

St. Rita Catholic Church

December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent

4401 Bayou Rapides Road (Church)
3822 Bayou Rapides Road (Parish Office)
Office Hours Monday - Thursday 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Closed on Fridays
Alexandria, LA 71303



St. Rita
CATHOLIC CHURCH
the hands and heart of Christ

Church Office: 445-7120; FAX: 448-0704
Religious Education: 445-7141 ext 217 St. Vincent de Paul: 473-0887
Sacristy: 448-9599
MEDICAL 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.

QR Code for
OnLine Giving
St. Rita Website



Dial Direct to Extensions: 445-7141
Rev. Anthony Dharmaraj, MSFS., Pastor (ext 212)
Rev. Luke LaFleur, Sacramental Assistance (ext 211)
Rev. Peter Faulk, JCL Sacramental Assistance (445-2401 ext 217)
Rev. David Braquet, Sacramental Assistance
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)
Mrs. Melva Villard, Director of Music & Liturgical Ministries (442-3428)
Mrs. Julie DeKeyser, Pastoral Associate of Evangelization, Liturgy, Youth (215)
Mr. Maxwell Moreau, Director of Buildings & Maintenance (359-1944)

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. Dharmaraj or Fr. LaFleur

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

MERRY CHRISTMAS!! MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

*Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24, 4:00 PM
6:00 PM (Children's Mass with a special visitor)*

MIDNIGHT MASS 12:00

Christmas Day:

*Friday, December 25, 8:00 & 11:00 AM; 2:00 PM in Spanish
Confessions on Thursday, Christmas Eve, 3:00 - 3:50 PM*

**ALL CHRISTMAS MASSES WILL BE LIVE STREAMED
on St. Rita FaceBook page and website www.strita.org**

NO ONE will be turned away because of COVID restrictions. However, we will still follow all guidelines for COVID and have Masses live streamed in the Holy Family Center for any overflow. We are not anticipating the usual crowds that we had before the pandemic. Please have a safe and Merry Christmas!!

4:00 pm Saturday, 8:00 AM & 11:00 AM Sunday Masses are LIVE STREAMED every weekend. Please join us on FaceBook or at www.strita.org.

WEARING A MASK AT ST. RITA: Everyone is required to wear a mask to attend all functions at St Rita Church. *You are also required to keep your mask ON during the entire Mass, your mask must cover your nose and mouth.*

Saturday, December 19

4:00 -Mass for Earleen Baillio, Hardy Cain, Sr., Kaleb Clark, Charles Cosenza, Jr. Leon and Myrtis Daigre, Richard Love, Mary Margaret Matassa, Inez Newcomb, Gerald Robichaux, Sr., Tandy Rodgers, Al Schexnaider, Mary Snow, Raymond Villemarette

6:00 -Mass for Emily Ardoin

Sunday, December 20

8:00 -Mass for Lettie Michiels
11:00 -Mass for all living & deceased members of the parish
2:00 -Spanish Mass for Wanda Burrows
5:30 -Mass for Henry Ardoin

Monday, December 21

8:00 -Mass for Gerald Robichaux, Sr.

Tuesday, December 22

8:00 - Mass for Inez Newcomb

Wednesday, December 23

8:00 -Mass for Gerald Leglue, Sr.

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

All Christmas Masses are for the intention of our parish family, living and deceased. Confessions will be heard from 3:15 - 3:50 PM.

4:00 -Mass for all living & deceased of the parish

6:00 -Mass for all living & deceased of the parish

12:00 -Mass for all living & deceased of the parish

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

8:00 -Mass for all living & deceased of the parish

11:00 -Mass for all living & deceased of the parish

2:00 -Spanish Mass for all living and deceased of the parish

Saturday, December 26

4:00 -Mass for Rebecca Alexander, Earleen Baillio, Evelyn B. Belfiore, Paul Branco, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Ronnie Hair, Richard Love, Mary Margaret Matassa, Clemmie Michiels, Patsy Myers, Michael Robichaux, Mary Snow

6:00 -Mass for Barbara Gralapp

Sunday, December 27

8:00 -Mass for Diane Brinkhau

11:00 -Mass for all living & deceased members of the parish

2:00 -Spanish Mass for deceased members Spanish Community

5:30 -Mass for Gerald Robichaux, Sr.

ALTAR FLOWERS are not allowed during the season of Advent. If you are interested in donating fresh flowers for the altar, call the church office at 445-7141 ext 214. **Flowers are \$75 for both arrangements.**

ALTAR SANCTUARY LAMPS in loving memory of Leon & Myrtis Daigre by Linda Love; and Charles Medica by Judy Medica. 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.

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 3822 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.**

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND: 11:2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Average expenses for week	\$ 23,056.88
Sunday Gifts the week of December 13	\$ 15,482.14
Online & EFT Gifts December 13	\$ 2,757.00
Short for the week of December 13	\$ 4,817.74
Holy Day Collection	\$ 1,322.00
BLDG/Maintenance Fund December	\$ 6,815.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT Dec	\$ 995.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

OURSICK: Gianna Benavides, Marge Branco, Nap Brouillette, Shirley Brouillette, Jeannette Fenoli, Katherine Hunnell, Donovan Ohrt, Fr. Craig Scott, Kayla Spangler, John Wilmore

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Jennifer Auzenne, Stacy Auzenne, Pierce Babineaux, Melissa Brouillette, Leslie Fryer, Jason Garon, Sherri Johnson, Richard Juneau, James Laborde, David Paulk, Mary Robichaux, Alisha Sylvia, Kathy Fryer Thomas, Cyndee Whittington, Johnny Williams, Ona Wilson

OUR SHUT- INS: Joan Andries, Harold Ardoin, Joyce Bakies, Fay Baudin, Margaret Beaubouef, Lizzie Belgard, Lela Bordelon, Nellie Bordelon, Theresa Bordelon, Shirley Bost, Ray Broussard, Jennie Buckoski, Joyce Carmouche, Carol Clement, Aline Cicardo, Nancy Cook, Connie Couvillion, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson, Edwina Deramus, Lenora Derbonne, Odean Deville, Cecilia Dunn, Ebron Dunn, Regina Dunn, Mary Ford, Linda Gauthier, Irma Gonzague, Jessie Griffin, Sharon Guillory, Dorothy Harmeier, Richard Harris, Marie Hawthorne, Aline Johnson, Leta Juneau, Audrey Jusselin, Joyce Laborde, Gerald Lachney, Iris Ruth LeJeune, Josephine Marcotte, Otride Marcotte, Jr., Zadia Marcotte, Joyce McGinty, Eliska Michiel, Monica Milling, George Moreau, Gladys Morris, Yvonne Perrin, June Peterson, Rose Ponthieux, Joyce Price, Jerry B. Rachal, Judy Rechs, James Schoolcraft, Jeannette Smith, Ina Steiner, Bobby Thevenote, Francis Lee Thiels, Michael Turner, Susan Turner, Virginia Verzwylt, Willie Voorhies, Jennifer Ann Walker, Sandra Walker, Veronica Walters, Betty Wilmore, Rivers Wilson, Marilyn Wilson, Pamela Wilson, Anita Wooley

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY: CW3 Ron Cole, Lance Cpl Mathew G. Collins, Lance Cpl. Amy Fogleman, Major Mike Frazier, Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy McKnight, PO2 Nicholas Peralta, PFC Brandon Rashall, Capt. Rachel Salpietra, Capt. Sean P. Turner, Capt. 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.

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: For the Christmas holidays please note that the parish offices will be closed on the following days; Thursday, December 24th and Tuesday, December 29 through Thursday, December 31st.

Even though the parish office is closed, Fr. Raj will check his messages regularly, so please remember we are here to serve you at all times! You can leave a message for Fr. Raj (445-7141 ext. 212). **If you have an emergency for someone who is seriously ill or dying, please call 445-7141 ext. 4 and a priest will be paged to answer your call.**

HOMEBOUND SHUT INS: The priests will visit our homebound shut ins on Monday, December the 21st. They will bring them communion and a poinsettia. We are not able to visit our shut ins in the nursing homes due to Covid. We want to wish all of our shut ins a Merry Christmas and we look forward to the days when we can visit all of them again.

RETIRED FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION: Do you remember the sisters, brothers or religious order priests who made a positive influence in your life? Today, many are elderly and need assistance. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious.

SPECIAL THANKS to the Altar & Rosary Society for gifting the 2021 Calendars to the parish.

ON LINE 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 Electronic Funds Transfer directly from your bank accounts or your credit/debit card.

EFT offers many benefits to the church and you, the parishioner. Scheduling EFT contributions allows the church to benefit by having a better prediction of contributions and reducing administrative tasks and costs. 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. Also, using your credit card allows your contribution to count towards any rewards programs offered by your card provider.

To sign up for EFT, call 445-7141 ext 210 and we will mail a form to you. We will take care of setting everything up for you. *-Mrs. Etta Ohrt*

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES: We, as a parish family have adopted 5 families for Christmas with a total of 11 children. 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. *-Mrs. Courtney Brinkman*

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORE will be closed the week of Christmas, Tuesday, December 22 thru Friday, December 25 and Thursday, December 31 & Friday, January 1st.

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 12 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!

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS ARE COLLECTING DONATIONS OF NEW WHITE SOCKS for the patients at St. Christina's Nursing Home for Christmas. The box for donations is located in the church foyer. Deadline for collecting the socks is Sunday, December 20. For more information, contact Ona Wilson at 880-5245.