

# St. Rita Catholic Church

January 31, 2021  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.

## 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE PARENTS FIRST EUCHARIST MEETING Wednesday, February 3, 6:00 PM in Church

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](http://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, January 30

4:00 -Mass for Jerry Bordelon, Marge Branco, Jim P. Curley, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shirley Rini, Gerald Robichaux, Mary Snow, Dwayne John Soileau, Raymond Villmarette, Intention of Sheri Johnson

6:00 -Mass for Henry Ardoin

### Sunday, January 31

8:00 -Mass for Jeri Brittan

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

2:00 -Spanish Mass for Kyle Jordan

5:30 -Mass for Intention of Tommy Eskew

### Monday, February 1

8:00 -Mass for Shirley Rini

### Tuesday, February 2

8:00 - Mass for Edwin A. Mathews

### Wednesday, February 3

8:00 -Mass for Pauline Crawford

6:00 -CCD 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Parents Meeting (Church)

6:00 -CCD 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class (HFC)

6:00 -2<sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation (HFC)

### Thursday, February 4

8:00 -Mass for Sally Eskew

### Friday, February 5

8:00 -Mass for Mary Margaret Matassa, John & Faye Pontif, Shirley Rini, Sid Rud, Mary Snow

### Saturday, February 6

4:00 -Mass for Melvin Hicks, Mary Margaret Matassa, Shirley Rini, Gabe Rodriguez

6:00 -Mass for Marge Branco

### Sunday, February 7

8:00 -Mass for Lois Brister

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

2:00 -Spanish Mass for Dena Flynn

5:30 -Mass for Jim Curley

**ALTAR FLOWERS :** 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** were provided in loving memory of Marvin Finney by Frances Finney and 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.

**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:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7 Ps 147:1-6 1-6 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23 Mk 1:29-39 Catechism 1499-1523

### OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
<b>Average expenses for week</b>	<b>\$ 23,056.88</b>
<b>Sunday Gifts the week of January 24</b>	<b>\$ 17,304.11</b>
<b>Online &amp; EFT Gifts January 24</b>	<b>\$ 2,757.00</b>
<b>Short for the week of January 24</b>	<b>\$ 2,995.77</b>
<b>BLDG/Maintenance Fund January</b>	<b>\$ 10,086.33</b>
<b>BLDG/Main Online &amp; EFT January</b>	<b>\$ 1,050.00</b>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THE CONSOLATION OF THEIR FAMILIES:** Brenda Hirsch

**OUR SICK:** Barbara Cain, Joan Connella, Marie Crooks, Fr. John Cunningham, Pat Curcio, Joe Despino, Gabriel Johnson, Leta Juneau, Josephine Marcotte, Fr. Craig Scott, Ricky Sooter, Charles Thiels, Sharon Yarbrough

**RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT:** Jennifer Auzenne, Stacy Auzenne, Pierce Babineaux, Melissa Brouillette, Nap Brouillette, Shirley Brouillette, Jason Garon, Richard Juneau, James Laborde, Matthew Leslie, Girlie Mae Mathews, David Paulk, Mary Robichaux, Kayla Spangler 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, Connie Couvillion, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson, Edwina Deramus, Lenora Derbonne, Odean Deville, Cecilia Dunn, Ebron Dunn, Regina Dunn, Mary Ford, Linda Gauthier, Irma Gonzaque, 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., Zadie 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 Verzyvvel, 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. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Jeremy McKnight, Lance Cpl. Simon Pelto, 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](mailto:dbrown@strita.org). Please keep all military and their families in your prayers.

**ATTENDING MASS:** If you are not ill and you are able to attend Mass, I ask that you please try to attend Mass. If you want to attend a Mass that is less crowded, the 6:00 PM Mass on Saturday and the 5:30 PM Mass on Sunday have low attendance. If you cannot attend Mass (*have not been exposed to Covid*) and would like a home visit from a priest, please call the office at 445-7120 and we can set up a visit. I look forward to meeting each of you. May God Bless you. – Fr. Raj

**WEBSITE [WWW.STRITA.ORG](http://WWW.STRITA.ORG)** has a new look!!! We have redesigned our website, making it easier to navigate. Check it out at [www.strita.org](http://www.strita.org) !!!

**FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING** on Tuesday, February 9, 12:00 noon in the Holy Family Center.

**MISALETTES** are available on the round table in the church foyer. If you would like to take one home to follow the Mass on the Live Stream, please feel free to do so.

**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY** will be held on Sunday, February 14 at the 11:00 Mass. Please join us in congratulating all our anniversary couples: **25 years;** Gregory and Diana Beavers, Russell and Ashia Branigan, Hanner and Rebecca Jeansonne, Jonathan and Misty Slayter; **40 years;** Patrick and Tina LaBorde, Leslie and Judy Stokes, Ronald and Linda Vidrine; **50 years;** C.F. and Susan Garon, Louis and Patricia Joseph, Adrian and Cynthia Parker, Jr., Francis and Brenda Tauzin, James and Sharon Yarbrough; **60 years;** Charles and Janet Thiels, John and Beverly Wilmore; **65 years;** Amos and Geraldine Lacaze; **70 years;** Gerald and Mary Robichaux. We pray for and thank all our married couples for the great witnesses they are in our community! Let us pray particularly for all those who are preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony!

**ST. RITA ALTAR AND ROSARY SOCIETY:** January is the month for all members to renew their dues. Dues are \$5.00 annually. You may mail your dues to St. Rita Altar Society, 3822 Bayou Rapides Rd., Alexandria, LA 71303 or drop in collection basket marked St. Rita Altar and Rosary dues. – Mrs. Belinda Guillory, President

**COVID RULES AND GUIDELINES** issued to all Places of Worship by the Louisiana Department of Public Safety by the Louisiana Office of State Fire Marshal.

There seems to be much confusion regarding the guidelines that we are following during the Covid Pandemic.

We must maintain Social Distancing, wear face mask and sanitize our hands as often as possible.

**Crowd Managers** are assigned to each service to enforce social distancing requirements, assign seating, take temperatures, and assure that everyone is wearing a face mask that covers the nose and mouth.

**Crowd Managers** arrive at church to open the foyer doors 30 minutes before the service. The reason for this is because we allow time for the church to be sanitized and for the sanitizing to be completely dried before allowing the next group in.

People are only allowed to enter the church through the foyer doors, so that we can be assured that everyone has their temperature taken.

As Bishop Marshall stated in a letter to the priests; “We claim to be a pro-life Church. Defeating COVID-19 is a pro-life issue. Many innocent lives have been lost because people cannot seem to wear a mask or keep their distance. True, we are grateful that most people recover from this disease – but that is not because a cure has been found. It is merely because their own health was strong enough to defeat the virus. That is not true for many among us – including the crowd who are regularly attending Mass. Too often, even in this pandemic, our pews are not filled with the young and the healthy but the elderly and the infirm. We wear masks and socially distance NOT to protect ourselves, but to protect the most vulnerable among us.”

We fully understand your frustration, as no one is more frustrated than the staff. We are trying to do everything to keep you safe. Please be patient with us, as we are following the state and Diocesan guidelines.

We understand that other churches are not doing what we are doing, but we are following the guidelines put out by the State Fire Marshall and the Diocese of Alexandria. We cannot control what the other parishes are doing. – Fr. Raj

**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 \$100,000. Stop by any of our locations or call 473-4562 for more information.