



ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church
in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

3130 Franconia Rd
Alexandria, VA 22310

Father Alessandro
Margheritino
(703) 828-5068
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.

AUGUST 20, 2023

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 2

Afterfeast of the Dormition

Prophet Samuel

Hieromartyr Philip, Bishop of
Heraclea

PROPHET SAMUEL

The Prophet Samuel was the fifteenth and last of the Judges of Israel, living more than 1146 years before the Birth of Christ. He was descended from the Tribe of Levi, and was the son of Elkanah from Ramathaim-Zophim of Mount Ephraim. He was born, having been besought from the Lord through the prayers of his mother Hannah.

Even before birth, he was dedicated to God. When the boy reached the age of three, his mother went with him to Shiloh and in accord with her vow dedicated him to the worship of God. She gave him into the care of the High Priest Eli, who at this time was a judge over Israel. The prophet grew in the fear of God, and at twelve years of age he had a revelation that God would punish the house of the High Priest Eli, because he did not restrain the impiety of his sons. Eli's whole family was wiped out in a single day. The prophecy was fulfilled when the Philistines, having slain in battle 30,000 Israelites, gained victory and captured the Ark of the Covenant. Hearing this, the High Priest Eli fell backwards from his seat at the gate, and breaking his back, he died. The wife of Phinees, upon hearing what had happened in this very hour, gave birth to a son (Ichabod) and died with the words: "The glory has departed from Israel, for the Ark of God is taken away". Upon the death of Eli, Samuel became the judge of the nation of Israel. The Ark of God was returned by the Philistines on their own initiative. After returning to God, the Israelites returned to all the cities that the Philistines had taken. In his old age, the Prophet Samuel made his sons Joel and Abiah judges over Israel, but they did not follow the integrity and righteous judgment of their father, since they were motivated by greed. Then the elders of Israel, wanting the nation of God to be "like other nations", demanded of the Prophet Samuel that they have a king. The Prophet Samuel anointed Saul as king, but saw in this a downfall of the people, whom God Himself had governed until this time, announcing His will through "judges," His chosen saints. Resigning the position of judge, the

Prophet Samuel asked the people if they consented to his continued governance, but no one stepped forward for him. After denouncing the first king, Saul, for his disobedience to God, the Prophet Samuel anointed David as king. He had offered David asylum, saving him from the pursuit of King Saul. The Prophet Samuel died in extreme old age. His life is recorded in the Bible.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Daniel, Brian, Bobbi, Yuri

BIRTHDAYS: Lory Easton

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

METROPOLITAN TIKHON'S VISIT: His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon will visit our parish and preside at the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 27. On that day, Vladyka will elevate All Saints from mission to parish status and will gift the parish community relics of American Saints. On the same day, His Beatitude will elevate Fr. Alessandro to the rank of Archpriest. Please mark your calendar for this joyous day!

To celebrate, we plan to enjoy a potluck coffee hour outside, weather permitting. Please feel free to bring a side or dish to share, if you are able.

PARISH SPECIAL MEETING: Please note that we will convene a Special Parish Meeting on Sunday, September 10 following Divine Liturgy. The meeting will only consider one item, the approval of the new parish by-laws. We invite especially the voting members to be in attendance.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Men from the parish will get together for breakfast on Saturday, August 26, 8:30a at The Executive Diner (1400 Duke St, Alexandria, VA 22314).

CHURCH SCHOOL: Please note that Church School will resume on Sunday, September 10. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.

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

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

August 20, Sun 9:30 AM	Baptismal Liturgy
August 23, Wed 9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
August 26, Sat 5:00 PM	Great Vespers
August , Sun 27 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	Aug 20	Aug 27
<i>Coffee Hour:</i>	Childs	Margheritino
<i>Reader:</i>	Bob Easton	Barr

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