



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 16, 2025

34th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TONE 1

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON
St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles,
Archbishop of Japan

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.

Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

CATECHUMEN: Brooke, Levi, Daniel

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

DEPARTED: Aleksandra, Olivia

BIRTHDAYS: John Poulos

NAMEDAYS: Nicolas Margheritino

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATECHUMENATE: Today, Sunday, February 16, Robert Cummins, will be enrolled into the catechumenate at 9:10a. Robert has been an inquirer for some time, and our parishioners are encouraged to keep Robert in their prayers as he makes this important step toward full communion with the Church.

MEATFARE: We continue to journey through this pre-Lenten season. Next Sunday, February 23, is Meatfare Sunday after which we begin our first steps into the fasting season.

FR. ALESSANDRO AWAY: Please note that Fr. Alessandro will be traveling from February 19. He is available via email and phone. Fr. Sean will serve the weekend of February 22-23.

21st ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL: The 21st All-American Council will take place in Phoenix, AZ on July 14-18. As in the past, there will be a youth program that week. For more information and to register, please visit oca.org/aac.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Feb 15, Sat
5:00 PM Great Vespers

Feb 16, Sun
8:45 AM Church School
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Feb 22, Sat
5:00 PM Great Vespers

Feb 23, Sun
8:45 AM Church School
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	Feb 16	Feb 23
Coffee Hour:	Schmitt/Bomadevar	Hughes
Reader:	Mykyta	TBA
Cleaning:	Mykyta	Hughes
Communion Cloth:	Schmitt/Mikhalevsky	Garber/Barr

Priest available for Confession after Vespers or by appointment