



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.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TONE 2

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady,
Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Sunday before Elevation

Icons of the Mother of God:
"KURSK-ROOT" Icon of the Sign,
"POCHAEV", "KHOLMSK", and others

ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD “OF THE SIGN”, THE “KURSK-ROOT”

The Kursk Root Icon of the Mother of God “Of the Sign” is one of the most ancient icons of the Russian Church. In the thirteenth century during the Tatar invasion, when all the Russian realm was put to the extremest tribulation, the city of Kursk, ravaged by the Horde of Batu, fell into desolation. One day in the environs of the city a hunter noticed the ancient icon, lying on a root face downwards to the ground. The hunter lifted it and saw that the image of the icon was similar to the Novgorod “Znamenie” Icon.

With the appearance of this icon immediately there appeared its first miracle. Just as the hunter lifted up the holy icon from the earth, right then, at that place where the icon lay, gushed up strongly a spring of pure water.

This occurred on September 8, 1259. The hunter decided not to leave the icon in the forest and settled on as a resting place an ancient small chapel, in which he put the newly-appeared image of the Theotokos. Soon inhabitants of the city of Ryl’a heard about this, and being in location not far away, they began to visit the place of the appearance for venerating the new holy image.

They transferred the icon to Ryl’a and put it in a new church in honor of the Nativity of the Most Holy Theotokos. But the icon did not long remain there. It disappeared and returned to its former place of appearance. The inhabitants of Ryl’a repeatedly took it and carried it to the city, but the icon incomprehensibly returned to its former place.

Everyone then realized that the Theotokos preferred the place of appearance of Her Icon. The special help granted by the

Mother of God through this icon is bound up with important events in Russian history: with the war of liberation of the Russian nation during the Polish-Lithuanian incursion in 1612, and the 1812 Fatherland war. From the icon several copies were made, which also were glorified.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Archpriest Matthew, Michelle, Larissa, Cristina, Jerry, Davide

DEPARTED: Igumen Leonty

CATECHUMEN: Brooke

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

BIRTHDAYS: John Weaver

NAMEDAYS: Matushka Anna, Marijana Barr, Analisa Callender, Lory Ann Easton, Missy Mykyta

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH SCHOOL: Please note that Church School resumes today, Sunday, September 8 at 8:45a.

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION: Please note that Fr. Alessandro will be at St. Vladimir's Seminary on the Feast of Exaltation and no services will be held at All Saints. Please plan to attend a sister parish in the Archdiocese.

ADULT EDUCATION: Adult Education will resume every Wednesday night at 7:00p via Zoom starting on September 18. We will be reading and discussing St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. All parishioners are welcome. If you want to invite other guests, please let Fr. Alessandro know ahead of time. The Zoom link will be shared via email.

PARISH RETREAT: On Saturday afternoon, December 7, our parish will host a retreat with Dr. Sarah Byrne-Martelli, author of "Memory Eternal: Living with Grief as Orthodox Christians." The retreat is open to everyone and more information will be shared as we get closer. You can find out more about Sarah at byrnemartelli.com. Please mark your calendar!

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Sep 8, Sun 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Sep 14, Sat 5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Sep 15, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	Sep 8	Sep 15
<i>Coffee Hour:</i>	Barr	Schmitt/Bomadevar
<i>Reader:</i>	Easton	Hughes

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