

# St. Rita Catholic Church

February 2, 2025

*The Presentation 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

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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** (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.

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## **BLESSING OF THE THROATS AFTER ALL MASSES THIS WEEKEND**

*in honor of the Feast of St. Blaise*

### **CONTEMPORARY ADORATION & BENEDICTION**

*this Sunday at 7:00 - 8:00 PM in church*

### **“STATIONS OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES” PILGRIMAGE**

*Reservations are now being accepted, see insert for more details*

### **PARISH MINISTRIES 2025 BOOKLET**

*get your copy today, copies on round table in the foyer*

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**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](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, February 1**

4:00 -Mass for Mary Erin Curley, Bridget Legendre Darlington,  
Christopher Hinton, Michael Ralph Hinton Sr. & Violet

Hinton, William “Bill” Hinton Jr., Michael Marchand,  
Gerald A. & Mary Lee Robichaux, Michael Gerald  
Robichaux, Raymond Villmarette

**Sunday, February 2**

8:00 -Mass for Peter Scalfano

9:30 -Mass for the Parker Leglue

11:00 -Mass for living & deceased members of the parish  
-Children’s Church (ages 4 - 7)

12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community

5:30 -Mass for Norm Olson

**Monday, February 3**

8:00 -Mass for Pauline Crawford

## **Tuesday, February 4**

- 8:00 -Mass for Steven Ardoin
- 8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
- 6:00 -Men's ACTS Team Meeting (HFC)
- 6:00 -Choir Practice (Choir Room)

## **Wednesday, February 5**

- 8:00 -Mass In Thanksgiving of the Knights of Columbus Council 1134
- 4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
- 6:00 - Faith Formation Pre-K - 5<sup>th</sup>
- 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Youth Group (HFC)
- 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation (Church)

## **Thursday, February 6**

- 8:00 -Mass for Laura Longo
- 8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
- 10:00 -Mass at Lexington House for Melba Ducote Dutton
- 5:30 -OCIA Meeting (Moreau Room)

## **Friday, February 7**

- 8:00 -Mass for Brenda Welch Gremillion

## **Saturday, February 8**

- 4:00 -Mass for Raybon Busby, Father Bob Courville, James F. Curley, Sr., Melba Ducote Dutton, Patricia Humphries, Sammy & Mary Lipsey, Warren Moreau, Norm Olson, Hazel Rue, Kathleen Rush, Lil Villemmez

## **Sunday, February 9**

- 8:00 -Mass for Theresa Brocato
- 9:30 -Mass for Irving Douzart
- 11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
- 2024 Wedding Anniversaries
- Childrens' Church (ages 4 - 7)
- 12:30 -Spanish Mass for all living and deceased members of the Spanish Community
- 5:30 -Mass for Larry Robin, Sr., & Larry Robin, Jr.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of Victor & Latifey Mahfouz and Richard & Elma Beard by Glen & Maxine Beard. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. **Flowers are \$100 for both arrangements.**

**ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMPS** this week is in memory of Theresa Brocato by Paula Odom; and Patricia Humphries by Gina Lachney. 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 Felicia Rachal. 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 6:1-2a, 3-8 Ps 138:1-5, 7-8 1 Cor 15:11 or 15:3-8, 11 Lk 5:1-11 Catechism 2794-2796

**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 go to the church office 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: Enchiladas, Macaroni Salad, Green Salad, Dessert and Tea. Cost is \$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team and Servers this week are the Spanish Community. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

## **OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS**

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
<b>Sunday Gifts week of January 26</b>	<b>\$ 13,953.30</b>
<b>Online &amp; EFT Gifts January 26</b>	<b>\$ 3,942.00</b>
<b>Contributions January 26</b>	<b>\$ 17,895.30</b>
<b>BLDG/Main Fund January</b>	<b>\$ 1,395.00</b>
<b>BLDG/Main Online &amp; EFT January</b>	<b>\$ 450.00</b>

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**OUR SICK:** Sharon Bringol, Ronald Crochet, Renee Crooks, Martha Kay Gleason, Shirley Hebert, Russ Roy, Carl Verzwylvelt

**RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT:** Clifton Babineaux, Pierce Babineaux, Phillip Brouillette, Bobbi Chatelain, Carolyn Dupre, Leslie Fryer, Baby Samuel Kent Kelly, Aimee Lachney Gray, Patrick Laborde, Janice Lachney, Paul Medica, Jr., Caroline Pearson, Janie Seiler, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, Charles Thiels, Margarite Velotta

**OUR SHUT- INS:** Joan Andries, Leon Bergeron, Doris Lachney Billeaudeau, Sadie Blakesley, Joseph "Napp" Brouillette, John Broussard, Vergie Clay, Donald Coco, Alice Cosenza, Louise Craig, Julia Cunningham, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson, Joyce DeKeyser, Pat Despino, Juanita Dodd, Elizabeth Drake, Nathan Ducote, James Dupont, Maurice Evans, Mary Fontenot, Betty Gauthier, Ernest Gauthier, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzague, Christy Goutee, Peggy Guillory, Helen Harrod, Sandra Hilger, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Audrey Jusselin, Donald Lachney, Gerald Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Norris LaFleur, Georgine Lauve, Lewis Lauve, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Zadi Marcotte, Helen Mathews, Dot McWhorter, Sam Medica, Marilyn Naviaux, Cleta Perry, Billie Phillips, Lee Procel, Willis Rabalais, Nanette Redman, Patsy Robinson, James Schoolcraft, Adrienne Stevens, Susan Turner, Joan Vanderlick, Anna Villemarette, Willie Voorhies, Angela Williamson, Betty Wilmore, Patricia Wilson, Pamela Wilson, Anita Wooley, Barbara Wynn

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:** CW02 Brad Canrak, Major Brian J. Clayton, CW3 Ron Cole, Staff SFC Robert Crawford, Lance Cpl. Amy Fogleman, Lt. Col. Mike Frazier, LCLP Roberto Lopez, 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:dbrown@strita.org). Please keep all military and their families in your prayers.

**FEAST OF ST. BLAISE** is Monday, February 3. As is traditional around his feast day, we will have the Blessing of the Throats at all Masses this weekend. The final blessing at Mass will be the General Blessing of the Throats. While this General Blessing carries the same grace, we will offer individual blessings after Mass for those who desire to receive it!

### **CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION:**

Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to Church programs and ministries because of a rising secular culture, rugged rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers. Your generosity enables our brothers and sisters in Latin American and the Caribbean to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. Please be generous in the special collection! To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit [www.usccb.org/latin-america](http://www.usccb.org/latin-america).

### **PIZZA PARTY FOR ALL ADULT & YOUTH ALTAR SERVERS**

on Wednesday, February 12 at 5:15 - 5:45 PM in the Holy Family Center. All altar servers adult and youth, new and present are invited to attend. Boys and girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and older who have received First Communion are invited to join the Altar Serving Ministry. For more information, contact Deacon Kenny at 451-4555.

**2025 PARISH MINISTRIES BOOKLETS** are now available. This booklet is a great resource and outlines all the ministries we provide. Copies of the booklet can be found on the round table in the foyer. Get your copy today.

**ANNIVERSARY COUPLES** who will be honored next weekend, February 9 at the 11:00 AM Mass with a Papal Blessing from Pope Francis. Those couples in our parish to be honored are:

**25 years;** Jason & Amanda Hebert, Russell & Carla Jeansonne, Michael & Linda Verzwylt

**40 years;** Ray & JoAnn Leggio

**50 years;** Paul & Arlene Coreil, Conrad & Sharon Ducote, Larry & Wanda Hinton, Michael & Carol Jeansonne, Curtis & Barbara Meaux, Arthur & Monica Newton, Robert & Rita Vandersypen

**60 years;** Douglas & Patsy Fries

**65 years;** Donald & Hope Lachney

**70 years;** Larry & Marguerite Robin Sr.

*Please join us in congratulating these couples.*



### **SENIOR CITIZENS MARDI GRAS POTLUCK & BINGO**

Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Holy Family Center. Bring your favorite potluck, we will provide the meat and drinks.

**ST. RITA ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY:** will meet on Thursday, February 13 at 5:30 PM in the Holy Family Center. Bring a Valentine gift to play Dirty Cupid!! All ladies of the parish are invited to join us.

– Gina Lachney, President

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS: As part of “Together as One Church: Embracing of Hope”**

the Diocese of Alexandria’s pastoral planning project, Bishop Marshall has asked each parish to host two Parish Listening Sessions to gather important feedback from the parishioners that will be shared with the Diocese. During each session important information will be shared and feedback from parishioners will be gathered. Please attend both of our parish sessions in order to hear first-hand how the pastoral planning process will impact our parish and grow the presence of the church throughout the Diocese of Alexandria and to provide your feedback to Bishop Marshall and the project Core Team.

Sessions will be held in the Holy Family Center on the following dates:

Session 1: Monday, February 17 at 6:00 PM

Session 2: Monday, March 10 at 6:00 PM

These are two separate sessions and you are invited to attend both, as different information is provided at each.

If you have any questions, please contact anyone of our Parish Core Team: Wayne Watkins, 730-6702; Dennie Williams, 794-2672, Becky Watkins, 730-6780; Cindy Sayes, 446-2893; Florence Sanders, 730-2028 or Donna Andries, 451-4327.

### **“STATIONS OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES PILGRIMAGE”**

Join us on Saturday, March 22 as we visit 7 churches; Our Lady of Guadalupe Mission, Forest Hill; St. Anthony of Padue, Bunkie; Church of the Little Flower, Evergreen; St. Mary’s Assumption, Cottonport; St. Paul the Apostle, Mansura; St. Joseph Marksville; and Holy Ghost, Marksville. Cost for the trip is \$25 per person. Call the office to reserve your spot. See the bulletin insert for more details.

**PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY** sponsored by the Catholic Daughters Court Bishop Desmond. The blankets are available after all Masses this weekend or at the church office:

- Any adult or child with a physical or emotional illness.
  - Individuals preparing for surgery or recovering from an acute illness.
  - Individuals living with chronic conditions or in treatment for a life threatening illness.
  - Anyone experiencing a crisis such as the loss of a loved one, loss of job, relationship Crisis, etc.....
  - High risk pregnancy, miscarriage or neonatal Crisis.
- For more information contact, Heather Reynaud, 793-4011.