President; Lisa Collins, Vice President; Pat Spangler, Treasurer; and Janet Hirsch, Secretary. We want to thank Debbie Brown, president and Cindy Castille, vice president for their many years of serving the Altar Society.

– *Gina Lachney, President*

**ATTENTION ALL
Public & Private School Students
JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP**
grades 6th, 7th & 8th, Wednesdays 6-00-7:00 PM
Wednesday, January 24
Edge Lesson: Why Do I Need A Savior?
Mayday

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
grades 9 - 12th, Sundays, 6:30 PM
Sunday, January, 21
Understanding Ecclesial Authority:
Keeper of the Keys

**Both Groups will meet in the
Holy Family Center**
For more information contact:
Miss Kathryn Velotta, 623-5337