



When you hold a banquet,
invite the poor, the crippled,
the lame, the blind.

Luke 14:13

St. Rita Catholic Parish

A Faith Community Since 1908

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

22ND 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

Rev. Thomas Baker — Pastor

Deacon Manuel Valencia • Deacon John Hull (retired) • Deacon Chuck McDaniels

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

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frtombaker@st-rita.org • 355-1292

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Deacon John & Marylee Hull, Retired Deacon Couple
johnhull65@gmail.com • 355-1292

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Fr. Chris Thiel, OFM Cap., Weekend Supply Priest

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Louellen Tschopp eff@st-rita.org

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) 355-1292
Dcn. Manuel Valencia / Susan Blakeslee / Gary Fidone rcia@st-rita.org

PARISH LIFE & MINISTRY

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Amazing Grace Prayer Ministry
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Church Environment
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Knights of Columbus, Council 5137
Stan Pinta kofc@st-rita.org

Knit & Crochet Ministry
Ana Ptasinski & Ann Wolf knitcrochet@st-rita.org

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers
David & Jill Muhs em@st-rita.org

Prayer Shawl & Lap Blanket Ministry
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St. Rita Guild
Margaret Fullinwider & Lenore Crilly guild@st-rita.org

St. Rita Men's Club
Allen Boyle mens.club@st-rita.org

Senior Ministry
Marilyn McKernan senior@st-rita.org

Ushers & Greeters
Dave Loera ushers@st-rita.org

Volunteer Coordinator
Sheila Palazzolo volunteer@st-rita.org

Young Adult Ministry/Biceps & Bibles
Priya Tharayil yam@st-rita.org

SACRAMENTS**Baptisms**

First Sunday of the month after the Noon Mass. Registration and Catechesis are prerequisites. Please contact the Parish Office.

Marriages

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

Reconciliation and First Eucharist

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

Confirmation

A two-year program for freshman/sophomore age teens. Please apply through the Youth Ministry Program.

Communion for the Sick and Homebound

St. Rita Eucharistic Ministers provide Communion home visits. Contact the Parish Office.

Anointing of the Sick and Funeral Liturgies

Please notify us for the Anointing of the Sick, the sacrament intended for the seriously ill or dying which brings Our Lord's special presence and companionship in serious time of need. If someone should die without anointing, remember that the desire to receive is sufficient.

If 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.



Humility

Dear Parishioners and Visitors:

In Webster's dictionary it defines humility as not proud or arrogant. In the first reading from Sirach we hear these words of wisdom: "humble yourself the more the greater you are, and you will find favor with God." If you watch any sporting event, it is refreshing to see a humble winner. While there are great athletes, many are very full of themselves and very arrogant. They make a huge show of what they have accomplished through the assistance of others. As followers of Christ we must constantly be on guard from having the world revolve around us. The world revolves around God, who was humble enough to "accept death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:6). Jesus is God yet he, great as he was, humbled himself and took on our human form. Though he is all-powerful he is not proud or arrogant. With strength of spirit he obediently accepted death for our salvation. He has shown us the way. No matter how small or great our position, we are called to follow him – our God – who came to serve and not to be served.

God wants to accomplish great things through us, but we have to be humble enough to be God's instruments. The virgin Mary is a very good example of someone who was a vessel of God's presence. She was joy-filled and all generations call her blessed, because she was humble enough to say yes to God and God's plan for her life. May our lives reflect her humility and joy, so that we too may be called blessed among people. Peace.

—Fr. Tom

P.S. In three weeks we have our Ministry Fair. It is vital that every baptized person consider ways to connect and grow in faith. This Ministry Fair will offer a variety of ways to connect and grow – a variety of ways to serve – and I hope you entrust yourself to God's grace and allow Him to move you to serve. We need you.

WELCOME FR. MIKE OHANATE

With great joy I introduce Fr. Mike Ohanate to all of you here at St. Rita Parish. Fr. Mike and I served together for 10 years at Sacred Heart Church in Lancaster while he worked on his doctorate in school administration. He is currently serving in Nigeria and will be vacationing this month, staying here at St. Rita Parish.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

8:00 AM Rudy Van Cleef RIP
5:30 PM Christa Owen RIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

7:30 AM Patrick Sciarra RIP
10:00 AM Rod Otto RIP
12 NOON For all parishioners

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

8:00 AM Dcn. Chuck Baker INT

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

8:00 AM Molly Lynch RIP

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:00 AM Communion Service

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:00 AM Communion Service

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:00 AM Daniel Hernandez RIP

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:00 AM Payslee Haworth INT
5:30 PM For all parishioners

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7:30 AM Rudolph Van Cleef RIP
10:00 AM Fr. Ed Broom OMV INT
12 NOON Joseph Luke Jarvis RIP

*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. Gregory the Great

Thursday: St. Teresa of Calcutta

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Conduct your affairs with humility (*Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29*).

Psalm — God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor (*Psalm 68*).

Second Reading — You have approached the city of the living God (*Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a*).

Gospel — Those who humble themselves will be exalted (*Luke 14:1, 7-14*).

PLEASE PRAY FOR
THOSE WHO REQUEST
OUR PRAYERS:

Bryan Bullough, Charles Baker, Susan Lubeley, Katherine Haderlein, John Lex, Jr., Linda Medina, Michaelyn Fidone, Pat McClelland, Richard Santiago, Gilbert Gonzalez, Paul Viger, Genise Tully, Lee Valladolid, John Bigley, Ronald Van Orden, Mary Kiss, Lisa Bowman, Alison Lex, Charlie Arredondo, Erny Henry, Dorothy Van Gorden, Scott Van Gorden, Benjamin Mamaril, Susie Pinter, Susan Devin, Sawtell John, Inez Ybarra, Josephine & Joseph Gruppie, Francesca DiFranco, Pat Hrstich, Charlotte Meyer, Richard Forcione, Mary Kathryn Genzlinger, Heidi & Terry Kelly, Toni Baiunco, Jacquie Marshall Martin, Teresa D'Agostaro, Carmen Ruiz, Maria Blust, Rosemarie Casalicchio, Glen Blaser, Barbara Blaser, Daisy Walters, Salvatore Termini, Mary Rodriguez, Pete & Daisy Olson, Margaret Fala, Hannah Waken, Clare Greteman, Lalo Arriaga, Jim Crilly, Trini Marti, Joann Little, Luz Arriaga, Doug Peterson, Sandra Osborne, Evelyn Tres, Gerald Drea, Toni Navarro, Clare Marquardt, Tonyja Blakeslee, Edith Olah, Fred Mycroft, Joseph Moore.

Please note: names on the Sick List are published for thirty days unless otherwise requested. To add or remove a name, please contact the Parish Office or email:

bulletin@st-rita.org

Bulletin Deadlines

Articles for inclusion in the bulletin must be emailed to bulletin@st-rita.org ten days before desired publication date.

Bulletin issue: Submit blurbs by:

**September 15 Thursday, September 5
September 22 Thursday, September 12**

Thank you for your cooperation!

WOMEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND
at MATER DOLOROSA

*God Is Doing Something New in Us:
Exploring Paths of Deepening Faith*

St. Rita's retreat for women will be held at Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center on the weekend of **November 1—3, 2019**. Join your fellow parishioners for this weekend of spiritual enrichment and growth. The Passionist retreat team offers inspirational talks on the theme, as well as time for quiet prayer, Mass, Confessions, and Stations of the Cross. You may register online at materdolorosa.org.

For information and reservations:

Ana Ptasinski, retreat captain
(626) 355-3146

Jill Bunch, co-captain
(626) 372-9860

Vivian Montoya, co-captain
(626) 253-6193

*After September 30th, contact Nancy Boldt,
Weekend Retreat Coordinator, at Mater
Dolorosa directly (626-355-7188 x133).*

We are told by all spiritual writers that one important point to bear in mind, as we seek to attain humility, is not to be surprised by our own faults and failures.

—François Fénelon

ADORATION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

This Friday, 8:30 AM—5:00 PM
St. Rita Parish Oratory



Sit with Christ. Know His presence; share in His suffering; receive the promises of His Sacred Heart.

Faith Formation News

INTRODUCING OUR NEW FAITH FORMATION STAFF MEMBERS!

Louellen Tschopp* — Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation

Louellen is a wife and mother of three children attending St. Rita School. Louellen’s family has been parishioners since 1981. She has taught middle and high school religion classes and served as a Confirmation catechist last year.

Raquel Hernandez* — Coordinator of Confirmation & Youth Ministry

Raquel has worked as a Confirmation coordinator for two years and volunteered for nine years in parish Youth Ministry. She has served on the LA Archdiocesan youth leadership formation teams (CLI and SAW South) and interned at Life Teen International as a young adult missionary.

**Mandi Welman and her family have moved to Arizona, and Jackie Hischier has stepped down in order to focus on finishing college. Jackie now serves as a youth ministry volunteer.*

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION FOR ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION, FIRST COMMUNION, AND CONFIRMATION

Registration is available next Sunday, September 8, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Gara Hall. This will be the last day to register without a late fee. Scan this code to complete the forms online:



**FAITH FORMATION KICKOFF MASS
CATECHETICAL SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 AT 10:00 A.M.**

All elementary faith formation families are invited to attend the 10 a.m. Mass on this annual “Catechetical Sunday” to bless all Catholic parents and catechists as the new faith formation year begins.

SINGERS WANTED!



Come sing at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels for the 2019 Los Angeles Catholic Prayer Breakfast.

REHEARSAL:

**Thursday, September 12
7:00—8:30 p.m.**

St. Rita Catholic Church
318 N. Baldwin Avenue
Sierra Madre, 91024

MASS AND PRAYER BREAKFAST:

**Tuesday, September 17
7:00—9:00 a.m. (Be there 6:15 a.m.)**

Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels
555 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, 91002

To sign up, please contact:

**Paul Puccinelli
(626) 355-1292 x231
mm@st-rita.org**

Youth Ministry

High School Youth Nites

All high school youth are welcome to these semi-monthly gatherings of FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, and FUN. They occur every 2nd and 4th Wednesday nights (except holidays), 7:00—8:30 p.m. in Gara Hall. **Youth Nites are on a summer hiatus.** Have a safe and blessed summer break!

Confirmation Program

Confirmation registration for the 2019-2020 school year runs until September 8. Please email Raquel Hernandez at ymcoordinator@st-rita.org if you wish to receive the registration packet. Also, please save the date: Confirmation Orientation for all parents and high school freshmen will take place on **Saturday, September 21, at 3:30 p.m. in O’Malley Hall.**



RCIA/ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Come Along on Tuesday Nights

RCIA, the “Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults” is the path the Catholic Church provides for any adult who wants to become a Catholic or, perhaps, needs to receive any of the sacraments. Were you baptized or, maybe, even received your “First Communion” but were never “Confirmed?” Do you want to have a better relationship with Jesus Christ, or generally refresh and deepen your knowledge of your faith? You could simply be curious about this Church and faith that is so much in the news now. Well, come along with us on Tuesday nights! We meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Office conference room beginning on Tuesday Sept. 10, 2019 and come to a high point with the reception of the sacraments at the Easter Vigil mass on April 11, 2020. There is absolutely no pressure. Our meeting on Sept. 10 is informational where we explain our format and answer your inquiries. God may be trying to start a conversation with you...for a few months, give yourself the gift of time on Tuesday nights to explore this idea.

For more information:

**Parish Office
(626) 355-1292 • rcia@st-rita.org**

This Week at St. Rita

Monday, September 2 — Labor Day

Parish Offices will be closed in observance of the holiday.

Wednesday, September 4 — NO Bible Study

*Next week we begin a study of the life of Abraham: Genesis 12—25.
All are welcome!*

Friday, September 6 — First Friday

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. • Parish Office Chapel
See page 4 for more information.

Save the Date

Tuesday, September 10 — RCIA Informational Meeting

7:30 p.m. • Parish Office Meeting Room
See Page 5 for details.

Friday, September 13 — St. Rita Guild Meeting

9:00 a.m. • Parish Office Meeting Room
All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend!

Tuesday, September 17

Los Angeles Catholic Prayer Breakfast
See next Sunday's bulletin for more information.

VIRTUS Training Sessions in O'Malley Hall

CERTIFICATION

Wednesday, September 18, from 6:00—9:00 p.m.

FINGERPRINTING

Thursday, September 19, from 11:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

RE-CERTIFICATION

Wednesday, September 25, from 6:00—9:00 p.m.

*Please call the St. Rita School Office
for more information, or to RSVP.*

Sunday, September 22—St. Rita Ministry Fair

Come see what makes our parish special!
More details to follow.

Sunday, September 22 — Catechetical Sunday

Join us for Faith Formation Kickoff Weekend.
Watch future bulletins for more information.



VOLUNTEER CORNER

Consider sharing your time, talent & treasure!

TAKING YOU AS WE GO...

Become a Eucharistic Minister to the Sick!

Celebrating the Eucharist is at the very heart of our faith. However, many of our fellow St. Rita parishioners cannot join in the celebration at church. It could be a transportation difficulty, illness, distance to our church or other reasons.

To ensure that our community can stay connected and can receive the Eucharist, St. Rita sponsors the Eucharistic Ministry to the CLIMB Work Activity Center and to The Kensington. A script is given as a guild and you are accompanied by other Eucharistic Ministers (EMs).

Not an EM? No Problem! Call the Parish Office at (626) 355-1292.

What does an EM to the Sick do?

The EMs pray with the parishioners and give them Communion.

What is the Commitment?

The commitment is about 20 minutes per week on Sunday morning. Our current EMs say they get much more out of this ministry than they give!

What should I do if I'm interested in this ministry?

Please contact:

Kristin McNeal
mcneal.kristin@gmail.com



The St. Rita Staff enjoyed a day of renewal at Sacred Heart Retreat Center in Alhambra last Friday. Thank you to Fr. Parker Sandoval, Coordinator of Adult Faith Formation for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, for his insights on discipleship and evangelization.

The Office of Worship, Archdiocese of Los Angeles presents:

MINISTERS OF CONSOLATION TRAINING

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a gentle Father and the God of all consolation, who comforts us in all our sorrows, so that we can offer others, in their sorrows, the consolation that we have received from God." ~ 2 Corinthians 1:3-5

5 Consecutive Sessions

**Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
September 7th to October 5th**

\$25 per session

Santa Teresita Hospice
819 Buena Vista Street
Duarte, CA 91801
St. Therese Conference Room, 1st Floor



For more information:

Eva Hernandez
ehernandez@la-archdiocese.org • (213) 637-7547

Online registration:

<http://store.la-archdiocese.org/ministry-of-consolation-st-teresita-sep-7th>

SESSIONS:

Paschal Mystery

✕ ✕ ✕

**Liturgy: Order of Christian
Funerals**

✕ ✕ ✕

**Role of the Community and
Accompaniment**

✕ ✕ ✕

**Establishing the Ministry
in the Parish**

✕ ✕ ✕

Effective Ministers

✕ ✕ ✕

Diverse Losses

✕ ✕ ✕

**Bereavement Support
Groups**