



## 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.

**March 3, 2024**

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Tone 6

Martyr Eutropius of Amasea, and  
with him Martyrs Cleonicus and  
Basiliscus

## 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: Charlotte, Debra, John, Larissa, Cristina, Jerry, Yuri, Davide, Pina, Kelsey and her unborn

NEWBORN: Adam Pagovski

CATECHUMEN: Brooke

MISSIONARIES: The McDonald family

DEPARTED: Janet, Patricia, Emil

BIRTHDAYS: Emilia Barr

NAMEDAYS: Juliana Woodill, Felix Bomadevar

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH RETREAT: On Saturday, March 16, the parish of All Saints of America Orthodox Church in Alexandria is pleased to welcome you to a retreat led by Dr. Peter Bouteneff titled "How to be a sinner: Understanding myself as a sinner." Dr. Bouteneff, who is a Professor of Systematic Theology at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, will explore topics that include understanding myself as a sinner, the uses and abuses of guilt and shame, other people's sins, the gifts of the "sinner identity," and God's mercy and mine. His talk is based on his SVS Press bestseller, *How to be a sinner*. There is no cost to attend this retreat, and all are welcome.

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 10, April 6 after Vespers (6-7), and May 18 after Vespers (6-7).

## UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

March 3, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:00 AM

Chrismation

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

March 6, Wed

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

March 9, Sat

5:00 PM

Great Vespers

March 10, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

## MINISTRY ROTATIONS

**Mar 3**

**Mar 3**

*Coffee Hour:*

Hughes

Potluck

*Reader:*

Hughes

Easton

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