

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

Anyone of you who
does not renounce
all your possessions
cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:33

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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St. Rita Catholic Parish

A Faith Community Since 1908

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

23RD 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
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Deacon Chuck & Linda McDaniels, Permanent Deacon Couple
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Fr. Chris Thiel, OFM Cap., Weekend Supply Priest

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

Senior Ministry
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Ushers & Greeters
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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.



Following Jesus

Dear Parishioners and Visitors:

Back on Sunday, August 18, Jesus said in the gospel he had come to set the earth on fire. He went on to say, “Do you think I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.” Today’s gospel seems to be similar to that gospel as Jesus says, “If anyone comes to me without hating father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.”

How challenging the call to follow Christ. The first commandment must be our primary focus – God! We ought to be on fire for God, who “loved us so much he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him might not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Jesus is God’s gift to us. He puts a human face to the divine and calls us to do the same. We reflect the divine when we burn (on fire) with love for God and demonstrate it in our service to others.

The first part is to **hear the call** of Jesus. The second part is to **give our lives** entirely over to Jesus. If we hear the call and give our lives to the radical call of Jesus, it shouldn’t surprise us that it brings division, for many do not take the narrow path to salvation. Our family is very important, but even they must never supplant God’s primacy in our lives. May we take up the cross of Jesus, a cross of sacrifice, surrender and death to self – so that we can live for God and share in His redemptive mission as we serve others. Peace.

—Fr. Tom

P.S. In two 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, 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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

8:00 AM Rudolph Van Cleef RIP

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:00 AM Patrick Sciarra RIP

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

8:00 AM Communion Service

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

8:00 AM Communion Service

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

8:00 AM Stanly Ptasinski RIP

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

8:00 AM Frances Belak RIP
5:30 PM Robert & Anna Schrodt RIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

7:30 AM For all parishioners
10:00 AM Frank Pumerville RIP
12 NOON Michael Owen RIP

FEAST DAYS & OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. Peter Claver
Thursday: The Most Holy Name of Mary
Friday: St. John Chrysostom
Saturday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You sent your holy spirit from on high and thus were the paths of those on earth made straight (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

Psalm — In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Psalm 90).

Second Reading — Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus as a brother (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

Gospel — Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? (Luke 14:25-33)

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 22 Thursday, September 12
September 29 Thursday, September 19

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).*



ST. RITA SCHOOL
FAITH · EXCELLENCE · SERVICE

"A Catholic Education is an Advantage for Life"

St. Rita School is still accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year. Instruction focuses on faith development and academic excellence. Students forge lifelong friendships through their academics, sports and multiple enrichment opportunities. Teachers create and foster learning environments where all children are challenged to utilize a variety of innovative problem solving and analytical skills to become 21st century leaders of our church and society at large. Schedule a tour to learn more!

For more information:

Sara Landis
(626) 355-6114

landis@st-ritaschool.org

Faith Formation News

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

Registration is available TODAY, September 8, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Gara Hall. *Today is the last day to register without a late fee.*

**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.

**ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION
SESSIONS BEGIN MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23 AT 4:00 P.M.**



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.**”

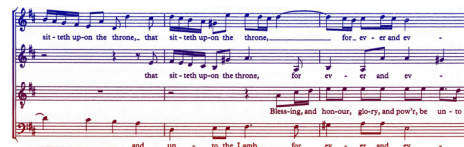
MINISTRY FAIR
connect · grow · serve

**SAVE THE DATE:
ST. RITA MINSITRY FAIR**

You have many wonderful talents; some may still be hidden. We would love for you to use these talents and join forces with fellow parishioners to make St. Rita Parish shine. Our Ministry Fair showcases the wonderful works our 30+ different ministries do with their gifts. Allow us to share with you and your family what makes our parish special. Please come meet our volunteers and see if there is a ministry that is right for you. There will be snacks, activities, and raffle prizes.

**Sunday, September 22
O’Malley Hall
after all Masses**

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**



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 THIS 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

Tuesday, September 10 — RCIA Informational Meeting

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

See Page 5 for details.

Wednesday, September 11 — Bible Study

We begin a study of the life of Abraham: Genesis 12—25.

All are welcome!

Friday, September 13 — St. Rita Guild Meeting

9:00 a.m. • Parish Office Meeting Room

All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend!



Save the Date

Monday, September 16 — Cub Scout Ice Cream Social

7:00—8:00 p.m. • Gara Hall

September 18—25

VIRTUS Training Sessions

See page 7 for specific dates and times.

Sunday, September 22

St. Rita Ministry Fair after all the Masses

Come see what makes our parish special!

See page 5 for more information.

Sunday, September 22 — Catechetical Sunday

Join us for Faith Formation Kickoff Weekend.

See page 5 for more information.

Monday, September 23

Faith Formation Classes Begin

See Page 5 for more information.

Friday, November 1 — Sunday, November 3

Women's Retreat at Mater Dolorosa

See Page 4 for details.



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



2019 BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you for your continued generosity to the St. Francis Center's Backpack Drive. They held their annual Back to School Event last month, where they provided low-income youth in the pantry program everything they need to be well prepared to head back to school.

St. Rita Community was able to provide hundreds of backpacks, school supplies, and additional donated funds to support the cause, and our Youth Ministry members had all hands on deck to sort donations at the Parish offices for pick up. Congratulations and thank you to all who participated in supporting and supplying the children of our future to succeed!

A FRIENDLY VIRTUS® REMINDER

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles mandates all staff, whether paid or volunteer, and all volunteers who work in any capacity with or around children, the elderly, or people with special needs are required to complete the initial three-hour **VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children for Adults** program. Please call St. Rita School to register for a training session if you have not already done so. Here are the following dates for the next training sessions:

VIRTUS® TRAINING**Wednesday, September 18th****6:00–9:00 p.m. in Gara Hall**

This session is required of those who have not taken the VIRTUS® training before, or for those whose status has lapsed.

FINGERPRINTING**Thursday, September 19th****11:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. in O'Malley Hall**

If you have been fingerprinted for the Archdiocese before, you do not need to do so again, regardless of status.

An appointment is required for fingerprinting, and slots are limited.

Please call the St. Rita School Office at (626) 355–6114 to schedule.

VIRTUS® RE-CERTIFICATION**Wednesday, September 25th****6:00–8:00 p.m. in O'Malley Hall**

Re-certification is only required of those who have already completed the VIRTUS® training before, and whose status has not lapsed.

For more information on the VIRTUS® Training Programs, please visit:

<http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/safeguard/Pages/education.aspx>