

St. Rita of Cascia

A Catholic Faith Community Since 1908

August 14, 2016

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

Mary Lou Butler: mlbutler@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 • jharabedian@st-rita.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/Stephen Bollman

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

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

Sun. 12:00 pm: Bernie Grace

Weekdays: John Bigley

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

Environment: Mara Chimenti • 355.1292 x232

Ministries & Organizations

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

Christian Family: Diana Snyder • 824.0125 • missladydi@yahoo.com

Greeters & Ushers: Emy Henry 626.289.3504 • 626.327.9480

Men's Club: Ed Driscoll • driscomic@aol.com

New Members/Welcomes: Contact the Parish Office

St. Rita Guild: Joan Crow 355.3621 • rbcrow64@yahoo.com

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

Shawl Ministry: Mary Taillac 355.3179 • Marilyn Delgatto 355.8717

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.

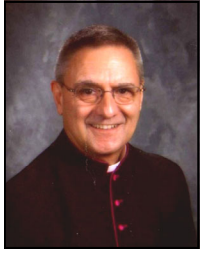
✘ For Information Regarding These Sacraments ✘

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.



REV. MSGR. RICHARD KREKELBERG

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

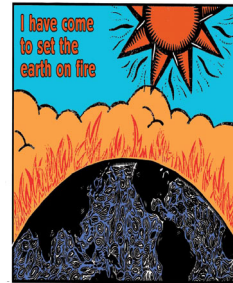
Renewed Life in Christ

At first I struggled with finding the link between the First Reading and the Gospel passage for today, until I remembered that the Prophet Jeremiah is often offered as prefiguring Jesus' own journey, his paschal mystery. The way they treated Jeremiah for his truth telling would be the way Jesus himself would be treated—and worse! So we hear Jesus' words of "bringing division" (not our usual image of him), and we know from the first reading that he is no doubt headed for big trouble. We love the image of Jesus walking through the locked doors of the upper room after he has risen, and saying to his disciples who had abandoned him, "Peace be with you!" But stop and think what all transpired before that moment: abandonment, cruel crucifixion, and profound confusion and bewilderment on the part of those who had placed all their hope in the Messiah.

When I was a kid growing up, I became fascinated with what happened if you stomped on an anthill. I was mesmerized by the image of all the ants scattering in every direction in frenetic confusion and at a complete loss as to what just happened. (This was, obviously, before St. Francis of Assisi got to me and I began to view ants as my

brothers and sisters.) Soon, however, I discovered that if I returned a day later or so, the ants had completely reorganized and built the mound back up higher than it was before! I believe the parallels between ant behavior and the human experience are many. I dare say that many of you have already compared your own experience of life or the events of human history to the destroyed anthill image long before I related it to you today.

In some ways, I suspect that Pope Francis' papacy is stepping on the secure anthill of our church. Like Jeremiah was attempting to shake the people up with his "Repent! Return to the Lord your God!" and like Jesus was warning his followers that "From now on a household... will be divided," Pope Francis is declaring a dramatic and fundamental return to the Gospel. At this time athletes of the world are gathered in Rio de Janeiro; three years ago it was hundreds of thousands of youth gathering with Pope Francis, who told them to "Shake up the Church!" Ever since, spin doctors, talking heads, and ecclesiastical pundits have been scurrying like ants to figure out just what this pontiff is talking about—where is he leading us? How DO we get back to being the Church? It



almost seems that The Holy Father was given Jesus' own mandate: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it already blazing!" As this Pope leads us to renewed life in Christ, what a gift!

In some ways I feel as though our little anthill here at St. Rita Parish has also been stirred up by our call to stewardship and our efforts towards a Capital Campaign. Before I applied to be pastor of St. Rita, one priest friend described the parish as "sleepy." Well, I didn't find the parish comatose, but I did find it in need of a wake-up call. Nobody wants to be awakened out of a comfortable snooze, but once awake, the promise of a new day can be exhilarating and exciting. As we move on and move forward, my prayer is that no one will want to throw me down a muddy cistern, and that all would want to embrace the call of Jesus to renewal in His way, His truth, and His life. After all His fire is not the fire of destruction and ruin; His fire is the fire of The Holy Spirit and of transforming grace—our very salvation!

—Msgr. Richard

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—AUGUST 14, 2016 4

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

8:00 AM Amanda & Paul Koster RIP

5:30 PM Al Kirkwood INT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

7:30 AM For All Parishioners

10:00 AM Jackie Hayes RIP

12 NOON Grace Sinner RIP

MONDAY, AUGUST 15—FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8:00 AM Rev. Allan Roberts RIP

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16

8:00 AM Lloyd Heekin RIP

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

8:00 AM Communion Service

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

8:00 AM Communion Service

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00 AM Gary McGuigan INT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

8:00 AM Socorro Pedroza Rodarte RIP

5:30 PM Brian Butler RIP

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

7:30 AM Grace Sinner RIP

10:00 AM Ailey E. Gardner-Ybarra RIP

12 NOON For All Parishioners

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO REQUEST



OUR PRAYERS —

Joann Little, Brittany Rhyne, Leslie Lemus, Luz Arriaga, Gwen Franklin, Lynn Snetsinger, Randy Graff, Paul Viger, Isabel Rosas Curci, José Zuniga, Joseph J. Gruppie, Patricia Greer, Ron Jones, John Collins, Doug Peterson, Sandra Osborne, Linda Theriault, Guia Canizales, Margie Schubert, Evelyn Tres, Gerald Drean, Maria Carmen Marti, Toni Navarro, Clare Marquardt, Tonyja Blakeslee, Addie Marshall, Jackie Bagnuolo, Mary Ellen Isoard, Edith Olah, Fred Mycroft, Joseph Moore.



Susan Poulsen
wife of Kristian



August 27 & 28 Mission Cooperation Appeal



Fr. Dennis Phiri, a priest of the Diocese of Chipata (Zambia) will be with us to tell us about his work and to appeal for your prayers and your financial help to fund tuition and lodging costs for future priests.

Chipata Diocese has a population of 1.5 million people, of which about 400,000 are Catholics. There are 26 parishes and several institutions, with only 60 priests. There is a need to find resources to fund the formation of seminarians.

Please use the special envelope in your Offering packet or those available in the Vestibule. Please think about your possible donation now and come prepared to give.

Thank you for your generosity.

FEAST DAYS



Monday—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday—St. Stephen of Hungary
Friday—St. John Eudes
Saturday—St. Bernard

Today's Readings

First Reading—They took Jeremiah and threw him into the cistern (*Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10*).

Psalm—Lord, come to my aid! (*Psalm 40*).

Second Reading—Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith (*Hebrews 12:1-4*).

Gospel—I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing (*Luke 12:49-53*).

RCIA



Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)
Begins Tuesday, September 13
Parish Office Meeting Room • 7:30 - 9pm

Do you, or any adult you know, want to be baptized, receive your First Holy Communion, or be confirmed? As a practicing Catholic, have you ever wanted to know more about your faith? Do you wish you understood the Mass or Confession better? Or felt like you are stalled in your spiritual journey? Do you wonder what is a spiritual journey? Have you struggled to find time to pray?

All of us have a yearning for permanent perfect joy; it is that seed of Eternity in our soul...it is a natural desire for God. The ancients recognized this restless loneliness very well. As Psalm 42 begins: "As the deer longs for running streams, so my soul longs for you, O God."

Why not consider taking the RCIA journey this year? We meet every Tuesday until Holy Week, with holiday breaks. There is absolutely no pressure. Come check us out! We would love to meet you!

Parish Office 355-1292 or deaconmanuelvalencia@gmail.com

Youth Ministry

EDGE Middle School

~We'll see you in September.~

High School Youth Nite

► Wednesday, August 24, 7:00-8:30 pm

Youth Nites are available for all high school teens on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights from 7-8:30 pm on the field (St. Rita Meadow) in the middle church parking lot. Join us for faith, fun and fellowship!

Theresa Costanzo • ym@st-rita.org

Religious Education

Religious Ed Registration

All children in grades 1-5 are welcome to join our Religious Education program here at St. Rita. Registration materials are available in the Parish Office, on our website or via email. **Fee is \$65/child.** Please be sure to include a copy of your child's baptismal certificate as well. Classes meet every Monday from 4-5:15 pm and begin on September 12.

Cristina Cullen • dre@st-rita.org

Young Adult Ministry

Please contact us for more information on this Ministry for adults between 18 and 35, single or married.

Priya Tharayil • trosep84@yahoo.com

Bulletin Submissions

Deadline is 10 days before desired publication date.

Questions? Contact Rosemary—

Bulletin@st-rita.org • 355-1292 x226



The work in Gara Hall has temporarily removed most of the Handicapped Parking. During the summer, the entire upper parking lot (near the school) is now designated "for Handicapped Only."



Monday, August 15 Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On November 1, 1950, Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However, by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's Assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testament, her Assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory.

St. Rita Religious Items Available



We have been able to resupply some of the items that were sold out very early on St. Rita's Feast Day. We have both 8" and 12" St. Rita statues; enamel crosses with St. Rita in the center; crystal St. Rita rosaries—these were all new items this year and were very well received! We also have St. Rita candles, several types of medals, holy cards, and the ever-popular rose petal rosaries along with novena booklets and more. All sales proceeds go to the St. Rita Shrine Fund.

Stop by the Parish Office during regular business hours: M-F, 9:15 until 5:45.

For more information:

Marilyn McKernan • 355-1292 x233 • marilyn@st-rita.org

Bible Study

Begins Thursday, September 15 • 7 pm until 8:30 pm



A 10-week course of study of St. Paul's Letters: Galatians & Ephesians. Just bring your Bible and a notepad. Presented by parishioners Jim & Alice Cobbin in their home.

► **Space is limited.**

For more information:

Jim Cobbin • 626/390-6951 • jimcobbin@icloud.com

This Week at St. Rita

Monday, August 15—Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- ▶ Not a holy day of obligation.
See page 5 for information.

Save the Date

Sunday, August 21—Religious Education Information Sunday

Outside of the Church after all the Masses
Religious Education & Youth Ministry—Registration available.

August 27 & 28—Mission Cooperative Appeal
See page 4 for more information.

Monday, August 29—Baptism Preparation Class
7-8 pm • Parish Office Meeting Room
Please pick up registration forms from the Parish Office prior to Class.



Tuesday, September 13—RCIA begins
See page 4 for more information.

Thursday, September 15—Bible Study Begins
See page 5 for more information.



Capital Campaign

Q: Congratulations on the progress being made on PAC Hall. It is exciting to watch the building being renovated and we can't wait to see the finished product!

I have a question about tax deductions for our donation. I am making regular payments on a pledge. Are these payments tax deductible? Can I deduct for my whole pledge before it is completely paid?

A: Thanks for your comments about the renovation. It is exciting to watch as things change each day and we also look forward to seeing it completed. In response to your question about donations, yes, St. Rita is a 501-C3 non-profit, and all donations are deductible if no service or value is received for the donation. However, you can only deduct the amount of actual payment. So, for example if you are giving \$200 a month for two years, you can deduct \$2,400 each year as long as that is, in fact, what you have paid on your pledge.

Do you have questions or comments about the Campaign? Please email:

mlbutler@st-rita.org
or drop off at the Parish Office.

Mary Lou Butler • 355-1292 x222

Newsnotes

Catholic Community & Local Events

September 16-18—A "Beginning Experience" Weekend. For those who have experienced the loss of a spouse through death or divorce/separation. Holy Spirit Retreat Center, Encino. Info/registration:

*Peg 818/767-1007 or Brenda 818/352-5265
Beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com*

Open Now—Vatican Splendors: A Journey Through Faith and Art. One of the rarest collections of Vatican art and objects to ever visit North America. **Open through August 28.** At the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, 40 Presidential Drive, Simi Valley 93065.

*Information: 805/577-2704
www.ReaganFoundation.org/VaticanSplendors*

Maintenance & Repair Report—July 2016

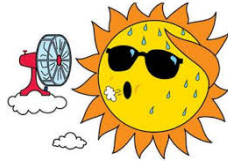
Income (blue envelopes) \$ 8,064.00

Expenses include: utilities; ordinary maintenance; plumbing & electrical supplies; and other minor repairs. \$ 9,681.00

Shortfall < \$ 1,617.00 >

Thank you to all those who regularly donate to our special monthly Appeal. **If you haven't donated** to this account in the past, please consider making a regular monthly donation.

We need everyone's help! The Edison bill for the month of July was \$4,336 to keep the Church and Offices cool.



Remember all donations to this fund remain at St. Rita.

If you don't receive monthly Offering envelopes, simply mark any envelope or your check "Maintenance Only."



St. Rita School

Remember, you can purchase Scrip and Gift Cards in the School Office throughout most of the summer. Some of the gift cards are for Sierra Madre businesses as well as for local grocery stores, restaurants, and retail stores.

Many parishioners have supported our Scrip Sales for many years. Why not join them, in an easy and convenient way, to help the School?

St. Rita School Office • 355-6114



Our bulletins are printed at no cost to the Parish because of the revenue from ads. We encourage you to check the Bulletin when you're looking for help. Do you need an accountant or a realtor, looking for a doctor, or looking for a meal out? Please patronize those who advertise in our Bulletin—and don't forget to tell them:

"I saw your ad in the St. Rita Sunday Bulletin."

For ad rates and info,
contact J.S. Paluch • 800/231-0805