

St. Rita Catholic Church

August 24, 2025
Twenty-First 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: 318-619-0056
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)
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, August 25, 6:00 PM

Registration is NOW DUE!! Begins September 3, 2025

**FAITH FORMATION GRADES PRE-K - 5,
JR. HIGH YOUTH GRADES 6th, 7th, 8th,
CONFIRMATION 11TH GRADERS**

please go to our website www.strita.org and register your child!!

**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, August 23

4:00 -Mass for Sherman Cook, Bridget Legendre Darlington,
Melba Ducote Dutton, Frances Finney, Toni Lynn Hogue,
Weston C. & Vivian Johnson, Jr., Percy J. Legendre, Jr.,
Warren Moreau, Michael Perry, Jr., Michael Robichaux,
Steve Stolzer, Intention of George & Lisa Hardy

Sunday, August 24

8:00 -Mass for Walter Vanderlick
9:30 -Mass for the Verzwylvelt Family
11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children's Church (ages 4 - 7)
12:30 -Spanish Mass for Hilton & Mable Vead
5:30 -Mass for Lela Bordelon

Monday, August 25

8:00 -Mass for Joan Andries
6:00 -Adoration & Benediction (Church)

Tuesday, August 26

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

Wednesday, August 27

8:00 -Mass for Brent Bordelon, Sr.

Thursday, August 28

8:00 -Mass for Vivian Johnson

8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)

10:00 -Mass for Edwin Crouch (Lexington House)

Friday, August 29

8:00 -Mass for Frank & Angelina Cortello, Gerald Leglue, Parker Leglue, Sid Rud, Zachary Veillon, David Voelker, Intention of the Veillon family

Saturday, August 30

4:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark, James F. Curley, Sr., Mary Erin Curley, Susan Chicola Davis, Judge Robert Jackson, Freddie Lavespere, Michael Marchand, Natalie Mendel, Norm Olson, Michael Perry, Jr., Michael Robichaux, Zachary Veillon, Wooley Family

Sunday, August 31

8:00 -Mass for Nathan Ducote

9:30 -Mass for Irving Douzart

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

-Children's Church (ages 4 - 7)

12:30 -Spanish Mass for Sylvia Toves

5:30 -Mass for Delores Distefano

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in memory of the living & deceased members of the Wooley Family by Anita Wooley. 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 were provided in memory of Delores Distefano by Richard & Merrilyn Norem; and Michael Perry, Sr., 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 Willie Voohries. 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: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 Ps 68:4-7, 10-11 Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a Lk 14:1, 7-14 Catechism 2443-2449

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.**

ADORATION & BENEDICTION on Monday, August 25 at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to join us.

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

Regular Collection	
Sunday Gifts week of August 17	\$ 15,401.00
Online & EFT Gifts August 17	\$ 10,162.00
Contributions August 17	\$ 25,563.00
Holy Day Collection	\$ 3,352.75
Mission--Diocese of Jagdalpur	\$ 10,560.00
BLDG/Main Fund August	\$ 727.50
BLDG/Main Online & EFT August	\$ 610.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal****St. Rita 2025 Goal: \$ 95,023.00****Pledged to date: \$ 96,342.50****Paid to date: \$ 87,004.43****OVER OUR GOAL!!! \$ 1,319.50****Thank you for your support of the ADA!! - Fr. Raj****FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES:** Edwin Crouch**OUR SICK:** Brandon Ashley, Greg Beavers, James Manuel, Judy McClaran, Curtis Meaux, Herman Scallan, Jr., Helen Schexnaider, Wanda Williams**RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT:** Pierce Babineaux, Heyman Bohrer, Phillip Brouillette, Shirley Hebert, Dorothy Hill, Patrick Laborde, Geraldine Lacaze, Janice Lachney, Paul Medica, Jr., Cynthia Parker, Caroline Pearson, Zachary Price, Edward Rachal, Paul Socia, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, Patti Williams**OUR SHUT-INS:** Clifton Babineaux, Doris Lachney Billeaudeau, Sadie Blakesley, Lou Blalock, Mike Blalock, Sharon Bringol, Joseph "Napp" Brouillette, John Broussard, Frances Chatman, Donald Coco, Renee Crooks, Julia Cunningham, Benny David, Deborah Davidson, Bettye Dekeyzer, Carolyn Dekeyzer, Joyce DeKeyzer, Pat Despino, Juanita Dodd, Elizabeth Drake, Reginald Dubroc, James Dupont, Maurice Evans, Mary Fontenot, Betty Gauthier, Linda Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzaque, Christy Goutee, Helen Harrod, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Gerald Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Georgine Lauve, Lewis Lauve, Marvin Lee, Joseph Longo, Zadia 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, Angela Williamson, 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.

MARYHILL COLLECTION: Established in the 1940s by Bishop Charles P. Greco, Maryhill is used extensively by many seeking a spiritual and restful place to hold retreats and functions throughout the year. It continues to serve as the spiritual heart of the Diocese of Alexandria. Funds from this collection will be used for the ongoing maintenance of the structures and grounds in order to keep this sacred gift available to us. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope clearly marked. Please be generous to this collection.

MANY THANKS for your generous donations to the Mission Appeal for the Catholic Diocese of Jagdalpur last weekend. We collected \$10,560 for the Mission. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

– Fr. Kurian Zachariah

CATHOLIC INQUIRY (OCIA – Order of Christian Initiation of Adults): Are you interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or joining the Catholic Church? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the process for adults who desire to join the Catholic faith and for those seeking more information on the Catholic Church. OCIA is also be a method for Catholics to complete their reception of the initiation sacraments. We are glad to work within your schedule and help you in any way to become a Catholic. Come and talk to us. For more information, call the church office. Classes begin Thursday, September 15 at 5:30 PM in the Moreau Room. – Jerry & Gwen Deville

ADULT CHOIR rehearsal has been moved to Wednesday evenings, 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the choir room, beginning on Wednesday, September 3 for all returning and any new members who are interested in joining the adult choir. We will have a choir party for all returning and new choir members on Wednesday, August 27 at 6:00 PM at the priests residence. Call church office 445-7120 for address and gate code.

– Thomas Robichaux, Music Director

ST. RITA CHORISTERS initial gathering to sign up for students in grades 2nd to 6th on Wednesday, September 3rd from 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the St. Cecilia Room in the Holy Family Center. If you would like more information, contact our Music Director, Thomas Robichaux at thomasrobichaux@bellsouth.net.

YOUTH CHOIR initial gathering to sign up for students in grades 7th - 12th on Wednesday, September 3rd from 4:30 - 5:30 PM in the St. Cecilia Room in the Holy Family Center. If you would like more information, contact our Music Director, Thomas Robichaux at thomasrobichaux@bellsouth.net.

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 **10** 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’ is a series exploring the riches of the Catholic tradition of prayer. The program consist of 7 lessons with videos filmed on location in Italy. The first session begins on Monday, September 8th with the final session on Monday, November 3rd. Meetings will be at 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the Holy Family Center. There is no cost to attend the program. To register please contact Jerry Deville at 318-447-7006 or email jdev3943@gmail.com or Gwen Deville at 318-446-3044 or email gdev0088@gmail.com. DEADLINE to register is August 24, 2025.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL THRIFT STORE has a new phone number, 318-619-0056. Store hours are Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

ST. RITA WOMEN'S ACTS RETREAT: Applications are now being accepted for the St. Rita ACTS Women's Retreat, to be held November 13-16 at Maryhill Renewal Center. Application forms are available in the church foyer or on the website at www.strita.org. Deadline for applications will be September 18, so we encourage you to submit your application form as soon as possible. For more information about the retreat, please email to stritaacts@outlook.com or contact one of the following, Amy Yarbrough 318-542-9386, Heather Johnson 318-290-4354 or Marie Wilson 318-419-3223.

WIDOWED, SEPARATED or DIVORCED? Don't know where to turn? Struggling with grief or loss? Beginning Experience of Alexandria is registering now for a weekend away that provides an individual with the opportunity to encounter self and to grow with a purpose to achieve inner peace. The experience is to help close the door gently on the past and move on with renewed hope and purpose. **The weekend will be held at Maryhill Renewal Center - Pineville, LA on September 12 - 14, 2025.** The cost is \$185.00 which includes two nights' lodging and meals, if you need assistance please don't hesitate to ask. For more info the website is: www.beginningexperience.org or to register contact: Anna at (318) 448-1990 or (318) 452-2678 asweat7@aol.com

FAITH FORMATION grades PreK - 5th, / 6th, 7th & 8th grade Youth Group / 11TH GRADE CONFIRMATION & High School Youth Group registration for the 2025-2026 School Year is DUE NOW! You can register on our website, www.strita.org for grades Classes will start on Wednesday, September 3, 2025.