



# Epiphany

of the LORD

We saw  
his *star*  
at its *rising*  
and have  
come to do  
him *homage*.

Matthew 2:2

Saint Rita Catholic Church

January 4<sup>th</sup> 2025



# Welcome Home!



Fr. James Valenzuela

**Pastor**

frjames@saintritaparish.org



Fr. Peter Jutras

**Parochial Vicar**

frpeter@saintritaparish.org



Antonio Herrera

**Deacon**

## Parish Office

**Monday - Thursday • 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

*Closed for Lunch 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM*

**Parish Office • 850-267-2558**

**Parish Website • [www.saintritaparish.org](http://www.saintritaparish.org)**

## Sacramental Life

### Sunday Mass

Saturday: Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:00 PM (Esp)

### Daily Mass

Monday - Saturday 8:30 AM

Thursdays: Ascension Sacred Heart  
Hospital - 11:30am

## SOLEMN EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday after Mass: 9 AM - 10 AM in Church

First Friday of the Month: 9 AM - 6 PM in  
Stella Maris Chapel

## RECONCILIATION

First Friday: 9AM - 10 AM

Saturday: 9 AM (or by appointment)

*email [office@saintritaparish.org](mailto:office@saintritaparish.org) to schedule*

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday • Jan 3

8:30 AM

5:00 PM

Joe & Pat Webber

Elijah Allen & Family

### Sunday • Jan 4

8:00 AM

11:00 AM

5:00 PM (esp)

For the People

Hannie Nasri +

Debbie Boudreaux +

### Monday • Jan 5

8:30 AM

Joel Bernstien +

### Tuesday • Jan 6

8:30 AM

James Lee

### Wednesday • Jan 7

6:00PM

Stephen Jerez +

### Thursday • Jan 8

9:00 AM

Stan Walker +

### Friday • Jan 9

8:30 AM

Hannah Lillie

### Saturday • Jan 10

8:30 AM

5:00PM

Joseph & Megan Gianelloni

Imelda Uy

# Administration

## Mission Statement

*We exist to provide opportunities for our parishioners to encounter Christ, share His love and become His disciples.*

## General Offertory

**Month of November**

Received: **\$189,019.37**

## Building Fund

**Month of November**

Received: **\$31,742.52**

## Burse Club

**Month of November**

Received: **\$896.77**

## Ways to Give



**Cash/Checks** - If you prefer to give cash or checks, please drop your donation in the General Offertory basket at the Saturday/Sunday Masses.



**Digital Giving** - If you prefer to give online you can set up a recurring donation through PushPay.



## Epiphany Chalk Blessing

It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless chalk at the Masses for Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year.

*The home blessing can be done as follows:*

Use the blessed chalk to write: 20+C+M+B+26 above the doorways:

2026 for the year; C, M, B for the 3 Magi – Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar – and for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for “May Christ Bless this House.”

***As you are writing, pray one of the following prayers:***

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, forever and ever. Amen.

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

# Parish Staff & Ministries

## Operations Team



### **LAURIE MANDREKAR**

Business & Finance Manager  
[laurie@saintritaparish.org](mailto:laurie@saintritaparish.org)  
ext. 102



### **GAIL EPPLIN**

Receptionist  
[office@saintritaparish.org](mailto:office@saintritaparish.org)



### **MCKAY MOEWS**

Communications Manager  
[mckay@saintritaparish.org](mailto:mckay@saintritaparish.org)  
ext. 116



### **TRAVIS SHIELDS**

Facilities Manager  
[facilities@saintritaparish.org](mailto:facilities@saintritaparish.org)



### **KRISTY SEELIGER**

Weddings & Baptism Coordinator  
[kristy@saintritaparish.org](mailto:kristy@saintritaparish.org)  
ext. 111



### **ALYSSA MILES**

Pastoral Assistant  
[alyssa@saintritaparish.org](mailto:alyssa@saintritaparish.org)  
ext. 114



### **HEATHER CARSON**

Director of the Pre-School  
[heather@saintritaparish.org](mailto:heather@saintritaparish.org)

## Liturgies Team



### **NANCY WESSON**

Director of Liturgical Ministries  
[nancy@saintritaparish.org](mailto:nancy@saintritaparish.org)  
ext. 109



### **GABRIELLE TROFATTER**

Director of Liturgical Music  
[gabby@saintritaparish.org](mailto:gabby@saintritaparish.org)

## Faith Formation Team



### **JENNA DANOS**

Director of Parish Mission  
[jenna@saintritaparish.org](mailto:jenna@saintritaparish.org)



### **TICIA GALLO**

Director of CGS  
[ticia@saintritaparish.org](mailto:ticia@saintritaparish.org)



### **ALEX MOLZER**

Youth Minister  
[alex@saintritaparish.org](mailto:alex@saintritaparish.org)

## Ministry Leads

### **ALTAR SERVERS**

Carmen Pretorious

### **EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Bob Ligday

### **GREETERS/USHERS**

Pat Neolon

### **LECTORS**

Tom Zaccardi

### **40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

Mark Stay

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Steve Boudreaux

### **LOVING HANDS**

Alice Sanchez  
(850) 896-3352

### **MEN'S GROW GROUP**

John Bakane

### **PRISON MINISTRY**

Will Conley

### **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Mike Duffey

### **TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

Barb Meyer

### **WOMEN'S CLUB**

Toni Underwood

### **VINEA VIRTUTIS HOMESCHOOL CO-OP**

Rachel Gruters

### **COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND THE HOMEBOUND**

Chris Manion

### **FLOWER MINISTRY**

Nancy Wesson



# Around Saint Rita

## Recurring Events

### Sunday

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday (after 11am Mass) - Young Adults at Heirloom Donuts (19 - 36 yrs old)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Knights of Columbus Coffee and Donuts

### Monday

- Middle School Youth Night • 5:30PM

### Tuesday

- Open Gym • 12:00PM - 3:30PM
- Catholicism 101 • 6:00PM

### Wednesday

- Loving Hands Ministry • 9:00AM
- High School Youth Night • 5:30PM

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

- SVdP Meeting • 9:00AM

### Thursday

- G.R.O.W. Group • 5:00PM **(On Break)**

## Funerals in January

- **January 5<sup>th</sup>** - Donna Prijatelj.  
11am with a reception to follow around 1pm in the Family Life Center. Burial at Historic Gulf Cemetery.
- **January 7<sup>th</sup>** - Deanna O'Hare.  
10:30am with a reception to follow in the Family Life Center.
- **January 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Edward Fletcher.  
11:30am. No reception to follow.

## Scripture Readings

For the week of January 4th

### SUNDAY THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

IS 60:1-6; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; EPH 3:2-3A, 5-6; MT 2:1-12

### MONDAY MEMORIAL OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

1 JN 3:22-4:6; PS 2:7BC-8, 10-12A; MT 4:12-17, 23-25

### TUESDAY

1 JN 4:7-10; PS 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; MK 6:34-44

### WEDNESDAY

1 JN 4:11-18; PS 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; MK 6:45-52

### THURSDAY

1 JN 4:19-5:4; PS 72:1-2, 14 AND 15BC, 17; LK 4:14-22

### FRIDAY

1 JN 5:5-13; PS 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; LK 5:12-16

### SATURDAY

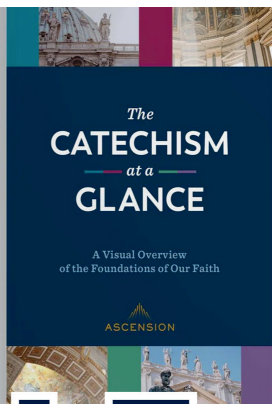
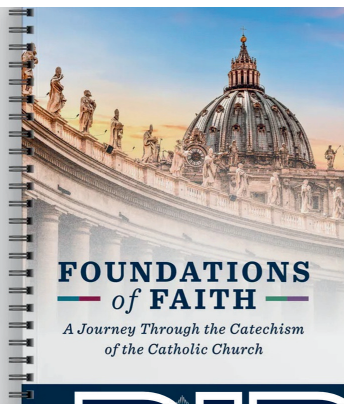
**1 JN 5:14-21; PS 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6A AND 9B; JN 3:22-30**

### SUNDAY THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

IS 42:1-4, 6-7 OR IS 55:1-11 OR ACTS 10:34-38 OR 1 JN 5:1-9; PS 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 OR IS 12:2-3, 4BCD, 5-6; MT 3:13-17

## Pray with us for:

Laurence Family, Robin Rose, Jennifer Mathews & Family, Addy & Richard Hack, Tim, Roselyne, Isabella Rose, Charlie Tidwell, Tony, Wesley McGee, Kevin Kingsland, Pam Kitchen, Greg Hebert, Barbara Mason, Victoria Eddington, David Cundiff, Marcia A, Janet Stevens, Tommie Magran, Mary Davis, Deedee Hofeling, Oz Wilkenson, Richard Turner, Baby Jules, Baby Ellis, Marge Crawford, Terry Collins, Bill Higgins, Sally Drobnick, Elizabeth Grace Hunter, Pilar Carson, Gustavo Cáceres, Cáceres Family, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Ed Avery, Trina Spadaccia, Lisa Chapman, Joe Tullos, Renee Watson, Pavlin Family, Nancy Lord, Micheline Riggio, Beth Turnbach, Christine H., Joseph Albert, Stella Leverton, Gregorio Alvarez, Helen Lee & Family, Julie Duncan, Tunello Family, Kathy Farrell



# BIBLE Study

Join us for the second half of the bible study at Saint Rita. The Bible study will return on Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup>. Please scan the QR Code to purchase your study plan!



## Loving Hands Ministry

Room #3 of the FLC  
Wednesdays from 9am - 12pm

Projects include: Baby Quilts, Burial Gowns for Still Born, Crocheting, Knitting, Lap Quilts, Baby Blankets, Stuffed Animals & Crosses, Rosaries & More!

Donations of material, thread, lace, embroidery thread & floss are appreciated in order to continue projects.

Loving Hands Ministry  
will resume this  
Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.

For more info, contact  
Alice: 850.896.3352



## High School Lock In Retreat

Overnight Retreat for St. Rita High School Teens!

**Starts - 7pm on Friday January 16th**  
**Ends - 9am on Saturday January 17th**

No better way to start 2026 and a new semester than by encountering our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration, praying + singing with your peers, listening to witness talks, and growing in community with small groups, fun games, and lots of snacks!

Bring your pillow, sleeping bag, toothbrush, modest comfy clothes, and a snack to share!

Ladies will be on the 2nd floor of the FLC, while the guys will be camped out in the gym. (Rumor has it that the guys will be having a nerf battle!)

Scan the QR  
code to  
register





Join Bonnie & Bob Perry with Father Raja for an

# *Assisi, Rome &* San Giovanni Rotondo Pilgrimage

MAY 4 - 14, 2026



Bonnie Perry  
Phone: 404-944-1395  
email: [Bonnieperryvi@gmail.com](mailto:Bonnieperryvi@gmail.com)  
[www.eocatholic.com](http://www.eocatholic.com) | 800-247-0017

Scan to  
Travel with Us!



## GROW GROUP FOR MEN: A BRIEF HIATUS

GROW – (God Renews Our Walk) – is your space for fellowship, faith-building, and brotherhood among men of the parish. We're pausing our gatherings to recharge with family and celebrate the holidays.

Join us when we resume on **January 15th!** Whether you're new or returning, all men are welcome to walk stronger in faith together.

See you in the new year – renewed and ready!

# NEED A TAX RECEIPT?

Scan the QR Code below  
and fill out the form to  
receive your donation  
receipt!



