

Happy Easter!

Happy Easter and welcome to the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia! We are grateful that you have decided to commemorate and celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord with us this year. Whether you have been to the Shrine before, or this is your first time visiting, please know that we are glad you are here, and hope you find a place of authentic encounter, life-giving renewal, and transforming peace.

Almost 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ did the impossible: He conquered death by rising from the dead! When He was crucified a few days prior, the world - including His closest friends - thought He was finished. Today, however, we know that Christ's selfless act of love was not the end, but the beginning; darkness was dispelled by light, despair was replaced with hope, and death gave way to new life. We celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death because we have been redeemed, and we have come to believe that nothing is impossible with God!

The life of Saint Rita - our patroness and the patron saint of impossible causes - is a testament to this faith and to perseverance in moments of trial. We pray that our mission and ministry continue to carry forth this message of hope today and in the days to come.

From our entire staff - the Augustinian Friars, lay employees, and volunteers - at the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia, we wish you a blessed and very happy Easter!

Shrine Staff

Donna Candelora, Esq.	Mr. Paul Koenig	Fr. Jim Paradis, O.S.A.	Br. Bob Thornton, O.S.A.
Fr. Bob Guessetto, O.S.A.	Mrs. Debbie Martino	Mrs. Tatiana Riani	Mr. Joseph Tierno
Mrs. Valerie Iezzi	Fr. Dan McLaughlin, O.S.A.	Mr. Michael Santini, Jr.	
Mr. Jonathan Jerome	Deacon Olindo Mennilli	Ms. Yuli Saputro	





The Resurrection of the Lord

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 30, 2024

Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter

8:00 p.m. Members & Benefactors of the Shrine

Sunday, March 31, 2024

Resurrection of the Lord

10:00 a.m. Members & Benefactors of the Shrine

Monday, April 1, 2024

Monday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. † Caroline & Pierre Ledee
12:00 p.m. † Eleanor & Pat Condello

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Tighe & Lacey Family (living & deceased)
12:00 p.m. † Ruth Mary Service

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Members & Benefactors of the Shrine
12:00 p.m. † Daniel & Marie Castagno

Thursday, April 4, 2024

Thursday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. Alonzo Vargas & Family
12:00 p.m. † Freda Powell

Friday, April 5, 2024

Friday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. † Lee Barone
12:00 p.m. † Frankie Soli & Christopher Carire

Saturday, April 6, 2024

Saturday in the Octave of Easter

8:00 a.m. † Connie Di Nubile
12:00 p.m. Alonzo Vargas & Family
5:00 p.m. † Job Magola

Mission Statement

The National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia is a Roman Catholic community of worship and spirituality rooted in the Augustinian tradition. The Shrine seeks to inspire and reach into the community with the values and witness of Saint Rita, an Augustinian saint known as a healer, reconciler, and peacemaker. Following the Gospel message of Jesus Christ and the footsteps of Saint Rita, the Shrine welcomes people from all walks of life to encounter God and to discover healing, reconciliation, and peace.

Vision Statement

As we deepen an awareness of the life of Saint Rita and the ministry of the Shrine locally, nationally, and internationally, we desire to grow as a place of prayerful pilgrimage, transforming sacrament, and compassionate pastoral services of encounter.

Bread & Wine Offering

Mary D'Alessandro (†)

Sanctuary Candle

† = Deceased

To learn more about the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia, or to support our mission and ministry, visit us online at: www.SaintRitaShrine.org

Social Media: [@SaintRitaShrine](https://www.instagram.com/SaintRitaShrine)



Healing Mass: April 21, 2024

12:00 p.m. Mass | Upper Shrine

11:15 a.m. Confessions | Lower Shrine

Do you find yourself mentally, physically, spiritually, socially, or emotionally burdened? We invite you to join us for our next Healing Mass on Sunday, April 21, 2024 to pray for Saint Rita's healing intercession, and to receive a special blessing with Saint Rita oil. Fr. Bill Gabriel, O.S.A. will be the celebrant and homilist. **We hope to see you there!**

To have and to hold...

For 117 years, couples have been celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage in our beautiful and historic Shrine church. If you (or a loved one) are looking for a place to get married, why not consider the Shrine? To learn more, contact our Wedding Coordinator, Valerie Iezzi, at **267-414-8506** or weddings@saintrita Shrine.org.



The Strength to Seek Help

All of us occasionally have problems in dealing with the demands and perplexities of daily life and our relationships. From time to time we can get "stuck" and have the need to sort out the challenges and choices to be made. The physical and emotional exhaustion that has resulted from the Coronavirus pandemic has, for many, only added to this burden. These are the times when we can benefit from talking with a person who is trained in the skills of Pastoral Counseling and psychotherapy. Here at St. Rita's Shrine, we have resources on staff to help. Fr. Jim Paradis, O.S.A. is a certified pastoral counselor, and Br. Bob Thornton, O.S.A. is a clinical psychologist. Both draw on the resources of faith and psychology to help people burdened by personal, couple, and family problems. It is a sign of strength to face and seek professional guidance with such issues. If you would like to learn more, please call Fr. Jim Paradis, O.S.A., D.Min. at **215-546-8333, ext. 1400**.

Saint Rita, humble and pure; patient and compassionate lover of Christ Crucified! We have confidence that everyone who has recourse to you will find comfort and relief. Listen to our petitions and show your power with God on our behalf.

Looking for a special gift?

The Shrine Gift Shop is the perfect place to find the perfect gift!

- Rosaries & Medals
- Cards & Books
- Statues & Candles
- Saint Rita Socks
- and so much more!

Open 7 days a week:

Monday - Friday: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Visit us, shop online, or call: 215-546-8335



You're invited to join us **every Thursday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.** for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Please prayerfully consider stopping by the Lower Shrine Chapel to join us for a few moments of prayer and reflection.

"End of Life" Planning Session

Save the date and plan to join us on **Friday, April 19, 2024** for our inaugural "End of Life" Planning Session (and lunch). Presentations on burial services, estate planning, and the funeral liturgy will be offered to help ease the burden often associated with end-of-life care. For more information, call **215-546-8333**.



Are you restless? Are you searching? Do you have the desire to live in a community of friends that is Christ-centered? Do you have the desire to bring that very same connection to others? "Restlessness" is a key aspect to the Augustinian way of life, igniting their common search for God through prayer, community life, and ministry. To learn more about the Augustinian way of life, our Friars, and the charism of community, visit **BEAFRIAR.ORG** or call **610-519-4674** to speak with Fr. Joe Narog, O.S.A., Province Vocation Director.

Mother's Day Novena

May 12, 2024 - May 20, 2024

Looking for a special way to honor your mother and other mother-like figures in your life? We invite you to join us in prayer for our annual Mother's Day Novena!

If you didn't receive our recent mailing but want to enroll your loved ones in our Mother's Day Novena, call the **Shrine Office at 215-546-8333**. We look forward to praying for and with you throughout this powerful period of intercession.

Mass Intentions & Liturgical Offerings

Do you have someone you want to remember or celebrate? You can offer a Mass and have a Liturgical Offering for a loved one at the Shrine. To schedule a Mass intention, Bread and Wine Offering, or Sanctuary Candle Offering, please call the Office at **215-546-8333**.

To learn more about other local events and programs, visit: www.SaintRitaShrine.org/virtual-bulletin

BATHROOM CODE: 1-2-5-6



2024 ANNUAL APPEAL: A WEEK OF GIVING

Wednesday, April 24, 2024 - Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Will you answer the call?



WE NEED YOUR HELP.

For the second year in a row, we want to connect with as many of you as possible. That's right! Instead of a traditional mailed Annual Appeal, we have decided to call each of our 16,000 patrons over the span of a week!

We want to check in with you, update your contact information, share some of what is happening at the Shrine, and collect your prayer intentions for our Solemn Novena and Feast Day.

And, with your help and support - only \$30 a family - you will help us meet our goal of

\$250,000



Help us address mental health issues by subsidizing pastoral counseling, psycho-spiritual therapy, and spiritual direction.



Help us preserve the aging infrastructure of the Shrine for all who visit, especially the next generation of Catholics.



Help us combat violence by educating our student pilgrims on the importance of peacemaking and reconciliation.

To learn more about our Week of Giving, visit: www.SaintRitaShrine.org/giving

Pray with us!

Don't forget that you can submit your prayer requests on our online prayer board. Prayer requests are kept confidential and are placed in a petition basket below the reliquary area of Saint Rita in the Lower Shrine. We will remember your intentions during each of our daily Masses. Saint Rita, pray for us!

saintritashrine.org/prayer-intentions

Save the dates!

SOLEMN NOVENA to SAINT RITA

Monday, May 13, 2024 through Tuesday, May 21, 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 Mass Time: 10:00 a.m.	13 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	14 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	15 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	16 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	17 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	18 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)
19 Mass Times: 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. (Healing Mass)	20 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	21 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	22 THE FEAST OF ST. RITA OF CASCIA See the full schedule below	23 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	24 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	25 Mass Times: 8:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)
26 Mass Time: 10:00 a.m.	27 MEMORIAL DAY Mass Time: 9:00 a.m.	Daily Confession Monday through Saturday 10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.				

SOLEMN FEAST of SAINT RITA

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Mass Times	
8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Confession Times	
9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.



A blessing of roses and a veneration of the relic will take place at all Masses.

Roses will be available for purchase before each Mass in front of the Shrine.