



ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA MISSION

Orthodox Church
in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

3130 Franconia Rd
Alexandria, VA 22310

Father Alessandro
Margheritino
516-353-4204
fatheralessandro@gmail.com

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 26, 2023

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE

The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from
Paradise

St. Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE: EXPULSION OF ADAM FROM PARADISE

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendents became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: "Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit..."

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Archpriest Daniel, Archpriest Leonty, William, Mihai, Georgia, Don, Bobbi, Yuri, David

DEPARTED: Archpriest Daniel

BIRTHDAYS: Emilia Barr

NAMEDAYS: Juliana Woodill

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST-PRESANCTIFIED POTLUCKS: As it is customary in many Orthodox communities, we will share a lenten meal following the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. Please, feel free to bring (but not mandatory), a lenten dish or side to share.

NEW WEBSITE: If you have not already done so, please check out our newly redesigned website: orthodoxalexandria.org

APPROACHING THE GREAT FAST: As we approach the beginning of Great Lent, Fr. Alessandro offers an encouragement to all parishioners to begin preparing for our blessed journey to Pascha. The Parish Google Calendar (<https://www.orthodoxalexandria.org/calendar.html>) has been updated with the lenten schedule and Holy Week so you can see which services will be served at our parish. Make a special effort to plan your schedule in advance so that you can attend Forgiveness Vespers (2/26), the services of Clean Week (the Great Canon), and the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts served every week. Without attending those services, we will miss so much of the gift offered to us through Great Lent.

APPEAL FOR VICTIMS OF EARTHQUAKE: His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has recently called on the faithful of the Orthodox Church in America to support the earthquake relief efforts of IOCC and the Antiochian Archdiocese. As you are able, consider making a donation.

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY VESPERS: This year, Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers will be held at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church (721 Norwood Rd, Silver Spring, MD), on March 5, at 5pm. The speaker will be Dr. Lewis Patsavos, Professor Emeritus of Canon Law

at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School Of Theology. His topic will be *The Triumph of Orthodoxy: its Peril and Challenge.*

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Feb 27, Mon 6:00 PM	Great Canon
Feb 28, Tue 6:00 PM	Great Canon
Mar 1, Wed 6:00 PM	Great Canon
Mar 2, Thu 6:00 PM	Great Canon
Mar 3, Fri 6:00 PM	Presanctified Liturgy
Mar 4, Sat 4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Adult Education Divine Liturgy
Mar 5, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Coffee Hour - Childs

Reader - Weaver

Assisting the Treasurer - Class & Garber

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