

# ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

3130 Franconia Rd Alexandria, VA 22310

### 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 31, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Tone 2 ST. GREGORY PALAMAS Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves

Repose of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to the Americas

Father Alessandro Margheritino (703) 828-5068 fatheralessandro@gmail.com

#### ST. GREGORY PALAMAS

This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life.

He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God.

In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359.

His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: John, Edward, Jackson, Larissa, Cristina, Jerry, Davide, Kelsey and her unborn NEWBORN: Adam Pagovski CATECHUMEN: Brooke MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala DEPARTED: Yuri, Constance

BIRTHDAY: Andrew Garber

#### **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GENERAL PANIKHIDA: On Saturday, April 6, we will serve a general panikhida at 4:30p before Great Vespers. Feel free to bring a list of names to hand to Fr. Alessandro before the service so he can remember the names during the service. If you are able to make koliva, please let Fr. Alessandro know.

CONFESSION: It is important that every Orthodox Christian receives the Mystery of Confession during the Lenten season. In the coming weeks, Fr. Alessandro will be available for Confession after the Liturgy of the Presanctified, after Great Vespers (Sat), or by appointment. If you wish to come before these services, please let him know ahead of time. Please, note that Friday, April 26 is the last day when Fr. Alessandro will hear Confessions before Pascha. When we enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, our focus must be exclusively on walking with our Lord through His passion.

PRESENTATION ON PROJECT MEXICO: Following the exciting presentation by our parishioner Nicholas Barr, if you would like to contribute to his fundraising for Project Mexico, please visit the link provided via email or speak with him directly.

FASTING BEFORE PRESANCTIFIED: Since we serve the Liturgy of the Presanctified in the evening, Fr. Alessandro blesses to begin fasting immediately after lunch. To the best of our abilities, we should try to have an early lunch in preparation of receiving the Holy Eucharist later. If you have particular medical condition for which this seems impossible, please reach out to Fr. A. 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.

MEALS SIGN-UP: A sign-up genius has been shared via email to invite parishioners to sign up for dishes to share after the Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent.

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

ARCHDIOCESAN PRESANCTIFIED: On Wednesday, April 3, His Beatitude will preside at the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at St. Nicholas Cathedral in the presence of the Holy Synod of Bishops. All clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese are invited to attend. No service will be served at our parish.

#### **UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS**

March 31, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School Divine Liturgy
April 3, Wed 6:00 PM	Presanctified Lit. (@ St. Nicholas)
April 6, Sat 4:30 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	General Panikhida Great Vespers Choir Rehearsal

#### MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	Mar 31	April 7
Coffee Hour:	Class	Hughes
Reader:	Hughes	Barr

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