

St. Rita Catholic Church

1733 Dr. Andrew J. Brown Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana
(317) 632-9349



Newsletter-March 2023

Monthly Newsletter

The Lenten Season Has Begun

Lent is the season of the church year that follows the Epiphany Season. It is a time we set aside each year to remember the love of God that is poured out through Christ Jesus on the cross in His death; and His defeat of death, sin and Satan in Christ's death and resurrection that brings Eternal Life to you.

Lent is the 40 days leading to Easter. Easter, also called Pascha or Resurrection Sunday, is a Christian festival and cultural holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day of his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c. 30 AD.

A Lenten Tradition Has Returned.



The wait is over. The Annual St. Rita Catholic Church Weekly Lenten Fish Fry is back. From Friday February 24th through Friday March 31st. The highly

recognized and noteworthy dining experience has become a seasonal tradition in the City of Indianapolis. With complete dinners starting at an average of \$13.50, there is something tasty for every pallet. From Lenten traditions such as, Catfish, Perch and Whiting, to Chicken Strips and Tenderloins. Each dinner comes with your choice of two sides, bread, dessert and a soft drink. Call (317) 536-1047 to place your order, so it will be hot and ready when you pick it up.

ASH WEDNESDAY

LENT BEGINS

WHAT IS LENT?

The 40-day period from Ash Wednesday and before Easter Sunday. It is marked by praying, fasting, abstinence, and other acts of penance.

PRAYING FASTING ABSTINENCE

WHAT IS FASTING?

One meal a day, and two smaller meals which if added together would not exceed one full meal

WHAT IS ABSTINENCE?

Abstinence is refraining from eating meat. Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl.

DAYS OF FAST?

Ash Wednesday Good Friday

WHO ARE REQUIRED?

Catholics from age < 18 to 59 >

The sick are excused from fasting

DAYS OF ABSTINENCE?

Ash Wednesday All Fridays of Lent Good Friday

WHO ARE REQUIRED?

Mandatory for everyone older than 14 years old

Source: Code of Canon Law

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St Rita Church

Fish Fry

FUNDRAISER

Join us for a Fish Fry Fundraiser to help raise funds to restore our historic church!

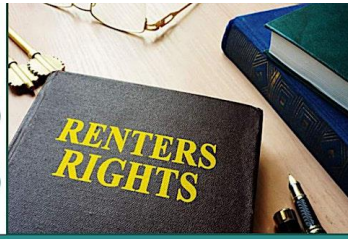
Friday 2/24

at St Rita Church
1733 Dr Andrew J Brown Ave
11:00AM-5:30PM

\$12 - Dinners include: entree, 2 sides, wheat/white bread, dessert, soft drink
\$15

Take-Out orders.
Delivery? Available for \$6.00 more orders!
Call to order:
317-536-1047

FREE Renters Rights Webinar



In this 2-hour virtual workshop, learn the basics of fair housing laws with a focus on rental transactions.



Renters Rights Seminar

Current and future tenants, tenant advocates, service providers, and property owners are invited to join Martindale Brightwood CDC in partnership with Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana and HUD for a free Renters Rights Zoom Webinar Thursday, March 2nd. We'll provide information about the landlord-tenant laws in Indiana and discuss the laws and ordinances that apply throughout the housing search process, move-in, during tenancy, move-out and eviction. Participants can ask questions to the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana legal advocates following the seminar.

To sign up, copy and paste this link to your browser.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/renters-rights-webinar-tickets-505206063937>

It's Time to Open the Doors of the Church (Literally).

From major metropolitan cities to small rural towns, the church has always been the support system of the community. St. Rita is no exception. Since the early days of St. Rita's history, the church has provided education for the youth, offered afterschool programs for teens and young adults and even hosted food pantries and clothing drives for the parishioners and community.

Fast forward to 2023. The church continues to offer programs such as the Annual Flu Shot Clinic and partners with the Chaney House to provide food to needy families. But what else can the church do and what else can we, the parishioners do to fully utilize our church for the betterment of our parish, community, city and state?

As the community surrounding St. Rita becomes more economically and culturally diverse, we are

seeing new visitors. Many of these visitors have the potential to become new members.

The location of the church, friendly parishioners and music may bring them to the doors, but what are we offering new guests to make them want to stay? The Youth Ministry is our strongest component and often invites children from other churches and the surrounding area to the various events and programs geared towards children ages 4 to 18. The Young Adult Ministry is the church's new endeavor to recruit and reclaim a demographic that the church is missing. Young Adults are not just missing from St. Rita; they are missing from a majority of churches across the country.



A variety of reasons can be given for the absence of young adults. One reason that stands out more often is "interest". Many young adults do not feel connected to the people they see in church. The church typically does not offer

programs or support groups for young adults. Many young adults have a specific list of priorities, including career, family and social connections. Churches that have Young Adult Ministries create resources for members just starting their adult journeys. Young Adult Ministries become spiritual support groups and social connections for people of similar ages and concerns.

The Church has always been a place for spiritual and social gathering. The more seasoned parishioners can always provide sage and experienced-based advice, but younger parishioners tend to relate more to the real-time struggles of day-to-day existence.

The Young Adult Ministry is the first new ministry of 2023, but it should not be the only. As we welcome new members with various interests, the church should be prepared to evangelize to those members on their levels, according to their interest or need. Jesus went to the people. He did not wait on them to find HIM.