St. Rita Catholic Church

July 27, 2025
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

St. Rita
CATHOLIC CHURCH
the hands and heart of Christ

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.

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)
Ms. Kathryn Velotta, *Director of Youth Ministries*
Mr. Conrad Ducote, *Director of Maintenance & Buildings*
Dr. Thomas Robichaux, *Director of Music*

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.

ADORATION & BENEDICTION
Monday, July 28, 6:00 PM

GRANDPARENTS & ELDERLY DAY
this Sunday, July 27
Please join us for breakfast after 8:00 & 9:30 AM Mass

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, July 26
4:00 -Mass for Mary Erin Curley, Kaleb Clark, Rev. Bob Courville, Lacombe Family, Freddie Lavespere, Michael Marchand, Paul & Peggy Marcotte, Natalie Mendel, Warren Moreau, Norm Olson, Michael Robichaux, Steve Stolzer

Sunday, July 27
8:00 -Mass for Intention of George & Lisa Hardy
9:30 -Mass for Lacombe Family
11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children's Church (ages 4 - 7)
12:30 -Spanish Mass for Spanish Community
5:30 -Mass for Vivian Johnson

Monday, July 28
8:00 -Mass for Oceana Geisel
6:00 -Eucharist Adoration & Benediction (Church)

Tuesday, July 29
8:00 -Mass for Michael Robichaux
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
5:00 -NO Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, July 30
8:00 -Mass for Frank & Angelina Cortello

Thursday, July 31
8:00 -Mass for Gary Remillard
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
10:00 -Mass for Hilton Vead (Lexington House)

Friday, August 1
8:00 -Mass for Charlene Beurlot, Odell Carlino, Bo Faircloth, Mickey Faraldo, Gerald Leglue, Parker Leglue, Kathy Fryer Thomas, Zachary Veillon

Saturday, August 2

4:00 -Mass for Theresa Brocato, Jerry Brown, Laura Lane Bruce, James F. Curley, Sr., Bridget Legendre Darlington, Susan Chicola Davis, Frances Finney, Percy J. Legendre, Jr., Helen Michael Perry, Jr., Gerald & Mary Lee Robichaux, Sr., Michael Gerald Robichaux, Wooley Family

Sunday, August 3

8:00 -Mass for Peter Scalfano
9:30 -Mass for Duane G. Gruge
11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children's Church (ages 4 - 7)
12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community
5:30 -Mass for Paul & Peggy Marcotte

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in memory of all deceased parishioners who are being honored at the Bearevement Mass. 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 Delores Distefano by Richard & Merrilyn Norem; and Michael Perry, Jr., 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 Odell Carlino. 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: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23 Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17 Col 3:1-5, 9-11 Lk 12:13-21 Catechism 2534-2550, 1681-1683 or 988-1014

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.***

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

Regular Collection	
Sunday Gifts week of July 20	**$ 21,024.50**
Online & EFT Gifts July 20	**$ 11,397.00**
Contributions June July 20	**$ 32,421.50**
BLDG/Main Fund July	**$ 1700.00**
BLDG/Main Online & EFT July	**$ 560.00**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal

St. Rita 2025 Goal:	**$ 95,023.00**
Pledged to date:	**$ 89,920.50**
Paid to date:	**$ 80,032.43**
Still needed to meet goal:	**$ 5,102.50**
Donors	**206**

OUR SICK:, Greg Beavers, Heyman Bohrer, Don Calhoon, James Manuel, Curtis Meaux, Herman Scallan, Jr., Chad Scroggs, Paul Socia, Patti Williams

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Jackie Arnold Clifton Babineaux, Pierce Babineaux, Phillip Brouillette, Chloe Davis, Shirley Hebert, Krystal Herde, Dorothy Hill, Colton Geisel, Patricia Velotta Glorioso, Patrick Laborde, Geraldine Lacaze, Janice Lachney, Tiffany McCall, Paul Medica, Jr., Cynthia Parker, Caroline Pearson, Zachary Price, Edward Rachal, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, Sharon Vandersypen, Margarite Velotta

OUR SHUT- INS: Leon Bergeron, Doris Lachney Billeaudeau, Sadie Blakesley, Lou Blalock, Mike Blalock, Sharon Bringol, Joseph "Napp" Brouillette, John Broussard, Frances Chatman, Donald Coco, Renee Crooks, Julia Cunningham, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson, Bettye Dekeyzer, Carolyn Dekeyzer, Joyce DeKeyzer, Pat Despino, Juanita Dodd, Elizabeth Drake, Reginald Dubroc, James Dupont, Maurice Evans, Mary Fontenot, Barbara Fruge, Betty Gauthier, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzaque, Christy Goutee, Helen Harrod, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Audrey Jusselin, Gerald Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Norris LaFleur, Georgine Lauve, Lewis Lauve, Marvin Lee, Joseph Longo, Zadie Marcotte, Dot McWhorter, Berl Moreau, Marilyn Naviaux, Cleta Perry, Billie Phillips, Lee Procel, Willis Rabalais, JoAnn Rachall, Nanette Redman, Patsy Robinson, James Schoolcraft, Adrienne Stevens, Susan Turner, Joan Vanderlick, Anna Villemarette, Willie Voorhies, Angela Williamson, Betty Wilmore, Ruth 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, 1st Lt. Jackie E. Mathews, PO2 Nicholas Peralta, CWT1 Christian Perkins, E2 Connor Phillips, Sgt. Cole Pleche, PFC Brandon Rashall, Major 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.

CHURCH IN AFRICA COLLECTION: The people of Africa are joyous and faith-filled – but as the Church in Africa grows, the pastoral needs of the people also increase. Clergy formation, communications programs to bring the Gospel to remote territories, youth ministries that engage the next generation of disciples – these and all the Church's needs are wide-ranging. The Solidarity Fund is an opportunity for our parish to stand with the people of Africa. Our contributions help them face these challenges and build lasting foundations of missionary discipleship. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this collection today. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/africa

***CATHOLIC INQUIRY (OCIA – Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*)**: If you are interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith, please call the church office at 445-7141 ext. 214. Classes will begin in the fall. We are glad to work within your schedule and help you in any way to become a Catholic.

– Fr. Raj, Jerry & Gwen Deville

FINANCE COUNCIL will meet on Monday, August 4 at 12:00 noon in the Moreau Room.
PASTORAL COUNCIL will meet on Monday, August 11 at 12:00 noon in the Holy Family Center.

SUNDAY BREAKFAST for Grandparents and the Elderly this Sunday, July 27 after the 8:00 & 9:30 AM Mass. Prepared by KC Council #1134. Please plan to join us!!

The Pope has chosen *"Blessed are those who have not lost hope"* as the theme for the 2025 celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, express the blessedness of the elderly and highlight the hope placed in the Lord as the path to a Christian and reconciled old age.

ST. RITA PRAYER GARDEN LEGACY BRICKS: Didn't get your legacy brick for your loved one who is living or deceased? We have had several requests to purchase a brick. We only have ***22*** bricks left and the bricks are $125 each. To order your brick call the church office at 445-7120, or stop by the office. There are also order forms on the round table in the church foyer. For more information call, 445-7141 ext 214.

"WHEN YOU PRAY" Bible Study begins on Monday, September 8 for 7 sessions. See back of bulletin for more details.

ST RITA ACTS is now soliciting volunteers to join the ACTS Core Team. We are seeking two men and two women to serve a three year term. The primary functions of the Core is to facilitate ACTS retreats and to continue beyond the retreat to active participation in spiritual development, service orientation, and ongoing Parish community building. Volunteers must have attended an ACTS retreat to be eligible. If you are interested in joining, please contact ACTS Facilitator, Nic Ohrt at stritaacts@outlook.com.

TASTE OF ST. RITA *on Saturday, August 23, 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Tickets on sale at the church office beginning Monday, July 14. Tickets are $25 per adult, $10 per child. TICKETS ARE FOR THE GUESTS, NOT THE PARTICIPANTS.*
We are asking for parishioners to participate in preparing your favorite dish. You would provide a dish of your choice, such as a Soup, Salad, Main Dish, Vegetable, Dessert, Breads. You would also serve your dish to the guests. Portions served are very small (4oz), we will provide the serving cups and forks. Beer and Wine will also be provided. For more information, please call Debbie Brown at 445-7141 ext 214.

Faith Formation

Register today!! Forms are available online.

FAITH FORMATION - Registration for the 2025-2026 School Year is NOW OPEN! You can register on our website, www.strita.org for grades ***PK thru 5th grade, 6th, 7th & 8th grade Youth Grade***, Classes will start on Wednesday, September 3, 2025.

ATTENTION ALL 11TH GRADERS CONFIRMATION 2026 registration is NOW OPEN! Our confirmation program is a ONE year program for students that are entering their JUNIOR year. Classes will begin on September 3, 2025. Classes include BOTH Menard and public school students. You can register on our website, www.strita.org.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP grades 9 - 12, registration is now open. They will begin meeting on Sunday, September 7, time to be announced. ***You can register and pay the $30 fee on our website, www.strita.org.***

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS will begin on Wednesday, September 3, 4:30 - 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center. Volunteers are needed for the following teams; ***If you are already on a team, you do not have to volunteer again.***
Cook Teams are responsible for cooking the meal on their scheduled work week.
Serving teams help with serving the meal and cleaning up after the meal.
If you would like to volunteer please call, please call Etta Ohrt at 445-7141 ext 210 or Donnie Bolton at 613-6187.

AN EVENING WITH THE SEMINARIANS: You are invited to meet the current seminarians of the Diocese of Alexandria. This event will be held at St. Rita Church in the Holy Family Center on Wednesday, August 6 from 5:30 - 8:00 PM. Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet and get to know the men who are discerning priesthood for the Diocese of Alexandria while enjoying food, drink and entertainment! Free of charge; donations for seminarian education gratefully accepted! Please RSVP by Thursday, July 31 so we can prepare! starver@diocesealex.org or (318) 445-6424 ext. 209.