



ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA MISSION

Orthodox Church
in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

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Father Alessandro
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Welcome to our parish!

Thank you for choosing to worship with us on the Lord's Day. We are grateful for your prayers and participation!

Please join us for coffee hour after the service. Our priest, Father Alessandro, would love to greet and welcome you.

Holy Eucharist requires full communion of faith, so if you are not an Orthodox Christian, please do not approach the Chalice. If you are an Orthodox Christian, please note that communion must be preceded by fasting, recent Confession, and reconciliation with all people.

JANUARY 15, 2023

31st Sunday after Pentecost

Ven. Paul of Thebes
John Calabytes

VENERABLE PAUL OF THEBES

Saint Paul of Thebes was born in Egypt around 227 in the Thebaid of Egypt. Left orphaned, he suffered many things from a greedy relative over his inheritance. During the persecution against Christians under the emperor Decius, Saint Paul learned of his brother-in-law's insidious plan to deliver him into the hands of the persecutors, and so he fled the city and fled into the wilderness. Settling into a mountain cave, Saint Paul dwelt there for ninety-one years, praying incessantly to God both day and night. He sustained himself on dates and bread, which a raven brought him, and he clothed himself with palm leaves. Saint Anthony the Great, who also lived as an ascetic in the Thebaid desert, had a revelation from God concerning Saint Paul. Then God said to him, "Anthony, there is a servant of God more excellent than you, and you should go and see him." Saint Anthony went into the desert and came to Saint Paul's cave. Falling to the ground before the entrance to the cave, he asked to be admitted. The Elders introduced themselves, and then embraced one another. They conversed through the night, and Saint Anthony revealed how he had been led there by God.

He asked Saint Anthony to return to his monastery and bring back the cloak he had received from Saint Athanasius. He did not really need a garment, but wished to depart from his body while Saint Anthony was absent. As he was returning with the cloak, Saint Anthony beheld the soul of Saint Paul surrounded by angels, prophets, and apostles, shining like the sun and ascending to God. He entered the cave and found Abba Paul on his knees with his arms outstretched. Saint Anthony mourned for him, and wrapped him in the cloak. Saint Anthony kept this garb as a precious inheritance, and

wore it only twice a year, on Pascha and Pentecost. Saint Paul of Thebes died in the year 341, when he was 113 years old.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Don, Ingrid, Hilary, Evangelos, Bobbi, Yuri, David

DEPARTED: Jonathan, Ricky, Elizabeth

BIRTHDAYS: Nicholas Barr, Christine Garber

NAMEDAYS: Anton Dolgopolov

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOME BLESSINGS: If you would like to have your house blessed, please let Fr. Alessandro know. Home blessings will be scheduled until February 24, right before the beginning of Great Lent. To prepare for Father's visit, make a list of the names of those family members you want to pray for. On your dining room table or at your icon corner, lay out a white cloth if you have it, and set on it a candle that can be carried around the house and your prayer list. (No need to prepare a bowl with water). A member of the family will lead the priest around the house with the candle.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: Our Annual Parish Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, following Divine Liturgy. We will hear reports, approve the 2023 Budget, discuss property search, and elect a new Parish Council. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this important gathering of our parish.

PARISH COUNCIL: The slate of candidates for the Parish Council positions are as follows:

Lay Chair - Bob Easton; Secretary - Marijana Barr; Treasurer - Lisa Mikhalevsky; Trustees - James Class, Andy Garber, Gary Childs.

HIERARCHICAL LITURGY IN HONOR OF METROPOLITAN TIKHON:
On Saturday, January 21, the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington are invited to the Hierarchical Liturgy at St. Nicholas Cathedral to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the enthonment of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Please note that the next choir rehearsals are scheduled for Saturday, January 28, and Saturday, February 25 after Vespers.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Jan 15, Sun	
8:45 AM	Church School
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Jan 18, Wed	
7:00 PM	Book Study
Jan 19, Thu	
9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
Jan 21, Sat	
4:00 PM	Bible Study (2 Thess 1)
5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Jan 2, Sun	
8:45 AM	Church School
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM	Annual Parish Meeting

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Coffee Hour - Class

Reader - Mikhalevsky

Assisting the Treasurer - Garber & Smith

Fr. Alessandro is available to hear confessions after Vespers or by appointment during the week