St. Rita Catholic Church

December 7, 2025
Second 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.

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 Devon Powell, *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.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
after all Masses this weekend

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY, *HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION*
Masses on Monday, December 8 at 7:00, 8:00 AM, & 12:05 noon

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION for all Parishioners (over age 21)
Tuesday, December 9 at 5:30 - 7:30 PM in HFC

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY SALE
Baked Goods, Religious Items, Raffle Tickets, Wine, 2026 Calendars, etc....
this weekend after all Masses

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, December 6
4:00 -Mass for Charlene Beurlot, 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)

Monday, December 8 - Holy Day of Obligation
7:00 -Mass for Joan Andries
8:00 -Mass for John & Amie Saucier
9:00 -Priests & Deacon will visit Homebound Shut-Ins
12:05 -Mass for Raymond Ewing
5:30 -Mass for the intention of Margarite Iannuzzi

Tuesday, December 9
8:00 -Mass for Earleen Baillio
8:30 -**NO** Breakfast Club (HFC)
10:00 -Mass for Helen Mathews (Lexington House)
5:15 -Adult Choir Practice (Choir Room)
5:30 -Parish Christmas Party (HFC)

Wednesday, December 10
8:00 -Mass for Michael Robichaux
4:30 -Choristers (Choir Room)
4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
6:00 - Faith Formation Pre-K - 5th
- 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Youth Group
- Mass11th Grade Confirmation

Thursday, December 11
8:00 -Mass for Vivian Johnson
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
5:30 -OCIA (Moreau Room)
5:30 - 7:30 -Parish Confessions

Friday, December 12
8:00 -Mass for Brent Bordelon, Sr., Frank & Angelina Cortello, Helen Harrod, Janice Lachney, Bessie LeJeune, Michael Robichaux, Kevin Thiels

Saturday, December 13
4:00 -Mass for Charlene Beurlot, Kaleb Clark, Bridget Legendre Darlington, Duane G. Fruge, Weston C. Johnson, Jr. &Vivian Johnson, Rebecca Fruge Lachney, Freddie Lavespere, Natalie Mendel, Wally Metrejean, Michael Robichaux, Sylvia Toves, Mable & Hilton Vead

Sunday, December 14
8:00 -Mass for Hilton & Mable Vead
9:30 -Mass for Vivian Johnson
11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children's Church (ages 4 - 7)
12:30 -Spanish Mass for Sylvia Toves
1:00 -Altar & Rosary Christmas Party (HFC)
5:30 -Mass for the Ardoin Family
6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS: Flowers are not allowed on the altar during advent If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar after advent, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. ***Flowers are $100 for both arrangements.***

ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMPS were provided in memory of Michael Gerald Robichaux on his birthday by his family; and Shirley Brouillette by Napp Brouillette. 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 Joseph Louis Mathews. 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 35:1-6a, 10 Ps 146:6-10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11 Catechism 4566-460

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 & Sausage Gumbo, Rice, Sweet Potato, Crackers, Dessert and Tea. Cost is $6.00 for dine in or take out. Cook Team and Servers this week is the KC Council #1134.

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

Regular Collection	
Sunday Gifts week of November 30	**$ 10,337.11**
Online & EFT Gifts November 30	**$ 4,397.00**
Yearly One Time Contribution	**$ 7,000.00**
Contributions November 30	**$ 21,734.11**
Thanksgiving Day Collection	**$ 1,609.37**
BLDG/Main Fund November	**$ 1,092.00**
BLDG/Main Online & EFT Nov	**$ 810.00**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

OUR SICK: Meryl Beach, Judy Bordelon, Jason Chumley, Anthony Griffin, Ashley Henshaw, Curtis Meaux, Bob Sylvia

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Brandon Ashley, Pierce Babineaux, Pat Belaire, Phillip Brouillette, David Deville, Baby Brycen Foster, Shirley Hebert, Patrick Laborde, James Manuel, Paul Medica, Jr., Bob Martin, Caroline Pearson, Zachary Price, Edward Rachal, Karen Schrock, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, 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 Gonzaque, 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, Cleta 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, CWT1 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.

ALL EUCHARISTIC SERVERS WHO TAKE COMMUNION TO OUR HOMEBOUND SHUT - INS: Please take note that the priests and deacon will be visiting the homebound shut-ins on Monday, December 8. Please do not take communion to your shut-ins this upcoming week. Thank you for all that you do.

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.

MANY THANKS, we collected $1,609.37 for the Cenla Homeless Coalition!! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

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 THIS 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."

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

DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS FAMILIES: As a parish family, we have adopted 5 families with 21 children this year. If you would like to make a monetary donation for the families, you may do so with a pew envelope. Mark it Christmas Families and drop in the collection basket. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CHRISTMAS PROJECT: The Catholic Daughters Court Bishop Desmond are collecting men's and women's socks for the residents at St. Christina Nursing Home for their Christmas stockings. There are boxes in the church foyer until December 22 for you to drop off your donation. Thank you.

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. Poinsettia's cost ***$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 this 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. Wine will be available for a $15 donation. 2026 Calendars will be available for $2.00.