

St. Rita Catholic Church

January 25, 2026
Third 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 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 (850-748-1437)
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)

ANOIDING 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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THE DECEASED OF OUR PARISH
ESPECIALLY THOSE REMEMBERED AT THE MEMORIAL MASS
Saturday, January 24 at 4:00 PM, Mass will be Live Streamed**

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION
Monday, January 26, 6:00 PM in church**

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, January 24

4:00 Mass for Odell Carlino, Anthony Iannuzzi, Vivian Iannuzzi, Zachary Veillon

Sunday, January 25

8:00 -Mass for John & Amie Saucier
9:30 -Mass for Zachary Veillon
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 Geraldine Lacaze
6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

Monday, January 26

8:00 -Mass for Janet Thiels

Tuesday, January 27

8:00 -Mass for Kaleb Clark
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
10:00 -Mass for Annette Merritt (Lexington House)
5:15 -Adult Choir Practice (Choir Room)
6:00 -ACTS Men's Team Meeting (HFC)

Wednesday, January 28

8:00 -Mass for Natalie Mendel
4:30 -Wednesday Evening Meal (HFC)
6:00 - Faith Formation Pre-K - 5th
- 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Youth Group
-11th Grade Confirmation

Thursday, January 29

8:00 -Mass for Freddie Lavespere
8:30 -Breakfast Club (HFC)
5:30 -OCIA Meeting (Moreau Room)

Friday, January 30

8:00 -Mass for Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Richard Love, Celicia Viola McCoy, Zachary Veillon, Frankie Zangla

Saturday, January 31

4:00 -Mass for Jerry Brown, Kaleb Clark, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Freddie Lavespere, Richard Love, Joey Mathews, Natalie Mendel, Wally Metrejean, Gerald & Mary Lee

Robichaux, Sr., Michael Robichaux, Zachary Veillon,
Raymond Villmarette, Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, February 1

- 8:00 -Mass for Judy Bordelon
- 9:00 -Sunday Breakfast (HFC)
- 9:30 -Mass for Lillian Kramer Villemez
- 10:30 -Sunday Breakfast (HFC)
- 11:00 -Mass for the congregation of St. Rita Parish
-Children’s Church (ages 4 - 7)
- 12:30 -Spanish Mass for deceased members of the Spanish
Community
- 5:30 -Mass for Delores Distefano
- 6:30 -High School Youth Group (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in loving memory of deceased members of the parish by the Bereavement Committee. 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 loving memory of Michelle Loewer by her 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 James Manuel. 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: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13 Ps 146:6-10 1 Cor 1:26–31Mt 5:1-12a

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.

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 is the Catholic Daughters Court Bishop Desmond. Please join us for delicious food and fellowship!

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Sunday Gifts week of January 18	\$ 14,873.20
Online & EFT Gifts January 18	\$ 10,603.00
Contributions January 18	\$ 25,476.20

BLDG/Main Fund January	\$ 1,415.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT January	\$ 615.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES: Charles “Charlie” Collins

OUR SICK: Larry Bordelon, Debbie Brown, Robert Flowers, Darlene Morovich, Helen Schexnaider, Bob Sylvia, Patti Williams

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Brandon Ashley, Pierce Babineaux, Meryl Beach, Phillip Brouillette, Carl Carlin, Anthony Griffin, Shirley Hebert, Ashley Henshaw, Patrick Laborde, Paul Medica, Jr., Caroline Pearson, Mike Pourciau, Zachary Price, Carmen Robichaux. Karen Schrock, Brad Stewart, Erica Stewart, Joe Velotta

OUR SHUT-INS: Clifton Babineaux, Mureil Beach, Doris Lachney Billeau, Sadie Blakesley, Lou Blalock, Mike Blalock, Joseph “Napp” Brouillette, John Broussard, Frances Chatman, Donald Coco, 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, Muriel Gauthier, Irma Gonzalez, Christy Goutee, Peggy Guillory, Elizabeth Holmes, Patti Holmes, Martha Johnson, Gerald Lachney, Harry Lachney, Opal Lachney, Catherine Lacour, Georgine Lauve, Lewis Lauve, Pat Lohman, Marvin Lee, Deanna Lemoine, Joseph Longo, Zadie Marcotte, Dot McWhorter, Sam Medica, Berl Moreau, Marilyn Naviaux, Jennifer Odom, Cleta Perry, Billie Phillips, Willis Rabalais, Joan Rachall, Nanette Redman, Patsy Robinson, M. Sellers, David Stafford, Adrienne Stevens, Susan Turner, Joan Vanderlick, Anna Villemarette, Audrey Ward, 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, CW1T 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.

WELCOME TO St. Rita Parish, new parishioners, Mark and Linda Gormanous; Lician Ortiz and their families. Please join us in welcoming them to our parish family.

2025 END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS were mailed and emailed. If you would like to send your email address to us, please email etta@strita.org. If you did not receive a statement, please call Etta Ohrt at 445-7141 ext 210.

CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA COLLECTION: Many in Latin America and the Caribbean find that a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to

share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit uscce.org/latin-america.

EUCCHARIST ADORATION AND BENEDICTION on Monday, January 26 at 6:00 PM in church. Everyone is invited.

BEGIN THE NEW YEAR WITH ONLINE GIVING where you can create or alter your contribution schedule at any time. You can also see reports of your contribution history that you can use for your records. By clicking the “OnLine Giving” link at www.strita.org you can take care your contributions yourself. ***EFT*** offers many benefits to the church and you, the parishioner. EFT transactions can be scheduled weekly on Monday, 10th, 20th or 30th of the month and allows you to make a contribution even if you are unable to attend a service. To sign up for EFT, call 445-7141 ext 210. *—Etta Ohrt*

MEMORIAL MASS will be celebrated on Saturday, January 24 at 4:00 PM Mass for all members of St. Rita Church who have died July 1 - December 31, 2025. Those to be remembered are; Heyman Joseph Bohrer, Juliette “Judy” Bordelon, Lee LaVern Cargle, Sr., Edwin Crouch, Stanley “Stan” Thomas Fryer, Helen Fay Harrod, Audrey Ann Jusselin, Tristen Jusselin, Geraldine R. Lacaze, Donald Lee Lachney, Janice Lachney, Joseph Louis Mathews, Freda Renee McDonald, Edward Joseph Rachal, and Betty Clair Wilmore. ***This Mass will be Live Streamed on our FaceBook page and our website.***

FULLNESS OF TRUTH: 5th Annual Lenten Catholic Family Diocesan Evangelization Conference entitled, “*Why We’re Catholic: Effectively Sharing the Hope Within You!*” will be hosted by St. Rita Catholic Church on February 20th -21st, and is designed to practically prepare Catholics for fruitful discipleship. So, equip yourselves with the “spot-on” preaching of Lafayette’s Rev. Michael Russo; the practical “rules of engagement” strategies of Catholic Apologist & Evangelist John Martignoni; and the no-nonsense, disarming tactics of dynamic Podcaster & Author Patty Schneier, as they explore how you can use time-tested methods for bringing loved ones back - or into - the Church right now. We are in urgent times...the passive wait-and-see approach to evangelization is no longer an option! Don’t Miss It! To register, for room reservations, and schedule, visit www.fullnessoftruth.org/ALX26 or call: 877.218-7884.

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. applications are due NOW, please 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.

ST. RITA ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY: January is the month for all members to renew their dues. Dues are \$10.00 annually. You may mail your dues to St. Rita Altar Society, 4401 Bayou Rapides Rd., Alexandria, LA 71303 or drop in collection basket marked St. Rita Altar and Rosary dues.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS COURT BISHOP DESMOND #1459: January is the month for all members to renew their dues. Dues are \$30 annually. You can turn in your dues at the January meeting to Cindy Campbell, Financial Secretary or mail your dues to Cindy Campbell, Financial Secretary, 4908 Canal Dr., Alexandria, LA 71303. Please make checks payable to: CDA Court Bishop Desmond.

“BREAKING THROUGH GRIEF” Weekly Support Group: Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana offers an eight-week program, Breathing through Grief, designed to bring comfort and hope to anyone facing loss—whether through death, illness, broken relationships, or other life-altering changes. Rooted in faith and guided by grace, this program provides a safe haven for sharing, embrace healing, and discover that even in the emptiness, God is near and new beginnings are possible.

Participants will find strength to renew their spirit, experience inner peace, and take intentional steps toward a meaningful new chapter in life. Each session blends practical tools with spiritual encouragement in a caring group setting, fostering resilience and hope throughout the journey. The program begins Monday, February 2, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the St. Joseph Catholic Center Conference Room at 4400 Coliseum Boulevard in Alexandria. For more details or to register, call Catholic Charities at 318-445-6424, Ext. 506.