

Saint Rita

PARISH



2019 GUIDEBOOK & DIRECTORY

7100 Jefferson Hwy • Harahan, LA 70123 • (504) 737-2915

St. Rita of Cascia

Catholic Church and School

St. Rita of Cascia Catholic Church

Dear Parishioners of St. Rita Catholic Church in Harahan,

It is my pleasure to make available to you this updated directory. In it you will be able to familiarize yourself with the various ministries carried out here at St. Rita Parish, as well as the people involved in these ministries, who happen to be you and your neighbors. We are truly blessed to have so many wonderful parishioners who give their time, talent, and treasure to help us carry out the great commission we received Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to “Go... make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (*MT 28:19-20a*)

Please take a few minutes to review the many ways we, as a parish community, reach out to those in need, teach what we believe, and help build up the kingdom of God. Perhaps GOD MAY BE CALLING YOU to participate in one of these ministries or to propose new ways of reaching out to those in need and so help us to bear more fruit in the vineyard of the Lord.

I am very grateful to all who work so diligently and dedicate themselves to making St. Rita Parish a community of faith, supportive of the family, compassionate to the suffering, and provident to those in need. Many lives are transformed by the sacrifices made and the selfless love shown by so many souls, and many even more can be helped by the gifts and talents YOU have to offer.

May the Lord continue to bless our community with faith and give us the grace to carry out His Divine Will.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Steve

St. Rita Catholic Church and School

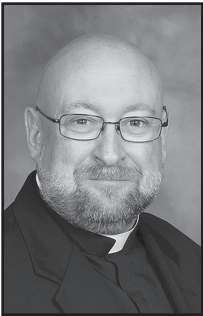
7100 Jefferson Highway
Harahan, LA 70123-4928
504-737-2915
www.stritaharahan.com

Mass Schedule

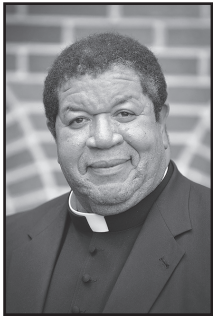
Sat. Vigil:	4:00 pm
Sunday:	7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am
	7:30 pm
Mon-Fri	7:00, 8:30 am
First Saturday:	8:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday:	3:00-3:45 pm
Sunday:	8:30-9:15 am & 6:45-7:15 pm And by appointment



Pastor:
Fr. Steven Bruno
frbruno@arch-no.org



Parochial Vicar:
Fr. Kenneth Smith
ksmith@arch-no.org

DEACON (retired):Nolen LeBlanc
DEACON: Daniel Flynn
DEACON: Gary Borne
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Paige Mosley
parish@stritaharahan.com
CRE:Erin Maffe
Emaffe@arch-no.org
PRINCIPAL:Miriam Daniel

School

194 Ravan Avenue
504-737-0744
stritahar@arch-no.org

CAFETERIA: 504-737-2773

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS

Holy Communion will be brought to the home. Please call the church office when someone is ill and unable to come to church, or when someone is in a hospital. Prayers may be requested for the sick and elderly.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Our St. Joseph Perpetual Adoration Chapel is located on the first floor of the Msgr. Champagne Complex on the corner of Jefferson Hwy. and Ravan Ave. and is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (For everyone's safety, only assigned adorers are allowed entry with a key code between the hours of 8:00 pm and 7:00 am)

Prayerfully consider spending an hour a week with our Divine Lord. If you cannot commit for a specific hour, why not consider being a substitute? If you are interested, please contact the church office at 504-737-2918.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sacrament is administered upon request to those near death, gravely ill, permanently handicapped, very elderly, and those undergoing major surgery.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

3rd Sunday of each month following 11:30 am Mass

BAPTISM SEMINAR

Parent and Godparents are required to attend a baptism seminar which is usually held the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Mary Room at the rectory. Parents must attend the baptism seminar before their child can be baptized.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements should be made 6-8 months in advance by the bride and groom in person. Call one of the parish priests before coming. Couples must attend one of the pre-marriage courses.

FUNERALS

The family of the deceased should consult one of the parish priests concerning the time and place of the funeral before making commitments with the funeral home.

NEWCOMERS

Welcome, we are happy to have you. Please fill out an application in the binder at the front entrance of the church.

St. Rita of Cascia Ministries

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist in serving the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ at all Masses and **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound** bring the Eucharist to the sick and shut-ins of the parish if they desire. You may also assist in the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday. In order to sign up for this vital ministry in the church, one must be a baptized Catholic of strong moral character in good standing with the Church. Once you sign up and are approved by the pastor, you will be provided the required training by both the Archdiocese and the parish.

Lectors proclaim the Word of God at the celebration of Mass. In order to sign up for this vital ministry in the church, one must be a baptized Catholic of strong moral character in good standing with the Church. All participants must be pre-approved by the pastor. Once you sign up and are approved by the pastor, you will be provided the required training by both the Archdiocese and the parish.

Sacristans are the “behind the scenes” backbone of the liturgies celebrated at St. Rita. They come well before anyone to set up all the necessary items used in the various liturgies, and usually leave after everyone else. They estimate how many hosts and how much wine will be necessary for Mass and prepare them in the sacred vessels. They turn on the lights and make sure the air-conditioners are on. They set out the various books and light the candles. They take care of the sacred vessels and books, and clean up the Altar area and the sacristy after Mass. They arrange the flowers on the back altars and set up for funerals. With great humility, they do all the little things many people take for granted, but are things we simply cannot do without.

Altar Servers are very important to St. Rita parish. Their responsibilities include assisting the priest and deacon before, during and after mass. They serve on the weekends as well as at school masses. They are sometimes asked to serve on Holy Days, Feast Days, at Benedictions, Stations of the Cross, etc. Those interested in becoming an Altar Server must be in fourth grade or higher, have received First Communion and be able to maintain a spirit of reverence.

The Music Ministry strives to lead the congregation in prayer through music. We welcome singers and instrumentalists in our parish to give of their time and talent to offer praise to God in song. The adult choir meets in church to practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and sings at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday. The youth choir rehearses before Mass and sings at the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday. Instrumentalists are needed at all Mass times and special occasions. The 7:30 pm Mass is now moving toward more Contemporary style music and is open to young people interested and joining this new choir.



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Ushers/Ministers of Hospitality

This ministry serves at all five weekend Masses welcoming parishioners and visitors to our church, finding seats if needed, taking the collection (4 to 12 needed each Mass), answering questions, handing out bulletins, etc. after Mass and assisting where may be needed. Ushers/Ministers also serve at special Masses during the year including Holy Days of Obligation. There are no dues and we have one business meeting a year. If interested in joining our ministry speak to any of our active members at the usher cabinet near the church main entrance and give them your name, phone number, e-mail address (if you have one), and preferred Mass or volunteer to help when needed with no commitment. Students needing service hours are very welcomed. Claude and Nellie Barsoza are also available for additional information at 504-738-3585.

The Altar Society members take care of the altar linen, the flowers and assist with decorating the church for holy days and special church events. We assist in maintaining the neat appearance in the interior of the church. Annual dues are \$15.00. Meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of the month from September through May following the 8:30 am Mass. Altar Society members are involved in many activities during the year.

For spiritual growth, we have guest speakers twice a year. We also hold two night meetings twice a year for members who work. Our outreach to the parish is through our prayer blankets which are given to our homebound and to our parishioners who are ill and going through surgery. We participate at the Pecan Festival each year with our Confetti Egg Booth. The Altar Society has a few socials during the year including a Christmas Luncheon, breakfast at the rectory and a Day of Reflection at the Archdiocese Retreat House. All parishioners are invited to join us. Our mission is to foster companionship and spiritual growth among our members and the parishioners of St. Rita Church.

The Bereavement Committee provides an opportunity to comfort to families of St. Rita Parish who have lost a loved one by providing food for the family after a funeral. The committee is made up of 12 groups. Each group consists of 5 – 6 members and is on call for 2 weeks in a 6 month period. In the event of the death of a parishioner, the family will be contacted, and if the family wishes, the group will prepare food for about 10 – 12 people, and deliver it to a location designated by the family within St. Rita Parish.

If the funeral is held at St. Rita Church, refreshments are provided at the family's request, during the visitation prior to the funeral Mass.

The Bereavement Committee hosts a Memorial Mass once a year, usually during Lent, for parishioners of St. Rita Parish and family members of parishioners who passed during the prior year.

The committee meets twice a year, in June and December, for a social, and review the past year. Membership is open to all parishioners. It's an opportunity to provide some comfort and support to St. Rita families during a very stressful and sad time.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation is designed for individuals, both adults and children who are in the third grade or older, who are not yet baptized and who wish to become Catholic; individuals baptized in another Christian tradition who wish to become Catholic; baptized Catholics who have not received First Eucharist; and baptized Catholic adults who have not received Confirmation. The RCIA process involves a journey that takes place through distinct stages over a period of time suitable to bring about a thorough catechesis, significant experience of the parish community, and commitment to the liturgical and moral life of the Catholic faithful. If you are interested in learning more or are interested in working in the RCIA please contact the Parish Office at 737-2915 for more information.

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Program

Our CCD program is committed to the Catholic education and formation of children who do not attend a Catholic school. St Rita CCD offers classes for students entering Kindergarten through the seventh grade after 9:30 Mass on Sunday mornings during the school year. High School CCD is held on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm. We also offer instruction to children with special needs, to prepare them for the Sacraments and the life of faith.

Confirmation

At our Baptism, the Holy Spirit descends upon us, fills us with divine life, and transforms us into a temple of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation completes the grace of Baptism as we are enriched by a special outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands and anointing by the bishop, which seals and confirms the baptized in union with Christ as they are sent forth to bear witness to Christ by word and example.

In the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Confirmation takes place in the eleventh grade or the Junior year of high school. Confirmation at St. Rita usually takes place in the Spring. All those to be confirmed must attend our Confirmation Preparation program which takes place on select Sundays starting at 6 pm and concluding with 7:30 pm mass.

St. Rita School serves students, their families, the community, and the Church by providing opportunities for spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, and physical growth. Thus empowering all students to reach their fullest potential and preparing them to be well rounded citizens of today's world. It was founded in 1953 to provide the families of St. Rita Parish with a Catholic education.

Today, the school exists for this same important purpose. St. Rita School's mission is to educate the whole child by celebrating Catholic tradition and pursuing academic excellence in a caring community that prepares them in mind, body, and spirit for a productive, Christ-centered life.

St. Rita School has been recognized as a Blue Ribbon School by the United State Department of Education twice. In 1998 St. Rita School was nationally recognized as an outstanding academic institution through the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Program, and in 2007 St. Rita School was awarded the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award as a Top 10% school.

St. Rita School received initial accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in December 2003. Since that time, St. Rita has maintained accreditation status with AdvancED through its ongoing commitment to school improvement.

St. Rita Home & School Association

The objectives of the St. Rita Home & School Association are:

- To support Catholic education.
- To undertake spiritual, social and educational activities that will advance the welfare of the students, the organization's members, and the parish.
- To provide supportive services for St. Rita School.
- To support stability and enrichment of family life and moral development of youth.
- To promote cooperation and understanding between members of the home and the school.
- To provide a channel of communication and interchange between parents and teachers.
- To strengthen home-school-parish-community ties.
- To provide a vehicle for community awareness regarding education.
- To financially contribute toward the physical maintenance of the St. Rita School plant, whenever possible.

Membership in the St. Rita Home & School Association shall be of three types:

- Active – Active members shall consist of all parents, guardians, or other parties directly involved or interested in the children of St. Rita School. They shall pay full dues as stipulated in the by-laws and will have rights and privileges of the association.
- Inactive – Inactive members shall consist of those relatives and friends of children attending St. Rita School, and who wish by paying dues, to participate in the work of the association. They shall enjoy the same privileges as the active members except that of holding office.
- Honorary – Honorary members shall consist of the pastor and associate pastor(s) of St. Rita Parish, the principal and teachers of St. Rita School and others as approved by the general membership of the board. They shall enjoy the same privileges as the active members.



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The Men's Spirituality Group of St. Rita is open to all men regardless of the parish they reside in. Various study programs including videos from reputable authors are used in the program in an effort to increase one's spiritual knowledge in a group setting that also consists of socialization and dinner. There is no cost to register and all that we ask for is a \$5.00 donation to cover the cost of the dinner. The group meets for nine consecutive months on the first Thursday of the month beginning in September and concluding in May at 7:00 pm in the Msgr. Champagne Complex located on the corner of Jefferson Hwy and Ravan St. in Harahan, LA. For more information, please contact the Parish office at 504-737-2915.

Pro Life Ministry

The mission of the Life & Liberty Ministry is to change minds, hearts and laws in America to bring an end to abortion; protect all life from conception to natural death; expose the dangers of chemical contraception while promoting natural, safe and Church-approved alternatives both for spacing children and treating infertility; support the religious, moral and conscience rights of those threatened by secular laws and regulations not reflecting Church teaching; and to pray for and support the victims of religious persecution around the world. This mission is accomplished through education and calls to action. The Life & Liberty Alert newsletter (email and hard copy in church) promotes local, state and national pro life programs, novenas, rosaries, events, marches and fundraisers; includes reflections, articles and historical religious vignettes; and publishes appeals to contact government officials to support pro life and religious liberty legislation. The Life & Liberty Series provides in-depth research on current issues and how they relate to Church history and teaching. The ministry participates in the city-wide "40 Days for Life," helps support local pregnancy centers, sponsors various activities and speakers, and holds Patriotic Rosaries at Church for life and religious liberty. For information or to volunteer, call Barbara Lacour at 504-738-7093 or bblacour@gmail.com

St. Rita Parish's Advocates for Persons with Disabilities are Sandy Hemmingway and Kathy Livaudais. Parish Advocates are volunteers who act on behalf of persons with disabilities to ensure that all are invited to share in the life of our parish. They serve as liaisons between persons with disabilities and St. Rita Parish and between St. Rita Parish and the Archdiocesan Commission on Persons with Disabilities. If you would like more information you can contact Sandy Hemmingway at 504-738-1315 or Kathy Livaudais at 504-453-1246, klivauda@bellsouth.net

Surviving Divorce is a new ministry of St. Rita Parish. It is designed to help those struggling with the very complicated issues that arise due to divorce. It is a program presented through a DVD but bolstered with discussions which are facilitated by a team of parishioners who have gone through the pain of divorce and have now found a way to emotional and spiritual health. Perhaps you, too, have gone through a divorce or are still feeling the effects of your parents' divorce. This may be a place for you to find support, to give support to others, to renew your faith, and to be healed by the grace of God.

The St. Vincent De Paul Society exists for the sole purpose of assisting people who live on the margin with rent and utilities. It also considers other requests based on need and qualifications. What we actually and normally do is assist people who are unable to pay all or part of their rent and/or utility bills. In doing so we do not limit ourselves to consider other requests for various and sundry needs after a thorough personal review of the family complex and their finances. This information developed by two member during a house visit is then submitted to the entire membership for review and subsequently voted on to determine whether assistance is provided. Two important factors in reaching a conclusion is whether the request is authentic and the need is valid.

The St. Rita Food Pantry serves St. Rita and St. Matthew parishes and furnishes food to those who seek our assistance.

Location: Behind the KC Hall at 375 Oak St.

Hours: Every Thursday from 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Volunteer Activities:

- Teams of 5 work one Thursday per month. Generally volunteers are finished by 2:15 but we are always flexible on times if someone needs to leave early.
- Teams of 2-3 shop weekly at Sav-A-Lot and Walmart. Teams set their shopping times; generally teams go on Tuesday mornings at 8:00 am and on Thursday afternoons after the pantry closes.
- Food drives at St. Rita School – sorting and moving items to pantry and/or storage (4 times per school year in September (back to school drive), November (Thanksgiving drive), January (“Souper” Bowl drive) and March (Fish for Lent drive)). Also, there are food drives ad hoc for T-shirt days and monthly school wide Mass.
- Other bulk donations are accepted and we have a volunteer list to call if something comes in and help is needed to unload/sort.
- We also collect food in church in the Food Pantry boxes by the Imperial Woods doors in the church, or we purchase food using donations collected (envelopes are located by the boxes and there is a blue box for donations located by the ushers table near the main church entrance).

The Knights of Columbus was started 125 years ago by a parish priest Father Michael J. McGivney. The Principles of the order are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Today, as in the past, our mission is to support our Church and our Community. We support and encourage family values. We are a Pro-Life organization. All Catholic men in union with the Holy See may join.

The Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary

We are an organization that is part of the Knights of Columbus. We were founded in 2010 and our mission is to help support the Harahan Food Pantry, the Knights of Columbus St. Rita and our local community.

We typically host four annual events that consist of:

- Mother/son Kickball Tournament
- Family Halloween Fall Fest
- Holiday Sip N Shop
- One other Spring event that rotates what it is.. we have done the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, a Bunco and a community garage sale in years past.

The proceeds from our events are used to supply the Harahan Food Pantry as well as assist others in need.

- Some of our other annual events include the Thanksgiving Basket Prep for the food pantry as well as the Christmas Baskets for the Food Pantry.
- New for 2018 - the Ladies Aux will be organizing the Pecan Fest Auction for both Sat and Sunday events.

We meet once a month on a Weds at the KC Hall and are always open for new members. Our members include women from all walks of life and our purpose is to support the community and each other. Contact Adrienne Jouet (504) 251-1750.

Arch-confraternity of the Holy Face of Jesus

The Most Holy Face of Jesus - what a tremendous gift given to us by our Heavenly Father! To address the cancer of blasphemy, Jesus gave a divine remedy to Sister St. Pierre. It is called the "Golden Arrow Prayer of Reparation." Join us on 1st Fridays, following the Sacred Heart Novena, and pray the Holy Face of Jesus prayers in reparation for the blasphemies uttered against our Savior. For more information, contact Melissa @ 756-1891.

Lord Teach Me To Pray is a three-part Ignatian prayer series developed in 2001 to meet the desire of men and women for on-going spiritual growth as they respond to the call to holiness and to a deeper commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord. It was developed as an outreach program to bring the Holy Spirit into our daily lives in facilitated faith-sharing prayer communities, where the Lord, himself, teaches them to pray. For more information, contact Melissa @ 756-1891.

The Sacred Heart and the Family...*Always keep your eyes on the Sacred Heart of Jesus, King and Center of all hearts. From him you will learn the great lesson of love, goodness, of sacrifice, of piety, so necessary for every Christian family. From him you will obtain strength, serenity, authentic and profound happiness for your married life! You will draw down his blessing, if the image of his Heart -- besides being impressed on your mind -- is always exposed and honored on the wall of your home! ~Pope John Paul the Great. Enthroned your home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus! For more information, contact Melissa @ 756-1891.*

The **St. Joseph Perpetual Adoration Chapel** of St. Rita opened in September 1986. It is located on the first floor of the Msgr. Champagne Complex. **The Chapel is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.** We ask you to prayerfully consider spending an hour a week with Our Divine Lord. If you would like to become an adorer, please contact the church office or fill out an ADORATION card available in the back of church or in the adoration chapel!

- Open to the public from 7:00 am-8:00 pm without a pass code.
- Open to registered adorers 24hrs. a day

Please call the office if you would like to visit the chapel after 8:00 pm

The Legion of Mary is a world-wide apostolic organization under the banner of Mary. Its purpose is the Sanctification of its members and all others by evangelization and spiritual works of mercy. Active members meet weekly Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:00 am in the St. Mary room of the rectory. The meeting consists of praying the rosary, reading from the handbook and reporting of works done. New members are recruited by evangelization. The Legion brings the Eucharist to the sick and elderly at their homes, St. Joseph Nursing Home and Canon Hospice. Other Legion works include: leading rosaries at funerals, sponsoring the monthly coffee social at which another ministry is highlighted, working the Giving Tree, organizing rosary rallies at Zeringue Park, maintaining the church bulletin board, leading novenas, helping with the May crowning, the Rosary Congress and Family Day. We offer our services to our pastor at his request. We distribute rosaries, scapulars and prayer cards at our functions. Our auxiliary members are our spiritual support. They pray the rosary daily along with other short prayers. They share in all the graces and prayers of our active members.

The Mary Group

This ministry started as a response to Our Blessed Mothers call to peace in her Medjugorje apparitions. We originally had several prayer groups and started the monthly Peace Masses. Currently, however, our Monthly Peace Mass is our main ministry. It is celebrated the second Thursday of the month by a visiting celebrant. We have confessions from 6:30 pm until Mass time at 7:30 pm and a Patriotic Rosary at 7:00 pm. We try as best we can to continue spreading our Lady's call to PRAYER, FASTING, MONTHLY CONFESSION and CONVERSION. All are invited to join us in responding to our Lady's call to pray for peace in our country, world and families. For more information contact Nellie Barsoza at 504-738-3585.

The Silver Trotters is a social and service organization for those who are 50 and older in and around St. Rita Parish. Many activities are planned. Meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the school gym except for the months of November and December due to holidays. Annual dues are \$12.00.

The Grandparents Club is for parishioners who have grandchildren (either at St. Rita School or not). We are mainly involved with functions for the school children such as visits to the Honor Roll Breakfast, the celebration of Valentine's Day with passing out cookies, the Room Mothers' Luncheon, St. Nicolas Day, and many other activities. Please come join us and help to make us a strong ministry for our grandchildren.

St. Rita CYO

The purpose of the **St. Rita CYO** is to create an environment which leads parish high school teens into a relationship with God through Christ and His Church. This environment also fosters an attitude of service to the community and healthful living through sport activities and fun-filled social experiences. Open to 8-12th graders.

Jefferson Highway Catholic Coalition, or **JHCC** for short, is a brand new group created for the young adults (aged 18-35) in our local parishes including St. Rita and St. Matthews. We hope, that in creating JHCC, we will create a group of young adults seeking community and authentic Catholic connection through small groups, social events, and service. To this end, we are beginning small group Bible studies. The different groups will meet once a week for 5 weeks and walk through a bible study focused on building our relationship with Christ. We are creating several different groups based on individual interest: men's groups, women's groups, and married or engaged couples groups. If you are a young adult (aged 18-35) interested in joining us on this journey, email us at JeffHwyCC@gmail.com.

Cub Scout Pack 115: Scouts participate in kindergarten to 5th grade level dens to achieve the mission of Scouting - to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

The Pack's program offers many scouting opportunities: den level adventures, family camping twice a year, Pinewood Derby, Harahan Christmas Parade, outdoor activities, first aid/safety training, Space Derby, religious growth, community service projects, Blue and Gold Banquet, and other various activities throughout the year.

To join Pack 115 visit <https://beascout.scouting.org> or contact St. Rita's church office to get the Cubmaster's contact information to join the pack.

St. Rita Girl Scouts sponsors Daisies, Brownies, Juniors and Cadettes. Volunteer Girl Scout leaders emphasize Christian Values, caring, independence, cooperation, responsibility, community service, citizenship, physical fitness and FUN!

The Little Flowers Girls Club is open to girls in Kindergarten thru second grade along with their moms. The program's goal is to provide young Catholic girls with an opportunity to gather and learn more about their Catholic heritage, faith and traditions in an exciting & fun-filled club. Meetings are once a month on Monday night.

Social Committee

Members of our **Social Committee** host the receptions in conjunction with First Communion, Confirmation, Easter (Alleluia Party) and other occasions that may come up.

The St Rita Dads' Club is one of the key fundraising organizations in the parish. We are open to all parish men and help support small projects around the campus while strengthening fellowship. Dads' Club usually meets the second Friday of the month at 7:00 pm in the cafeteria and can be reached at stritadadsclub@gmail.com Our key events include Crawfish Cook-off and Fish Fries.

The Pecan Festival is usually held the second weekend in November. The committee is responsible for the planning and execution of all events in association with the Pecan Festival. The committee meets every other month throughout the year and weekly during the weeks leading up to the festival. Check out our Website!!

<https://www.stritapecanfestival.com>

Or Join us on Facebook!!!

<https://www.facebook.com/stritapecanfestival/>

First Responders is a group of parishioners that have been trained with the Catholic Disaster Ministry "Matthew 25". They will remain in the city to assist residents that may have special needs in the event of a major catastrophe.