



## ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church  
in America

[orthodoxalexandria.org](http://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 25, 2024

38th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 5

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND  
THE PHARISEE

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

St. Tarasius, Archbishop of  
Constantinople

## SAINT TARASIIUS, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Saint Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople was of illustrious lineage. He was born and raised in Constantinople, where he received a fine education. He was rapidly promoted at the court of the emperor Constantine VI Porphyrogenitos (780-797) and Constantine's mother, the holy Empress Irene (August 7), and the saint attained the rank of senator. During these times the Church was agitated by the turmoil of the Iconoclast disturbances. The holy Patriarch Paul (August 30) although he had formerly supported Iconoclasm, later repented and resigned his office. He withdrew to a monastery, where he took the schema. When the holy Empress Irene and her son the emperor came to him, Saint Paul told them that the most worthy successor to him would be Saint Tarasius (who at this time was still a layman). Tarasius refused for a long time, not considering himself worthy of such high office, but he then gave in to the common accord on the condition, that an Ecumenical Council be convened to address the Iconoclast heresy. Proceeding through all the clerical ranks in a short while, Saint Tarasius was elevated to the patriarchal throne in the year 784. In the year 787 the Seventh Ecumenical Council was convened in the city of Nicea, with Patriarch Tarasius presiding, and 367 bishops attending. The veneration of holy icons was confirmed at the council. Those bishops who repented of their iconoclasm, were again received by the Church. Saint Tarasius wisely governed the Church for twenty-two years. He led a strict ascetic life. He spent all his money on God-pleasing ends, feeding and giving comfort to the aged, to the impoverished, to widows and orphans, and on Holy Pascha he set out a meal for them, and he served them himself. The holy Patriarch fearlessly denounced the emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitos when he slandered his spouse, the empress Maria, the granddaughter of Saint Philaretos the Merciful (December 1), so that he could send Maria to a monastery, thus freeing him to marry his own kinswoman. Saint Tarasius resolutely refused to dissolve the marriage of the emperor, for which the saint fell into disgrace. Soon, however,

Constantine was deposed by his own mother, the Empress Irene. Saint Tarasius died in the year 806. Before his death, devils examined his life from the time of his youth, and they tried to get the saint to admit to sins that he had not committed. "I am innocent of that of which you accuse me," replied the saint, "and you falsely slander me. You have no power over me at all." Mourned by the Church, the saint was buried in a monastery he built on the Bosphorus. Many miracles took place at his tomb.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Galina, Phili, John, Larissa, Cristina, Jerry, Basil, Michelle, Yuri, Davide, Pina, Kelsey and her unborn

NEWBORN: Adam Pagovski

CATECHUMEN: Calvin, Brooke

MISSIONARIES: The McDonald family

DEPARTED: Patricia, Emil, Tony

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH RETREAT: On Saturday, March 16, we will hold our very first parish retreat led by Dr Peter Bouteneff, Professor of Systematic Theology at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. Dr Boteneff will lead us on a retreat titled "How to be a sinner" based on his SVS Press bestseller by the same title. The retreat has no registration fee and is open to everyone. The retreat will begin at 2:00p, we will break for Great Vespers, and finish up with a potluck meal and Q&A session.

CHRISMATION: On Sunday, March 3, before Divine Liturgy, we will be welcoming our catechumen Calvin into the fullness of the ORthodox Christian Church through the rite of Chrismation.

MEALS SIGN-UP: A sign-up genius has been shared via email to invite parishioners to sign up for dishes to share on Meatfare, March 10, and Cheesefare Sunday, March 17 for potluck coffee hours. The sign-up genius also has slots for the potluck meals after the Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir members, please note that our next rehearsals are scheduled for the following dates: March 16, April 6 after Vespers (6-7), and May 18 after Vespers (6-7).

## UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

February 25, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

11:45 AM

Choir Rehearsal

February 29, Thu

7:00 PM

Journey to Fullness

March 2, Sat

5:00 PM

Great Vespers

March 3, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

## MINISTRY ROTATIONS

**Feb 25**

**Mar 3**

*Coffee Hour:*

Barr

Hughes

*Reader:*

Easton

Hughes

*Fr. Alessandro is available for Confession on Saturday after Vespers or by appointment*