

St. Rita Catholic Church

September 28, 2025
Twenty-Sixth 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: 318-445-7120; FAX: 318-448-0704
Religious Education: 318-445-7141 ext 217
St. Vincent de Paul: 318-619-0056
Sacristy: 318-448-9599
EMERGENCIES: 318-445-7141 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: 318-445-7141

Rev. Anthony Dharmaraj, MSFS., Pastor (ext 212)
Rev. Joseph Vincent Vethamanicka, Associate Pastor (ext 211)
Deacon Kenny Sayes, Permanent Deacon (318-451-4555)
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 Sophia Scully, Director of Youth Ministries
Mr. Conrad Ducote, Director of Maintenance & Buildings
Dr. Thomas Robichaux, Director of Music

BAPTISMS:

Contact Debbie Brown, 318-445-7141 ext 214

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:

Contact Debbie Brown, 318-445-7141 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. Joe

CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays, 3:30 - 3:55, or 15 minutes before any Mass or by appointment.

WELCOME TO ST. RITA PARISH

Fr. Joseph Xavier Vethamanicka, (Fr. Joe)

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, September 27

4:00 -Mass for James F. Curley, Sr., Bridget Legendre Darlington, Diane C. Fruge, Judge Robert Jackson, Vivian Johnson, Donald Lachney, Rebecca Fruge Lachney, Percy J. Legendre, Jr., Paul & Peggy Marcotte, Shawn Mathews, Warren Moreau, Michael Robichaux, Wooley Family

Sunday, September 28

8:00 -Mass for Nathan Ducote
9:30 -Mass for the intention of George & Lisa Hardy
11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children's Church (ages 4 - 7)
12:30 -Spanish Mass for all living & deceased members of the Spanish Community
5:30 -Mass for Delores Distefano
6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

Monday, September 29

8:00 -Mass for Wally Metrejean
6:00 -"When You Pray" Bible Study (HFC)

Tuesday, September 30

8:00 -Mass for Michael Laborde
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
6:00 -Adult Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, October 1

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

Thursday, October 2

8:00 -Mass for Jerome Dekeyzer
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
10:00 -Mass for Sylvia Toves (Lexington House)
5:30 -OCIA (Moreau Room)

Friday, October 3

8:00 -Mass for Joan Andries, Frank & Angelina Cortello, Vivian Johnson, Michael Robichaux, Gerard Scalfano, Zachary Veillon, Intention of the Veillon Family

Saturday, October 4

4:00 -Mass for Charlene Beurlet, Shirley Brouillette, Odell Carlino, Kaleb Clark, Vivian Johnson, Freddie Lavespere, Natalie Mendel, Michael Perry, Jr., Gerald & Mary Lee Robichaux, Sr., Michael Robichaux, Steve Stolzer, Walter Vanderlick

Sunday, October 5

- 8:00 -Mass for Peter Scalfano
- 9:30 -Mass for the Brenda Welch Gremillion
- 11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children’s Church (ages 4 - 7)
- 12:30 -Spanish Mass for the Spanish Community
- 4:00 -Blessing of the Animals (Courtyard)
- 5:30 -Mass for Mickey Faraldo
- 6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in memory of the Flacomo & Mott families by Peter & Karen Mott. 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 Lillie Joyce by Martha Kay Gleason; 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 Lee Cargle, Sr. 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: Hb 1:2-3;2:2-4 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14 Lk 17:5-10 Catechism 1996-2016

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.**

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

Regular Collection	
Sunday Gifts week of September 21	\$ 14,581.00
Online & EFT Gifts September 21	\$ 9,637.00
Once a Year Contributions	\$ 7,000.00

Contributions September 21	\$ 31,218.00
BLDG/Main Fund September	\$ 1,561.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT Sept	\$ 470.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES: Helen Harrod

OUR SICK: Brandon Ashley, Beth Beaubouef, Angie Carlino, Curtis Meaux, Barbara Trotter, Joe Velotta

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Pierce Babineaux, Greg Beavers, Phillip Brouillette, Shirley Hebert, Dorothy Hill, Bruce Hirsch, Patrick Laborde, Geraldine Lacaze, James Manuel, Judy McClaran, Paul Medica, Jr., Beverly Mitchell, Cynthia Parker, Caroline Pearson, Zachary Price, Edward Rachal, Helen Schexnaider, Paul Socia, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, Patti Williams, Wanda Williams

OUR SHUT-INS: Clifton Babineaux, Doris Lachney Billeau, 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, Betty Dekeyzer, Carolyn Dekeyzer, Joyce DeKeyzer, Pat Despino, Juanita Dodd, Elizabeth Drake, Reginald Dubroc, James Dupont, Maurice Evans, Mary Fontenot, Betty Gauthier, Linda Gauthier, Muriel Gauthier, Celia Gilmore, Irma Gonzague, Christy Goutee, Helen Harrod, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Gerald Lachney, Harry Lachney, Opal Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Georgine Lauve, Lewis Lauve, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Joseph Longo, Zadia Marcotte, Dot McWhorter, Sam Medica, Berl Moreau, Marilyn Naviaux, Jennifer Odom, 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, Am1 Michael John, LCLP Roberto Lopez, 1st Lt. Jackie E. Mathews, PO2 Nicholas Peralta, CWT1 Christian Perkins, E2 Connor Phillips, Sgt. Cole Pliche, PFC Brandon Rashall, Major Timothy C. Turner, Cdr Claire Marie Vidrine. 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.

WE WELCOME FR. JOSEPH XAVIER VETHAMANICKA (Fr. Joe) as the new Parochial Vicar of St. Rita. Fr. Joe welcome to St. Rita.

-Fr. Raj

“WHEN YOU PRAY” is a series exploring the riches of the Catholic tradition of prayer. They meet on Mondays at 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Center.

RETIRED PRIESTS COLLECTION for our priests who have reached retirement age after years of faithful and dedicated service to the Diocese. With costs continually escalating, the monthly retirement benefit for our retired priests must be adjusted periodically as well. We appreciate your generosity in helping to assure that the needs of our retired priests will continue to be met, and ask that you remember them in your prayers. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet, or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop in the collection basket.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CENTRAL LOUISIANA: Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana has helped hundreds of people in need by providing Mental Health Services, Disaster Response, and Basic Needs Assistance. Their efforts have impacted over hundreds of individuals and families across the four deaneries of the diocese. Interns and volunteers give their time and talent; however, this work requires funds to address the physical needs of residents. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet, or a pew envelope clearly marked and drop in the collection basket. To learn more visit www.cccenla.org



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS on Sunday, October 5 at 4:00 PM in the St. Rita Prayer Garden.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER IS ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL please let us know! During office hours you may call 445-7120. If you are admitted to the hospital after office hours or on the weekend, please call 445-7141 ext 4.

If you have a surgery scheduled in advance, you may see one of the priests in the Sacristy or confessional before Mass, or call us at anytime. Please remember in emergencies to call us at 445-7141 ext 4. – Fr. Raj

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. For more information, call the church office. – Jerry & Gwen Deville

FORMED, FORMING CATHOLICS FOR LIFE: Join our parish subscription of FORMED!! Go to Formed.org/signup and enter our parish zipcode (71303) and name of our parish (St. Rita) then enter your name and email. There is no charge for you to join. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies documentaries and studies..there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.

ANNUAL PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY will be held on Saturday, October 11, at 12:00 noon in front of the St. Joseph Center on Coliseum Blvd. We will pray for the repentance and conversion of our great nation, asking God to save America through the rosary of His Most Holy Mother. Please join us as we pray the rosary. For more information please call Al Psychaud, 623-4733-Myrtis Psychaud, 704-1912.

HEART OF LOUISIANA CREDIT UNION: If you or any member of your family are parishioners of St. Rita Church, you are eligible to join Heart of Louisiana Credit Union. By joining you begin a lifetime of benefits. Your savings deposited earn dividends and loans can be made for any purpose. All deposits are insured up to \$250,000. Stop by any of our locations or call 473-4562 for more information.

KC COUNCIL #1134 GUN RAFFLE: 30 Day Gun Give A Way: \$30 per ticket, ticket good for the entire month. Rifles, Shotguns, Pistols, etc.... Winner determined by "Pick 3" drawing every day during the month of December, except Christmas Day. **Tickets can be purchased at the church office or from any KC Council #1134 member.** For more information contact call, David (481-0046) or Al (201-0191).

TRUNK OR TREAT during our Fall Festival on Saturday, October 25, 5:30 - 6:30 PM behind the office. If you would like to participate with your trunk decorated, please contact Courtney Brinkman at 445-7141 ext 215 or cbinkman@strita.org. We will provide the candy.

ST. RITA FALL FESTIVAL 2025

**Saturday, October 25
& Sunday, October 26**

WE ARE COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING:

**Halloween Candy for Trunk or Treat
SMALL NEW household items for Bingo.
Pecans, Jams, Jellies, Preserves etc....
These items can be dropped off at the office**

Donations are also needed for our SILENT AUCTION such as furniture, antiques, collectibles, etc.....

And for BINGO donations of new household items, toys, etc.....

Your donations may be dropped off at the MAINTENANCE SHOP located behind the Holy Family Center between the hours of 7:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday - Thursday ONLY.

Contact Debbie Brown, 445-7141 ext 214 for further information.