



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.

APRIL 16, 2023

HOLY PASCHA
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

HOLY PASCHA: The Resurrection of Our Lord

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith; receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the center of the Christian faith. Saint Paul says that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and faith are in vain (I Cor. 15:14). Indeed, without the resurrection there would be no Christian preaching or faith. The disciples of Christ would have remained the broken and hopeless band which the Gospel of John describes as being in hiding behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. They went nowhere and preached nothing until they met the risen Christ, the doors being shut (John 20: 19). Then they touched the wounds of the nails and the spear; they ate and drank with Him. The resurrection became the basis of everything they said and did (Acts 2-4): “. . . for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have” (Luke 24:39). The resurrection reveals Jesus of Nazareth as not only the expected Messiah of Israel, but as the King and Lord of a new Jerusalem: a new heaven and a new earth. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . . the holy city, new Jerusalem. And I heard a great voice from the throne saying “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. . . He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away (Rev. 21:1-4). In His death and resurrection, Christ defeats the last enemy, death, and thereby fulfills the mandate of His Father to subject all things under His feet (I Cor. 15:24-26). Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing (Rev. 5: 12)

THE FEAST OF FEASTS The Christian faith is celebrated in the liturgy of the Church. True celebration is always a living participation. It is not a mere attendance at services. It is communion in the power of the event being celebrated. It is God's free gift of joy given to spiritual men as a reward for their self-denial. It is the fulfillment of spiritual and physical effort and preparation. The resurrection of Christ, being the center of the Christian faith, is the basis of the Church's liturgical life and the true model for all celebration. This is the chosen and holy day, first of sabbaths, king and lord of days, the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days. On this day we bless Christ forevermore (Irmos 8, Paschal Canon).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Igumen Leonty, Archpriest Daniel, Steve, Daniel, Brian, Don, Bobbi, Yuri, David

DEPARTED: Betsy, Irene Barr

BIRTHDAYS: Jack Morris

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASCHAL FLOWERS: If you would like to make a special donation to offset the cost for flowers for the Feast of Feasts, please write "flowers" in the memo line of a check or donate through our website.

RED EGGS: In preparation for Great and Holy Pascha, we are looking for parishioners who are willing to dye red eggs. If you plan on it, please let Fr. Alessandro know.

PASCHA BASKETS: In many Orthodox countries, it is the custom to bring foods in a basket to be blessed at Pascha. The foods traditionally brought in the basket have special significance, but many people will add the foods they've missed the most during the Fast. It is customary to have a candle in it to light at the blessing. Fr. A. will bless the baskets right after the Paschal Liturgy.

NO ADULT ED. & CHURCH SCHOOL: Please note that Adult Education and Church School are cancelled for the weekends of April 15-16 and 22-23.

BRIGHT SATURDAY LITURGY: His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon will preside at the Matins and Divine Liturgy at St. Matthew Orthodox Church in Columbia, MD on Bright Saturday, April 22 at 9:00a. This is an Archdiocesan-wide event and everybody is invited to this joyous celebration. The Archdiocesan Choir, under the leadership of our own choir director, Juliana Woodill, will be signing the responses.

OCMC EVENT: The Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) and the DC Mission and Outreach Committee are organizing a DC Banquet for Missions on Saturday, May 13 at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Falls Church. The event begins with Social Hour at 6:30p and the Banquet at 7:00p. \$125 donation per ticket. His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of the GOA will offer a special address. To purchase tickets and more information: ocmc.org/dc-banquet

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Apr 16, Sun
12:00 AM
1:00 AM

Paschal Matins & Liturgy
Agape Meal

Apr 22, Sat
9:00 AM
5:00 PM

Hierarchical Matins & Liturgy
(St. Matthew, Columbia, MD)
Great Vespers

Apr 23, Sun
12:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Coffee Hour - Agape Meal

Reader - Weaver

Assisting the Treasurer - Garber & Class