

St. Rita Catholic Church

April 25, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Easter

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 DeKeyzer, 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.

6:00 PM MASS ON SATURDAY WILL MOVE BACK TO 5:30 PM
SPANISH MASS ON SUNDAY WILL MOVE BACK TO 12:30 pm
beginning next weekend May 1 & 2

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.

PHASE 3 COVID: Even if you have received the COVID shot, you are still 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. We want to thank everyone for their continued patience with us as we follow the guidelines set by the State of Louisiana.

—Fr. Raj

Saturday, April 24

4:00 -Mass for Don Carter, Leon & Myrtis Daigre, Edwina DeRamus, Richard Love, John Marzullo, Mary Margaret Matassa, Jane Ormsby, Shirley Rini, J.J. & Una Wilson
6:00 -Mass for Emily & Terry Ardoin

Sunday, April 25

8:00 -Mass for Brenda Hirsch
9:30 -Mass for Larry Brossett
11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita parish
2:00 -Spanish Mass for Wanda Burrows
5:30 -Mass for Robert Vohrer
6:30 -Jr. High & High School Youth meet (HFC)

Monday, April 26

8:00 -Mass for Jeri Brittan

Tuesday, April 27

8:00 - Mass for Ludrick Labbe

Wednesday, April 28

8:00 -Mass for Hyacinthe "Hiway" Mathews Bailey

Thursday, April 29

8:00 -Mass for John Marzullo

Friday, April 30

8:00 -Mass for Mary Margaret Matassa, Jane Ormsby, John and Faye Pontif, Shirley Rini, Sid Rud

Saturday, May 1

4:00 -Mass for Jeri Brittan, Larry Brossett, Don Carter, Leon and Myrtis Daigre, Edwina DeRamus, Houston, Lucille & Paul Dunn, Robert Leonard, Richard Love,

Mary Margaret Matassa, George & Edna Rabalais, Shirley Rini, Mary Snow

5:30 -Mass for Pauline Crawford

Sunday, May 2

8:00 -Mass for Jeri Brittan

9:30 -Mass for Laura Longo

11:00 -Mass for the people of St. Rita Parish

2:00 -Spanish Mass for JB Burrows

5:30 -Mass for Houston & Lucille Dunn, Paul Dunn

6:30 -Jr. High & High School Youth meet (HFC)

ALTAR FLOWERS were provided in loving memory of Marvin Finney by Frances Finney and family. 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: Acts 9:26-31 Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8 Catechism 771-801

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL: On behalf of Bishop Marshall and myself, thank you for your generosity to the 2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal. Your gift can make a real difference by supporting faith formation, education of our youth and in the education and formation of our seminarians. If you have not made your gift it is not too late. We still need \$19,438 to reach our goal. Please consider making a donation. Pledge envelopes are still available in the pews. They can be placed in the collection basket, dropped off to the parish office or mailed directly to the Diocese. Thank you again for your continued support. *– Fr. Raj*

St. Rita ADA Goal for 2021: \$89,788.00
Pledged to date: \$70,350.00
Paid to date: \$63,447.70
Donors to date: 193

OUR OFFERTORY GIFTS

<i>Regular Collection</i>	
Average expenses for week	\$ 23,056.88
Sunday Gifts the week of April 18	\$ 18,259.69
Online & EFT Gifts April 18	\$ 7,627.00
Over for the week of April 11	\$ 2,829.81
BLDG/Maintenance Fund April	\$ 860.00
BLDG/Main Online & EFT April	\$ 1,125.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

GOSPEL REFLECTION – Priests for Life

The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. This theme is found also in the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) On the road from Jerusalem to Jericho, a man fell in with robbers. A priest and a Levite came by, but did not stop to help. Despite their knowledge of the Law and Prophets, they walked right by. Why?

One of the reasons may be that they were afraid. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho is a dangerous road. Because of its numerous steep curves, it lends itself to attacks by robbers who can easily hide not too far from their victims. Perhaps the priests and Levites who passed by that man asked themselves, "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me? Maybe the robbers who attacked him are still here. Maybe they're hiding just around the bend. This is a dangerous road. I better keep going."

Sometimes we ask the same question. If, for example, I speak up too loudly about the victims of abortion, what will happen to me? Will I face persecution, will I encounter opposition, will I lose popularity if I get involved in a cause like this? And then the Good Samaritan came along, and he reversed the question. He didn't ask, "If I help this man, what will happen to me?" The Good Samaritan asked, "If I do not help this man, what will happen to him?" And that's the question for us. If I do not address this evil, what will happen to the unborn? If I do not get involved, what will happen to those who are vulnerable, to those who are marginalized our society, those who are oppressed, those who have no one to speak for them?

OUR SICK: Joyce Gamble, Gina Lachney, Myrtis Peychaud, Larry Robin, Melvalyn Terrell

RECOVERING, CONVALESCING OR ONGOING TREATMENT: Jennifer Auzenne, Stacy Auzenne, Pierce Babineaux, Melissa Brouillette, Theresa Deselle, Jackie Haskins, Gerrie Holt, Richard Juneau, James Laborde, Joey Mathews, Joanne Michiels, David Paulk, Kayla Spangler Alisha Sylvia, Cyndee Whittington, Johnny Williams, Ona Wilson

OUR SHUT-INS: Joan Andries, Harold Ardoin, Joyce Bakies, Fay Baudin, Margaret Beaubouef, Lela Bordelon, Nellie Bordelon, Theresa Bordelon, Shirley Bost, Ray Broussard, Jennie Buckoski, Joyce Carmouche, Vergie Clay, Carol Clement, Aline Cicardo, Connie Couvillion, Bennye David, Deborah Davidson, 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, Leta Juneau, Audrey Jusselin, Joyce Laborde, Gerald Lachney, Iris Ruth LeJeune, Josephine Marcotte, Otride Marcotte, Jr., Zadi 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 Verzwylvel, 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, Lance Cpl. Simon Pelto, PO2 Nicholas Peralta, PFC Brandon Rashall, Randy Roaix, 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.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEETING on Wednesday, May 5, 12:00 noon in the Moreau Room.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING on Wednesday, May 12, 12:00 noon in the Holy Family Center.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION on Monday, April 26 at 6:00 PM in church. *Everyone is invited to join us.*

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS: All graduating seniors are invited to attend the senior Mass on Sunday, May 2 at 5:30 PM Mass. Please wear your graduation gown from your school. **For more information contact Mrs. Julie DeKeyzer at 445-7141 ext 213.**

WE NEED::::ALTAR SERVERS!!

If you have a child in grade 3 and up, please consider signing your child up to Altar Serve at the Mass you attend. Please call Courtney Brinkman at 445-7141 ext 217, she will have a training session for them.

2021 WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: If you are celebrating a 25, 40, 50, 60, 65 or 70th wedding anniversary in 2021, we would like to honor you on Sunday, February 13, 2022 at the 11:00 Mass and present you with a Papal Blessing in honor of your marriage from the Holy Father, Pope Francis. If you would like to participate, please call the Church Office at 445-7141 ext 214. We have to order the blessing early. Deadline for calling is July 1, 2021.

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.

To sign up for EFT, call 613-4460 and Etta can take care of setting everything up for you. *Mrs. Etta Ohrt*

DO YOU HAVE A SMART PHONE? You can now access our website and OnLine giving with your smart phone with the QR Code located in the heading of our bulletin. It's simple and easy! Just download a QR Reader app to your smart phone, then scan the QR Code from the bulletin for access to our OnLine giving and Website. If you have any questions, call Etta Ohrt at 445-7141 ext 210.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO WORK IN THE STORE! Just a few hours a month would be a great help! The store is open Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. For more information or to volunteer, call Mrs. Julie Rini at 473-0887.

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.

PRAYER BLANKET MINISTRY sponsored by the Catholic Daughters Court Desmond.

The Prayer Blankets are given to:

- Any adult or child with a physical or emotional illness.
- Individuals preparing for surgery or recovering from an acute illness.
- Individuals living with chronic conditions or in treatment for a life threatening illness.
- Anyone experiencing a crisis such as the loss of a loved one, loss of job, relationship Crisis, etc.....
- High risk pregnancy, miscarriage or neonatal Crisis.

You can pick up a prayer blanket from the church office during normal business hours. For more information contact, Mrs. Ona Wilson, 640-2159, or the church office