



# 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.

**JUNE 11, 2023**

1st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
All Saints  
Holy Apostles Bartholomew and  
Barnabas

## Synaxis of All Saints

The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth.

They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit. The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him. The hymnology for the feast of All Saints also lists six categories: "Rejoice, assembly of the Apostles, Prophets of the Lord, loyal choirs of the Martyrs, divine Hierarchs, Monastic Fathers, and the Righteous..."

Some of the saints are described as Confessors, a category which does not appear in the above lists. Since they are similar in spirit to the martyrs, they are regarded as belonging to the category of Martyrs. They were not put to death as the Martyrs were, but they boldly confessed Christ and came close to being executed for their faith. Saint Maximus the Confessor (January 21) is such a saint. The order of these six types of saints seems to be based on their importance to the Church. The Apostles are listed first, because they were the first to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

The Martyrs come next because of their example of courage in professing their faith before the enemies and persecutors of the Church, which encouraged other Christians to remain faithful to Christ even unto death. Although they come first chronologically, the Prophets are listed after the Apostles and Martyrs. This is because

the Old Testament Prophets saw only the shadows of things to come, whereas the Apostles and Martyrs experienced them firsthand. The New Testament also takes precedence over the Old Testament. The holy Hierarchs comprise the fourth category. They are the leaders of their flocks, teaching them by their word and their example.

The Monastic Saints are those who withdrew from this world to live in monasteries, or in seclusion. They did not do this out of hatred for the world, but in order to devote themselves to unceasing prayer, and to do battle against the power of the demons. The last category, the Righteous, are those who attained holiness of life while living “in the world.”

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Archpriest Daniel, Dovie, Daniel, Brian, Don, Bobbi, Yuri, David

BIRTHDAYS: Kathryn Easton

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SCHOOL: Please note that today is the last day of Church School. We will resume in early September.

PARISH PICNIC: On the feast of All Saints of America, we will celebrate our patronal feast day! In place of coffee hour, we plan to enjoy a picnic outdoor. Feel free to bring a side or dessert if you can.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choirs members, please note the dates of the choir rehearsals over the next few months: July 15, August 12, September 16, and October 14.

ARCHDIOCESAN VOCATIONAL TRAINING: His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon is inviting deacons, subdeacons, and servers to

an archdiocesan training on July 8 at St. Mark Orthodox Church in Bethesda. Speak to Fr. Alessandro for more information.

RETREAT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS: St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Bethesda, MD is hosting a retreat for religious educators and youth workers on June 10-11. For more information, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1st-panorthodox-religious-educators-youth-workers-retreat-tickets-628095690117>

## UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

June 11, Sun	
8:45 AM	Church School
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
June 14, Wed	
9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
June 17, Sat	
4:30 PM	Panikhida
5:00 PM	Great Vespers
June 18, Sun	
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
11:00 AM	Parish Picnic

## MINISTRY ROTATIONS

*Coffee Hour* - Barr

*Reader* - Class

*Assisting the Treasurer* - Class & Easton

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