

St. Rita Catholic Church

March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Lent

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.

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR, THIS WEEKEND

Free Fish/Spaghetti Luncheon after the 11:00 Mass

**Blessing of the Altar after the 4:00 PM Mass Saturday & after 11:00 Mass
on Sunday – Monetary Donations accepted for MANNA HOUSE!**

KC COUNCIL #1134 FISH FRY, FRIDAY, March 22

4:30 - 6:30 PM in Holy Family Center, Dine In & Drive Thru

LIVE STREAMED Masses every week at 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, March 16

4:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark, Freddie Lavespere, Hank Lichtman, Martin Masden, Albert Mathews, Shawn Mathews, Ed Medlin, Natalie Mendel, Johnny Olson, Dawin 'Papa Dee' Smart, Janet Thiels, Kevin Thiels, Tyler Thiels

5:00 -Blessing St. Joseph Altar

Sunday, March 17

8:00 -Mass for Michael Robichaux

9:30 -Mass for the Gerald Leglue

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

12:00 -Blessing St. Joseph Altar & Free Fish & Spaghetti Meal

12:30 -Spanish Mass for Spanish Community

5:30 -Mass for Ronnie Crawford

6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

Monday, March 18

8:00 -Mass for Ebron Dunn

6:00 -Jesus & the Eucharistic Study Series (HFC)

Tuesday, March 19

8:00 -Mass for Al Schexnaider

10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for Pauline Crawford

6:00 -OCIA (Moreau Room)

5:00 -Spanish Faith Formation (KC Room)

6:30 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, March 20

8:00 -Mass for James Gerald Leglue

4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)

6:00 -Faith Formation PreK-5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th Youth Group,

Confirmation

Thursday, March 21

8:00 -Mass for U.J. Henry

5:30 -Catholic Daughters Meeting (HFC)

Friday, March 22

8:00 -Mass for John Tyler Lyles, Sid Rud, Kevin Thiels, Zachary Veillon, David Voelker

2:00 -Way of the Cross (Church)

4:30 -KC Fish Fry (HFC)

5:30 -Way of the Cross (Church)

7:00 -Spanish Way of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, March 23

4:00 -Mass for John & Electa Ball, Marion M. Bordelon, Anthony Connella, Frank Crooks, Faye Day, Don Feduccia, Percy J. Legendre, Jr., Josephine Marcotte, Freda Descant Riche', Leo Riche', Sr., Leo Riche', Jr., Michael Robichaux, Raymond Villmarette

Sunday, March 24

8:00 -Mass for Marvin Finney

9:30 -Mass for the Ardoin Family

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

12:30 -Spanish Mass for Julio Angel Rivera

5:30 -Mass for Henry Ardoin

6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS are not allowed during the season of Lent. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar after Easter, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. **Flowers are \$100 for both arrangements.**

ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMPS were provided in loving memory of John Williams, Jr., by Barbara Mitchell. 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 Josephine Marcotte. 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: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 38:Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18a, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-36

ADORATION CHAPEL: The Blessed Sacrament is reserved for adoration by all the faithful in the St. Pius X Chapel located in the rear of the Church building. Hours are 6:00 AM - 8:00 PM. To obtain the combination for the chapel stop by the church office at 4401 Bayou Rapides Road, during office hours. **We remind you not to give the code to anyone, and please do not open the door for anyone.**

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEAL 4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center, this week's menu: Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Corn, Roll, Dessert and Tea. Cost is \$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team and Servers this week are the Catholic Daughters.

FISH FRY: KC Council #1134 is sponsoring Fish Fry, on Friday, March 15, 4:30 - 6:00 in the Holy Family Center. Menu: Fried Fish, French Fries, Hush Puppies, Coleslaw. Cost \$10.00 per plate, take outs available.

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Sunday Gifts week of March 10	\$ 16,034.00
Online & EFT Gifts March 10	\$ 8,000.00
Contributions March 10	\$ 24,034.00
Weekday Collection	\$ 5,667.68
BLDG/Main Fund March	\$ 655.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT March	\$ 395.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. "We are truly his handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus to lead a life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance. **Today is our parish's 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal in-pew weekend,** In the past weeks you may have received a letter from Bishop Marshall asking for your support of the annual appeal. If you have not yet pledged to the ADA, please do so by filling out the pledge envelope found in the hymnal racks. You will join with Catholics throughout the Diocese of Alexandria to support the diocesan church.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES: Patsy Franks

OUR SICK: Heather Bynog, Donald Coco, Pat Curcio, Steven Ford, Jesse Johnson, John Kurfis, Judy McClaran, Mattie Moore, Gayle Porto

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Pierce Babineaux, Theresa Brocato, Phillip Brouillette, Bettie Jeansonne, Paul Medica, Jr., Cynthia Parker, Caroline Pearson, Maria Pizzo, Donnie Rivers, Georgiana Robinson, Karen Schrock, Erica Stewart, Bob Sylvia, Kathy Fryer Thomas, Joan Vanderlick, Jackie Whitther, Darrell Wilmore, Leonard Wilson, Mary Winn, Tonya Wood

OUR SHUT- INS: Shirley Agliano, Joan Andries, Katherine Beard, Doris Lachney Billeau, Sadie Blakesley, Lela Bordelon, Joseph "Napp" Brouillette, Shirley Brouillette, Vergie Clay, Aline Cicardo, 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, Brenda Evans, Micki Faraldo, Mary Fontenot, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Gracie Glorioso, Irma Gonzalez, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Barbara Johns, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Zandie Marcotte, Helen Mathews, Sam Medica, Gladys Morris, Clea 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 Villemarete, 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.

LENTEN COLLECTION: As is our tradition, we will take a collection at the 8:00 AM weekday Masses throughout Lent. The monies collected will be divided with Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana and St. Francis de Sales Parish in Edingeni, Malawi. If you do not attend weekday Masses and would like to make a donation, you may do so using a pew envelope and mark it Lent Collections.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES: Your support for this collection aids victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies reveal Christ's love to the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked.

FAITH FORMATION PENANCE SERVICE on Wednesday, March 20 at 6:00 PM in church.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Confirmation for 11th Graders is Monday, April 22 at 6:00 PM

First Communion for 2nd Graders is Saturday, April 27 at a special 5:30 PM Mass.

For more information, contact Courtney Brinkman at 445-7141 ext 215.

ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR: Our annual **St. Joseph's Altar** will be Sunday, March 17. As a part of this celebration, there will be a free fish and spaghetti dinner (*no take-outs*) after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday. The **Blessing of the Altar will be after the 4:00 Mass on Saturday and after the 11:00 Mass on Sunday.** After the blessings you are welcome to enjoy the goodies that will grace the altar! **In the tradition of the St. Joseph Altar, we will accept monetary donations for Manna House.**

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

LENT 2024

MORNING PRAYER before 8:00 AM Mass

Monday - Friday, 7:45 AM

WAY OF THE CROSS

Fridays, 2:00 PM, 5:30 PM & 7:00 PM Spanish

JESUS & THE EUCHARIST STUDY SERIES

Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Saturday, March 16 after 4:00 Mass

Sunday, March 17, Blessing & Meal

after 11:00 Mass

FAITH FORMATION PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, March 20, 6:00 PM

KC Council #1134 FISH FRY

Friday, March 22

\$10.00 a plate, Drive Thru - Dine In

4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center

EASTER FLOWER FUND: Remember your loved ones by donating to the Easter flower fund. A list of the donors and names of those to be remembered will be published the Sunday after Easter. Easter flowers are **\$15**; make checks payable to St. Rita Altar and Rosary Society. You may use the in your monthly packet or an Easter Flower envelope located in the hymnal racks and drop it in the collection basket.

ST. RITA 4TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC on Monday, April 8 at Oakwing Golf Course. All proceeds benefit our youth program. Brochures can be found on our website and on the round table in the church foyer. See back of bulletin for more details.

STEUBENVILLE SOUTH YOUTH CONFERENCE, June 21 - 23 at the Riverfront Center in Alexandria. Fee is \$170 per student, St. Rita will pay \$70 towards the fee for St. Rita Parishioners. Registration and deposit is \$50 and is due by March 8th. For more information contact, Kathryn Velotta at 623-5337 or at youth@strita.org.

ST. RITA SPRING YOUTH RETREAT: Join us for a day of fun and community on Sunday, April 14 from 1:00 until 6:30 PM at the St. Rita Holy Family Center. All high school youth in the Diocese are invited to attend! **BRING A FRIEND!** This is going to be an AMAZING day for your child! Parishioners are free, there is a cost of \$10 for non parishioners. To register contact Kathryn Velotta at 623-5337 or at youth@strita.org.