

St. Rita of Cascia

A Catholic Faith Community Since 1908

JANUARY 21, 2018
3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

MASS TIMES

SUNDAYS: Sat. 5:30 pm (Vigil), 7:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon
WEEKDAYS: Mon., Tues., Fri, and Sat. 8 am
 (Wed. & Thurs. 8 am Communion Service)
HOLY DAYS: (eve of) 5:30 pm; (day of) 8 am & 6:30 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Confession) Saturdays 4 – 5 pm or by appointment

DEVOTIONS

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Saturday 7:50 am

ADORATION

First Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm, Rectory Oratory

Msgr. Richard Krekelberg — Pastor
Deacon Manuel Valencia • Deacon John Hull

318 North Baldwin Avenue, Sierra Madre

Mailing Address: 50 East Alegria Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Phone: (626) 355-1292 • FAX: (626) 355-2290 • www.st-rita.org

How to Contact Us

Msgr. Richard Krekelberg, Pastor

626.355.1292 x 223 • revkrek@st-rita.org

Dcn. Manuel & Chela Valencia

deaconmanuelvalencia@gmail.com • 355.1292

Dcn. John & Marylee Hull

johnhull65@gmail.com • 355.1292

Fr. Chris Thiel, OFM Cap. (10 am Sunday Mass presider)

Parish Office/Church Mailing Address

50 East Alegria Ave., Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Mon.-Fri. 9:15 am to 6pm; Sat. 9 am to 1 pm

ParishAdmin@st-rita.org • 355.1292

Director of Administration

Charlene Henkelmann: charlene@st-rita.org • 355.1292 x 222

Pastoral Council

Parish Office: 355.1292

Finance Council Chair

Bill Sullivan: 355.3707

St. Rita School Office: 626.355.6114

Principal: Joanne Harabedian • harabedian@st-ritaschool.org

Director of Liturgy & Music

Paul Puccinelli: 355.1292 • mm@st-rita.org

Director of Religious Education

Cristina Cullen: 355.1292 • dre@st-rita.org

Director of Youth Ministry/Confirmation

Theresa Bui Costanzo: 626.590.8828 • ym@st-rita.org

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) Team

Dcn. Manuel & Chela Valencia, Gary Fidone, and

Susan Blakeslee: 355.1292 • rcia@st-rita.org

PARISH MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Liturgy & Worship

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers:

David & Jill Muhs: 355.9810 • em@st-rita.org

Altar Servers:

Youth—Kathy Ganino: 626.398.9302 • katganino@charter.net

Adult—Bill Cosso: 355.5656

Eucharistic Adoration:

Kathy Ganino: 626.398.9302 • katganino@charter.net

Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Group:

Susan Day: 355-3835

Sacristans:

Sat. 5:30 pm: Gary Fidone

Sun. 7:30 am: Bill Cosso/David Banis;

Sun. 10:00 am: David Muhs/Paula Garavaglia/Terri Eliassen;

Sun. 12:00 pm: Bernie Grace

Porter (Evening Church Lockup): Sheila Palazzolo; Tim O'Connor

Environment: Parish Office • 355.1292

Ministries & Organizations

Bereavement Ministry: 355.1292 • bereave@st-rita.org

Christian Family: Ana Ptasinski 355.3146

Greeters & Ushers: Erny Henry • 446.6715

Men's Club: Dave Loera • 355.3382

St. Rita Filipino American Group: Noel Wychico • 960.2623

St. Rita Guild: Margaret Fullinwider 355.3647 • Leonore Crilly 355.0631

Senior Ministry: Marilyn McKernan • marilyn@st-rita.org

Shawl Ministry: Mary Taillac 355.3179 • Marilyn Delgatto 355.8717

Cub Scout Troop 110: Missy Augustyn 644.1404 • thealist@sbcglobal.net

Knit & Crochet Ministry: Ana Ptasinski 355.3146 • Ann Wolf 355.7445

Amazing Grace Prayer Ministry: Tom Tharayil • 348.9003

Knights of Columbus Council 5137: Dave Loera • 355.3382

Other Contacts

Archivist: Marilyn McKernan • marilyn@st-rita.org

Bulletin Submissions: bulletin@st-rita.org or drop off at Office

Public Relations: ParishAdmin@st-rita.org

Registration Information: rc@st-rita.org • 355.1292

Webmaster: Ralph Seymour: seymour@seymourmedia.com

Let Saint Rita Be There For You . . .

Communion for Sick and Homebound Parishioners

St. Rita Eucharistic Ministers provide Communion home visits. Contact the Parish Office • 355.1292 or Jill Muhs • 355.9810 • em@st-rita.org

Anointing of the Sick

Please notify us (355.1292) for the Anointing of the Sick, the sacrament intended for the seriously ill or dying and Our Lord's special presence and companionship in serious time of need. Anointing may take place in the home, at the hospital or elsewhere and as often as once a month. If someone should die without anointing, remember that the desire to receive is sufficient.

If You Should Experience the Loss of a Loved One, Please Call Us at 355.1292

If you feel you will be in need, or your loved one has passed, we will assist in making arrangements with your chosen funeral director; refer you to our Bereavement Ministry and Music Ministry; and offer you helpful guidelines that will aid in the selection of readings for a Mass or Memorial Service. We know this can be a tough time and we want you to know that your parish is here for you. **PLEASE UNDERSTAND** we only have one resident priest; sometimes arrangements for another priest may be needed.

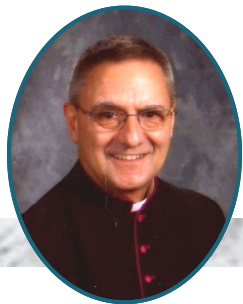
✘ For Information Regarding These Sacraments ✘

Baptism—Please contact the Parish Office for further information on the Baptism process and requirements.

Reconciliation and First Eucharist—Preparation for children who have attained the age of reason (usually during 2nd grade) is arranged either through the Office of Religious Education or St. Rita Elementary School.

Matrimony—Contact the Parish Office upon engagement; at least six months is needed for preparation of this joyous sacrament!

Confirmation—A two-year program for freshman/sophomore age teens. Apply through the Office of Youth Ministry.



Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Picking up from the Gospel of John, last Sunday, which recounted John the Baptist's handing on of the baton to his cousin, Jesus, and his consequent instruction to his disciples to follow HIM, we turn to Mark's account today which depicts Simon and Andrew, James and John dropping and abandoning everything to do just that—follow Jesus. Last week I wished to underscore the obvious theme of “Call and Response.” And, of course, the most important call and response of one's life, has to be one's ongoing and dynamic vocation from God. But the readings of this Sunday actually bring about a shift in theme as they draw our attention to what has to be part of the first request on the lips of one who follows,

“TEACH ME YOUR WAYS
O LORD!”

How could it be otherwise? Except that when we figure out that life is indeed a vocation, then we must also realize that we need to be schooled by the Master in the ways of that vocation—HIS ways. The people of Nineveh demonstrated that it is possible even to have learned God's ways, but then to willfully stray from them for whatever motive. And St. Paul, like Noah long before him,

reminds those who stray that time could be running out on repentance: “For the world in its present form is passing away.” So if vocation was the word for last week, FORMATION is the word for this week.

Last week I asked, “Do people see their lives as vocations?” This week I must follow up with, “Do we recognize our constant need for formation in our faith?” If we are not so aware of our daily lives as vocations from God, it is not a wonder that formation in God's ways can too easily, even too tragically escape us. For that reason, personally, I welcome and celebrate all the new opportunities in our Church for continuing education and formation.

This is a good thing. After all, we entrust our lives to all types of professionals and civil servants upon whom we depend to be formed and educated in the best and the latest. We are right to expect training, education, certification, license, and degrees for those entrusted with our education and spiritual formation in the Faith.

So as you and I consider today, Simon-Peter and Andrew, James and John, let it not escape our notice that

before they were “licensed” and sent out at Pentecost, they literally walked and journeyed with the Lord for three years, being mentored and schooled by Jesus himself! What education and formation could be more important for any one of us than formation in the ways of the Lord—our formation in Christ? For all of us at St. Rita and for all in our church who would be teacher and/or student, let our prayer be that of last week's Samuel—“Speak, O Lord, your servant is listening!”



In the mind of St. Rita Pastoral Council (and in my mind), declaring a “Year of the Holy Eucharist” at St. Rita, was all about providing opportunities for that particular part of faith formation. We are working hard to get those opportunities up and running. Would you believe Eucharist on Facebook, Instagram, and even podcasts? Stay tuned. In the meantime, thanks to all of our ministries and groups that have already introduced Eucharist formation into their 2018 plans and schedules –AND to you who have submitted your personal commitment forms!

—Msgr. Richard

Personal Note: Thank you for your understanding and support regarding my sharing with you that I needed to significantly reduce the use of my voice. I had an appointment on Monday with my doctor and he was most pleased and impressed with the effort! I am also sorry that this new reality even further diminishes my allowance to accept invitations and schedule appointments. My secretary, Paula, has her instructions—please be kind and merciful to her.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

8:00 AM Ignacio Aliman, Jr. RIP
 5:30 PM Emily Hernandez INT

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

7:30 AM For all parishioners
 10:00 AM Msgr. Douglas Saunders RIP
 12 NOON Alice E. Gonzales RIP

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

8:00 AM Rigoberto Torres RIP

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

8:00 AM Joanne Goodwin INT

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

8:00 AM Communion Service

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

8:00 AM Communion Service

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

8:00 AM Kevin Craig INT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

8:00 AM John Kaiser RIP
 5:30 PM Lynn Snetsinger RIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

7:30 AM Patrick Sciarra RIP
 10:00 AM For all parishioners
 12 NOON Gerri Fraser INT

The Rosary & the Chaplet of Divine Mercy are recited as a group at 7:20 am before the weekday Masses.

FEAST DAYS & OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: St. Vincent;
 St. Marianne Cope
Wednesday: St. Francis de Sales
Thursday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Friday: Sts. Timothy & Titus
Saturday: St. Angela Merici

Today's Readings

First Reading — The people of Nineveh believed God and turned from their evil ways (*Jonah 3:1-5, 10*).

Psalms — Teach me your ways, O Lord (*Psalms 25*).

Second Reading — The world in its present form is passing away (*1 Corinthians 7:29-31*).

Gospel — This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (*Mark 1:14-20*).

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO REQUEST OUR PRAYERS —



Joe & Toni Baiunco, Jacquie Marshall Martin, Teresa D'Agostaro, Salvatore D'Agostaro, Carol Cerrina, Carmen Ruiz, Art Contreras, Jeffrey Torres, Mario De La Torre, Grace De La Torre, Maria Blust, Rosemarie Casalicchio, Glen Blaser, Barbara Blaser, Daisy Walters, Leslie Lemus, Salvatore Termini, Cathy Hundshamer, Mary Rodriguez, Tessa Milward, Wayne Steven Dow, Pete & Daisy Olson, Gil Lazo, Tim Jebbia, Margaret Fala, Hannah Waken, Robert & Clare Greteman, Lalo Arriaga, Jim Crilly, Trini Marti, Joann Little, Luz Arriaga, Doug Peterson, Sandra Osborne, Evelyn Tres, Gerald Drean, Toni Navarro, Clare Marquardt, Tonyja Blakeslee, Addie Marshall, Jackie Bagnuolo, Edith Olah, Fred Mycroft, Joseph Moore.

Loyola Marymount University Presents:

A Conversation with Archbishop Gomez

Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018
 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Ahmanson Auditorium
 University Hall

Loyola Marymount University cordially invites you to join President Timothy Law Snyder, Ph.D., for a celebration to honor José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles. The university will bestow upon him an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in recognition of his leadership role with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and his dedication to immigration reform, social justice and the future of Catholic education.

The evening will begin with the honorary degree conferral ceremony followed by the Archbishop's lecture in support of the Academy of Catholic Thought and Imagination's conversation on "The Idea of the Catholic University in the 21st Century." He will speak on the charisms and obligations of the Catholic university in the contemporary context, with particular attention to Southern California. A facilitated conversation, including Q&A, will follow the Archbishop's remarks; all attendees are invited to submit questions.

Reception to follow. Free and open to the public with RSVP. Visit www.lmu.edu for more information.



ST. RITA SCHOOL NEWS

PLEASE JOIN US for our annual celebration of National Catholic Schools Week, beginning Sunday, January 28 at the 10:00 am Mass.

The theme, "*Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.*" highlights our focus on faith development, academic excellence and dedication to community service. Following Mass, visit our Admissions Fair in Gara Hall from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. for an interactive art display and hands-on S.T.E.M. activities led by our students. Teachers in grades 4 through 8 will also present the many opportunities we offer our students at St. Rita School, such as:

- S.T.E.M. Program in TK-8, developed by Rice University
- Dual Math Program offering accelerated pacing and advancement
- Teacher's College Units of Study in Writing

- Comprehensive Balanced Literacy Program
- Championship sports program
- Public Speaking, Speech & Debate, and Drama
- Fine Arts Program
- L.E.A.P.S Enrichment Program High School Admissions Process

Campus tours will be offered as well, and refreshments will be served on the East Campus playground.

A Catholic Education is An Advantage For Life

Children's Ministries

Elementary Religious Education

This program for children in Grades 1 - 5 begins with Sacrament Preparation and continues to invite children into a personal relationship with God through prayer, the Bible, liturgy, and church history. Classes meet on Monday afternoons during the school year.

Preschool Sunday School

Our Sunday School program provides Bible stories, art projects and various activities while creating a safe environment for your preschool- and kindergarten-aged child (ages 3-5) during the Sunday 10 a.m. Mass. Come join us upstairs in Gara Hall!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children in 1st grade and older are invited to be dismissed from Sunday 10 a.m. Mass after the Opening Prayer and go to Gara Hall where they will have the opportunity to listen to the Sunday readings at an age-appropriate level. Children return just before the Liturgy of the Eucharist to continue to participate in Mass.

Cristina Cullen • dre@st-rita.org

Youth Ministry

High School Youth Nites

2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, throughout the year. Join us for faith, fun, and fellowship! Upcoming:

1/31 • 7:00-8:30 p.m. • Gara Hall

EDGE Middle School

• Monday Fun Day: 2/5

Confirmation Program Meetings

• Year 1 Meeting & Mass:
Saturday, 3/3 • 3:30 p.m.

Theresa Costanzo • ym@st-rita.org

Young Adult Ministry

Please contact us for more information on this Ministry for adults between 18 and 39, single or married.

Biceps & Bibles Upcoming Meeting:

• Saturday, February 17 at 3:00 p.m.

Priya Tharayil • trosep84@yahoo.com

Bulletin Deadline

Ten days before desired publication date.
bulletin@st-rita.org • 355-1292 x226

BIBLE STUDY:

The Acts of the Apostles

Thursdays, from 7:00—8:30 p.m.

Join parishioners and Catholic Bible Institute graduates Jim and Alice Cobbin for a weekly course of study in their home. BYOB—bring your own bible! Space is limited, so please call to reserve your spot.

For more information:

Jim Cobbin
(626) 390-6951

jimcobbin001sr@gmail.com

"All scripture is inspired by God (God breathed) and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness. (2Tim 3:16)

Get Involved—Join A Ministry!

Do you have a New Year's Resolution to become more involved in your parish? St. Rita has a wide range of ministries for each family member to get connected and grow closer to God. We especially need **choir members, musicians, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, and altar servers.**

God has equipped each of us with talents and gifts that he wants to use to expand his kingdom. You can be a blessing to your church and your community. Check out Page 2 for a list of organizations and their contacts, or call the parish office.

**MEN'S RETREAT
COMING IN MARCH**

Men of St. Rita Parish will want to set aside the time of March 23-25 for our Annual St. Rita Men's Retreat at Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center. Make sure you don't miss this spiritually rewarding time of peace and renewal.

For more information:

Bill Cosso
(626) 355-5656
bill@cosso.net

**SEPARATED & DIVORCED
SUPPORT GROUP**

at Holy Family Catholic Church

Divorce or separation is troubling and painful to most people. The support group's goal is to become a source of spiritual strength and wisdom to process the grief, to ease the pain, and to give comfort and hope to those recovering from separation and divorce. We offer an ongoing group: Thursdays 7:00 – 9:00 pm in the Pastoral Center at Holy Family Catholic Church, 1501 Fremont Avenue, S. Pasadena. No charge.

For more information:

Terri Lynn Doubet
(818) 729-0577

Bereavement Training

The L.A. Archdiocese Office of Worship is offering an eight-week training program for Bereavement Ministry, which will run from January 11 through March 8, 2018.

With care, dignity, and proper training, we can offer immeasurable solace to those left behind. For more information, please contact the parish office.

**BLOOD DRIVE
FOR THE CITY OF HOPE**

Today, January 21, 2018
8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
O'Malley Hall

This is our first Blood Drive for the City of Hope. They use a lot of blood and what they don't get through donations, they must purchase. Walk-ins are also welcome!

For more information:

Marilyn McKernan
626-355-1292 ext. 233
marilyn@st-rita.org

This Week at St. Rita

Today, January 21, 2018

City of Hope Blood Drive

8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. • O'Malley Hall

See Page 5 for more information

Today, January 21, 2018

Breakfast Burritos by the Men's Club

After all the Masses • Gara Hall

Monday, January 29 — Baptism Class

7:00 p.m. • Parish Office Meeting Room

Registration is required. Please call the parish office to register.

Tuesday, January 30 — RCIA/Adult Faith Enrichment

7:30 p.m. • Parish Office Meeting Room

Save the Date

Next Sunday, January 28, 2018

Kickoff Catholic Schools Week

See Page 4 for more information.

Tuesday, January 30—Many Gifts, One Nation

24 hours of giving, from 9 a.m. Tuesday — 9 a.m. Wednesday

See next week's bulletin for details!

Friday, February 2—First Friday

See below for information on incorporating Adoration into your family's Year of the Eucharist routine.

March 23—25, 2018

St. Rita Men's Retreat at Mater Dolorosa

See Page 5 for more information.



This Year of the Eucharist at St. Rita is a wonderful opportunity to extend your prayer time and meditation by visiting the Holy Sacrament. As always, you are welcome to visit on First Fridays of each month by going to the Parish Office Chapel.

Normally, adults visit the Blessed Sacrament for an hour of prayer, but we are extending the invitation to parents when they pick up children from school. Come to the Parish Office after school (between 3 and 5 pm) with your child, even if only for 15-20 minutes to pause and pray in silence. You do not have to sign up; just come for a while. This will be a wonderful way to introduce quiet moments of prayer for your child.



Capital Campaign Corner

*YOU CAN LEAVE A LASTING
LEGACY TO ST. RITA'S!*

We are so grateful for each and every one of our supporters through the years! You can create a bigger impact than you may have ever thought possible simply by thinking ahead and making a commitment to provide long-term support to St. Rita's Church.

As you create or refine a plan to protect and provide for your family, please remember that you can include a gift to St. Rita's that will continue to be a spiritual home for your family for years to come, and carry on a lasting legacy of your values.

Making a gift is easier than you may think. Depending on the gift arrangement that you choose, you can:

- * Feel secure about the future of your loved ones.
- * Maintain control of your assets for life.
- * Receive tax benefits.
- * Give more than you ever thought possible.

You can make sure St. Rita continues to receive the support needed far into the future. If you are interested in exploring a planned gift, please contact **Mara Chimenti**, in the Parish office at **(626) 355-1292 x232**. If, in the course of your planning, you have already honored St. Rita through a planned gift, we would appreciate hearing from you.



Newsnotes

Catholic Community
& Local Events

Respect Life Rosary—Monday, January 22. Mark the 45th anniversary of Roe vs. Wade with a peaceful, one-hour event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, San Gabriel Valley Chapter. 12:00 p.m. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Building, 125 S. Grand Avenue, Pasadena, 91105 .

Information: David Flores • (626) 422-3211
Tim O'Donnell • (818) 731-4983

Ash Wednesday Day of Recollection—Wednesday, February 14. Prepare for the holiest season of the year with a day of prayer that will include conferences, confession, Eucharist adoration, Holy Mass with the distribution of ashes, Stations of the Cross, and time for silent prayer. 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. \$65/person, breakfast and lunch included. Sacred Heart Retreat House, 920 E. Alhambra Road, Alhambra, 91801.

Information: (626) 289-1353 x203
sacredheartretreathouse.com

**CONGRATULATIONS TO HENRY GARDNER
ON ATTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT ON JUNE 22, 2017.**



About Henry's project:

Henry's Eagle Scout project was at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center in Sierra Madre. Henry was tasked with giving a large meadow a complete make-over. The project involved preparing and planting an eco-friendly, drought and deer resistant flower meadow in a large area of land leading to the Cross. This pathway to the Cross now has a meadow with a special seeds mix for year round flowering. The goal was to enhance the area's contemplative environment.

In addition to the meadow, Henry (with a skilled craftsman/family friend) built an ADA-compliant bench overlooking the meadow and Cross. With the generous contributions of numerous volunteers, the project took over 400 hours to complete.

St. Rita Church and School have been life changing for the Gardner family. With the current Capital Campaign, it wasn't possible to do Henry's Eagle Scout project at St. Rita's. However, Henry felt working at Mater Dolorosa was a natural extension of giving to St. Rita's.