



ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church
in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

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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.

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

33rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

tone 8

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND
THE PHARISEE

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion
Martyr Nikephoros of Antioch in
Syriae

MARTYR NIKEPHOROS OF ANTIOCH

The Holy Martyr Nikephoros lived in the city of Syrian Antioch. In this city lived also the presbyter Sapricius, with whom Nikephoros was very friendly, so that they were considered as brothers. They quarreled because of some disagreement, and their former love changed into enmity and hate. After a certain time Nikephoros came to his senses, repented of his sin and more than once asked Sapricius, through mutual friends, to forgive him. Sapricius, however, did not wish to forgive him. Nikephoros then went to his former friend and fervently asked forgiveness, but Sapricius was adamant. At this time the emperors Valerian (253-259) and Gallius (260-268) began to persecute Christians, and one of the first brought before the court was the priest Sapricius. He firmly confessed himself a Christian, underwent tortures for his faith and was condemned to death by beheading with a sword. As they led Sapricius to execution, Nikephoros tearfully implored his forgiveness saying, "O martyr of Christ, forgive me if I have sinned against you in any way." The priest Sapricius remained stubborn, and even as he approached death he refused to forgive his fellow Christian. Seeing the hardness of his heart, the Lord withdrew His blessing from Sapricius, and would not let him receive the crown of martyrdom. At the last moment, he suddenly became afraid of death and agreed to offer sacrifice to idols. In vain did Saint Nikephoros urge Sapricius not to lose his reward through apostasy, since he already stood on the threshold of the heavenly Kingdom. Saint Nikephoros then said to the executioner, "I am a Christian, and I believe in our Lord Jesus Christ. Execute me in place of Sapricius." The executioners reported this to the governor. He decided to free Sapricius, and

to behead Nikephoros in his place. Thus did Saint Nikephoros inherit the Kingdom and receive a martyr's crown.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Andra, John, Kelly, Jim, Sharon, Martha, Larissa, Bob, David, Zondra, Art, Jerry, Davide

CATECHUMEN: Brooke, Levi, Daniel

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

BIRTHDAYS: Dn Alexander, Bob Easton

DEPARTED: Aleksandra, Olivia

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Souper Bowl" of Caring -- last call for donations: This Sunday Father Sean will bless the donations for the Grace Pantry in Alexandria. Lory is willing to make one more Costco run for this project, so please contact her ASAP if you would like her to shop for you. (Her PayPal is LBEBiz2010@gmail.com and Zelle is 312-401-5993.) Through the generosity of the parish we so far have collected donations of over 1200 diapers. The pantry also requested donations of baby wipes, toothpaste, and laundry detergent pods, so please prioritize those suggested items in your shopping, and bring any items for donation to church on Sunday. In addition, we have collected almost \$300 in cash so far for the FOCUS North America Fire Relief Fund. Please consider donating either in the antique soup pot this Sunday (cash or checks payable to FOCUS North America) or donating online at [FOCUS NA Los Angeles Fire Relief Fund](https://focusnorthamerica.org/la-relief/). For more information about the fire relief efforts, please see the FOCUS North America website: <https://focusnorthamerica.org/la-relief/>, and contact Lory Easton at 312-401-5993 with any questions.

FOCUS LA Fire Relief Fund. Please bring your donations of diapers, wipes, and other items for the food pantry on or before Sunday, February 9. Lory Easton is willing to purchase

items at Costco for any who would like to contribute that way (PayPal to LBEBiz2010@gmail.com or Zelle 312-401-5993), and a [Souper Bowl of Caring Amazon Wish List](#) also is available. We also will use an antique soup pot to collect cash donations for the LA Fire Relief Fund these next few weekends; if you choose to make a donation directly using the FOCUS website, please let Lory know so we can estimate the amount sent by our parish.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Feb 8, Sat		
5:00 PM		Great Vespers
6:00 PM		Choir Rehearsal
Feb 9, Sun		
8:45 AM		Church School
9:30 AM		Divine Liturgy
Feb 15, Sat		
5:00 PM		Great Vespers
Feb 16, Sun		
8:45 AM		Church School
9:30 AM		Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	Feb 9	Feb 16
<i>Coffee Hour:</i>	Class	Schmitt/Bomadevar
<i>Reader:</i>	Mykyta	TBA
<i>Cleaning:</i>	Class	Mykyta
<i>Communion Cloth:</i>	Mazzeo/Class	Schmitt/Mikhalevsky

Priest available for Confession after Vespers or by appointment