

St. Rita Catholic Church

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

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 Xavier 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 (318-542-8818)
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.

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY SALE

*Baked Goods, Religious Items, Raffle Tickets, Wine, 2026 Calendars, etc....
next weekend after all Masses*

ST. NICHOLAS DAY CELEBRATION FOR CHILDREN (Infants through 3rd Grade)

Saturday, December 6, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM in the Holy Family Center

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, November 29

4:00 -Mass for Earleen Baillio, Charlene Beurlet, Lee Cargle Sr., Kaleb Clark, Bridget Legendre Darlington, Vivian Johnson, Janice Lachney, Freddie Lavespere, Bessie LeJeune, Natalie Mendel, Michael Robichaux, Raymond Villmarette

Sunday, November 30

8:00 -Mass for John & Amie Saucier
9:30 -Mass for Irvin 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 Michael Laborde
6:30 -NO High School Youth Group (HFC)

Monday, December 1

8:00 -Mass for Jerry Brown

Tuesday, December 2

8:00 -Mass for Mitchell Metrejean
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
10:00 -Mass for Hilton & Mable Vead (Lexington House)
5:15 -Adult Choir Practice (Choir Room)

Wednesday, December 3

8:00 -Mass for Vivian Johnson
4:30 -Choristers (Choir Room)
4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
6:00 - Faith Formation Pre-K - 5th
- 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Youth Group
- Mass 1st Grade Confirmation

Thursday, December 4

8:00 -Mass for Sylvia Toves
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
5:30 -OCIA (Moreau Room)

Friday, December 5

8:00 -Mass for Frank & Angelina Cortello, Kayla Lemoine James, Michael Robichaux, Sid Rud, Janet Thiels, David Voelker

Saturday, December 6

4:00 -Mass for Charlene Beurlet, Mary Erin Curley, Frances Finney, Vivian Johnson, Percy J. Legendre, Jr., Michael Marchand, Paul & Peggy Marcotte, Warren Moreau, Norm Olson, Michael Perry Jr., Michael Robichaux, Steve Stolzer, Sylvia Toves

Sunday, December 7

8:00 -Mass for Peter Scalfano
9:30 -Mass for Beverly Bohrer
11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children’s Church (ages 4 - 7)
12:30 -Spanish Mass for living & deceased members of the Spanish Community
5:30 -Mass for Gene Bordelon
6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS: 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 Jerry Brown on his birthday by his family; and Toni Lynn Hogue by Phyllis Vilar. 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 all deceased members of the parish. 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: Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12 Catechism 1739-1742

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 Fajitas, Refried Beans, Mexican Rice, Tortillas & Salsa, Dessert and Tea. Cost is \$6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team and Servers this week is the Spanish Community.

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Sunday Gifts week of November 23	\$ 13,306.15
Online & EFT Gifts November 23	\$ 4,087.00
Contributions November 23	\$ 17,393.15
BLDG/Main Fund November	\$ 722.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT Nov	\$ 735.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

OUR SICK: Meryl Beach, Judy Bordelon, Jason Chumley, David Deville, Ashley Henshaw, Baby Brycen Foster, Joseph Mathews, Curtis Meaux,

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Monique Auzine, Brandon Ashley, Pierce Babineaux, Beth Beaubouef, Phillip Brouillette, Margaret Distefano, Jesse Fisher, Shirley Hebert, Patrick Laborde, James Manuel, Anna Martinez, Paul Medica, Jr., Bob Martin, Russell Michiels, Caroline Pearson, Zachary Price, Edward Rachal, Karen Schrock, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, Barbara Trotter, Joe Velotta

OUR SHUT-INS: Clifton Babineaux, Doris Lachney Billeaudeau, Sadie Blakesley, Lou Blalock, Mike Blalock, Judy Bordelon, 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, Betty Gauthier, Linda Gauthier, Muriel Gauthier, Irma Gonzalez, Christy Goutee, Peggy Guillory, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Gerald Lachney, Harry Lachney, Opal Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Georgine Lauve, Lewis Lauve, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Joseph Longo, Zadie Marcotte, Dot McWhorter, Sam Medica, Berl Moreau, Marilyn Naviaux, Jennifer Odom, Clea Perry, Billie Phillips, Willis Rabalais, JoAnn Rachall, Nanette Redman, Patsy Robinson, James Schoolcraft, Adrienne Stevens, Susan Turner, Joan Vanderlick, Anna Villemarette, Angela Williamson, Ruth Wilson, Anita Wooley

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, CW1 Christian Perkins, E2 Connor Phillips, Sgt. Cole Pleche, 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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR POLICE OFFICERS & FIRST RESPONDERS: Due to confidentiality and safety, we will not print their names. Please keep all Police Officers & First Responders in your prayers.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: Aging religious need your help. "Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart, Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious. You may use the envelope in your monthly packet or a pew envelope marked and drop in the collection basket. Please be generous to this collection.

CONFESSIONS, “The Light is on for You” on Thursday, December 11 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. This is a Diocesan wide night of confessions for all parishes offering 2 hours of confessions. This night of confessions will replace our advent penance service.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK AFTER ALL MASSES NEXT WEEKEND: The law of the Church regarding eligibility is as follows: “The anointing of the sick may be administered to the faithful who have the use of reason (age 7 and above) and *begin to fall into danger as a result of illness or old age...* among those who may be anointed, the Ritual mentions in particular: those undergoing surgery whenever a serious illness is the reason for the surgery; elderly people who have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present; sick children if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament.”

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Monday - Friday at 7:45 am in church. Please join us!

MANY THANKS to all who made donations of food and money to our Thanksgiving Drive. All food items and money collected were donated to the Cenla Homeless Coalition. Your generosity is amazing!

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Monday, December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation! Masses on Monday, December 8 will be at 7:00 & 8:00 AM; 12:05 noon & 5:30 PM.

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES: Please let us know if you know of any families or seniors in our parish who are struggling and need help with Christmas. As usual we adopt families and supply them with items for Christmas. We usually adopt around 10 families. If you are a family who needs assistance, or know of a family, please contact Etta Ohrt at 318-445-7141 ext 210 or 318-613-4460. All inquires will be confidential. Deadline for contacting us is Monday, December 1.

DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS FAMILIES: As a parish family, we will adopt several families and seniors again this year. If you would like to make a donation for the families, you may do so with a pew envelope. Mark it Christmas Families and drop it in the collection basket. As always thank you in advance for your generosity.

ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION for infants through 3rd grade, **Saturday, December 6, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM** in the Holy Family Center. Enjoy activities, music and snacks! **St. Nick** himself will make an appearance. Please call 445-7141, ext. 214 for more information.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION for the Parish will be on Monday, December 9, 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the Holy Family Center. Everyone (over the age of 21) is invited to join us!!!

ST. RITA VOLUNTEERS needed at MANNA HOUSE the first Tuesday of every month, beginning at 10:00 AM. If you would like to volunteer, please call 318-445-9053 or email cenlamannahouse@gmail.com Please consider volunteering at the Manna House.

ST. RITA MEN’S ACTS RETREAT: Applications are now being accepted for the St. Rita ACTS Men’s Retreat, to be held February 26 - March 1 at Maryhill Renewal Center.

Application forms are available on the round table in the church foyer or on the website at www.strita.org. Limited space available, deadline for applications will be December 19, so we encourage you to submit your application form as soon as possible.

For more information about the retreat, please contact one of the following, Davis Bordelon 318-321-9750, Eric Meaux, 318-290-4390 & Scott Speir 318-452-3293.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWER FUND: Remember your loved ones by donating to the Christmas flower fund. A list of the donors and the names of those being remembered will be published in the January 18 bulletin. Donations for the decorating fund is **\$15**. Make checks payable to the St. Rita Altar and Rosary Society, and please include the name(s) of those to be remembered. **Please print the names on the envelope, so we can read the spelling of the names.** Money collected in the flower envelopes at Christmas and Easter is used to decorate the church at Christmas and Easter and also for flowers on the altar throughout the year. Thank you for your support!

ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY RAFFLE & BAKE SALE after all Masses next weekend in the church foyer. **Raffle Prizes** are 1st prize – Porcelain Nativity Set, 2nd prize – Vintage Rosary; 3rd Prize – Nativity Statue. Tickets are \$1.00 each. Drawing is Sunday December 7 at 12:00 noon. Raffle tickets can also be purchased at the church office. Wine will be available for a \$15 donation. 2026 Calendars will be available for \$2.00.