

A classical painting of the Nativity scene. The Virgin Mary is on the right, looking down at the infant Jesus who lies in a manger. Joseph is on the left, looking towards the child. Several angels are visible in the background, looking on with expressions of awe and joy. The scene is illuminated by a soft, divine light emanating from the infant Jesus.

LOVE

blessed is the fruit of your womb

Saint Rita Catholic Church

December 21st 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

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 to schedule

Mass Intentions

Saturday • Dec 20

8:30 AM

5:00 PM

Allyce Trapp Alexander +
Charles Ebbecke +

Sunday • Dec 21

8:00 AM

11:00 AM

5:00 PM (esp)

For the People
James R. Werfel +

Monday • Dec 22

8:30 AM

Shelly Scaccia +

Tuesday • Dec 23

8:30 AM

Stephen Jerez +

Wednesday • Dec 24

4:00PM

10:00PM

Joseph P Foley (+)

Thursday • Dec 25

8:00 AM

11:00AM

For the People

Friday • Dec 26

8:30 AM

Werner K Kuhnle +

Saturday • Dec 27

8:30 AM

5:00PM

Bruce William Francez +
Loretta Lowery +

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 reoccurring donation through PushPay.



At Home in the Modern World

God is found in Beauty, and among my interests is the subject of design. As such, one of the few print subscriptions that I maintain in this digital age is titled *Dwell*. The publication advances an aesthetic that is captured by its byline, "at home in the modern world." What a fitting expression to describe the Incarnation and Nativity of Our Lord at Christmas as God makes himself at home with us.

At the forefront of the experience of faith is the tension of our lives as human and divine. Our restlessness in this world points to the longing in our hearts for the harmony of the heavenly realm. It is in this reality that God breaks into our existence, as is remembered in the Eucharist. Included in the Holy Mass is a movement of the commingling of water with wine and is accompanied by a prayer not spoken out loud: "may we come to share the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity."

Yes, God makes himself present in the modern world. He abides with us in our experience of time, space, and beyond. And he delights in being among us. With the virtue of hospitality, may we open our hearts and homes to the wonder and awe that is Jesus Christ. May God always dwell with us!

**Merry Christmas,
Fr. James Valenzuela**

Parish Staff & Ministries

Operations Team



LAURIE MANDREKAR

Business & Finance Manager
laurie@saintritaparish.org
ext. 102



GAIL EPPLIN

Receptionist
office@saintritaparish.org
MCKAY MOEWS



Communications Manager
mckay@saintritaparish.org
ext. 116



TRAVIS SHIELDS

Facilities Manager
facilities@saintritaparish.org



KRISTY SEELIGER

Weddings & Baptism Coordinator
kristy@saintritaparish.org
ext. 111



ALYSSA MILES

Pastoral Assistant
alyssa@saintritaparish.org
ext. 114



HEATHER CARSON

Director of the Pre-School
heather@saintritaparish.org

Liturgies Team



NANCY WESSON

Director of Liturgical Ministries
nancy@saintritaparish.org
ext. 109



GABRIELLE TROFATTER

Director of Liturgical Music
gabby@saintritaparish.org

Faith Formation Team



JENNA DANOS

Director of Parish Mission
jenna@saintritaparish.org



TICIA GALLO

Director of CGS
ticia@saintritaparish.org



ALEX MOLZER

Youth Minister
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

- 1st Sunday (after 11am Mass) - Young Adults at Heirloom Donuts (19 - 36 yrs old)
- 3rd 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

1st and 3rd Thursday

- SVdP Meeting • 9:00AM

Every Thursday

- Men's G.R.O.W. Group 5:00PM

Scripture Readings

For the week of December 21st

SUNDAY FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IS 7:10-14; PS 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; RM 1:1-7; MT 1:18-24

MONDAY

1 SM 1:24-28; 1 SM 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8ABCD; LK 1:46-56

TUESDAY

MAL 3:1-4, 23-24; PS 25:4-5AB, 8-9, 10 AND 14; LK 1:57-66

WEDNESDAY

2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16; PS 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 AND 29; LK 1:67-79

THURSDAY THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

VIGIL MASS: IS 62:1-5; PS 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; ACTS 13:16-17, 22-25; MT 1:1-25 OR MT 1:18-25

MASS DURING THE NIGHT: IS 9:1-6; PS 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; TI 2:11-14; LK 2:1-14

MASS DURING THE DAY: IS 52:7-10; PS 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; HEB 1:1-6; JN 1:1-18 OR JN 1:1-5, 9-14

FRIDAY FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR

ACTS 6:8-10, 7:54-59; PS 31:3CD-4, 6 AND 8AB, 16BC AND 17; MT 10:17-22

SATURDAY FEAST OF SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

1 JN 1:14; PS 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; JN 20:1A AND 2-8

Pray with us for:

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



Christmas

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4PM & 10PM

Christmas Day

8AM & 11AM

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

www.eocatholic.com | 800-247-0017

Scan to
Travel with Us!



JOIN THE

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP!



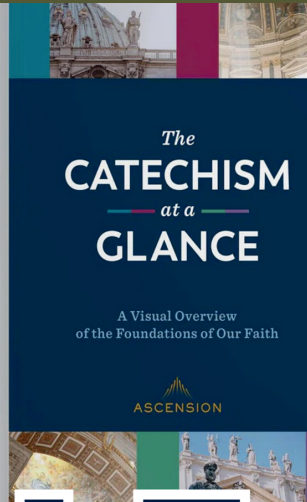
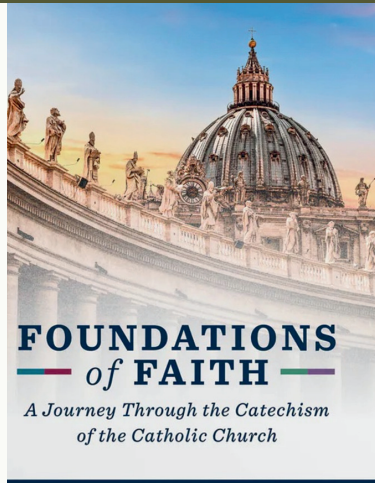
REHEARSALS ARE SUNDAYS @ 2PM 12/14 & 12/21



SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Dec. 31st (New Years Eve)
6:00PM

Jan. 1st (New Years Day)
9am



BIBLE *Study*

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



