

# 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.

# JANUARY 26, 2025

31st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST TONE 6

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

Ven. Xenophon, his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Arcadius and John, of Constantinople

### NEW MARTYRS AND CONFESSORS OF RUSSIA

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history. It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God. In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Kelly, Jim, Sharon, Martha, Larissa,

Bob, David, Zondra, Art, Jerry, Davide

CATECHUMEN: Brooke, Sarah, Levi, Daniel

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

BIRTHDAYS: Nadia Koblosh

#### **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: Today, January 26, following Divine Liturgy, our parish will gather for its regular annual meeting. Please plan to attend this important event in the life of our parish. At our meeting, we will hold elections for some positions on the parish council and approve the annual budget.

MISSION'S DINNER: Everyone is welcome to attend the Missions Dinner at Ss Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church in Potomac on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Vespers begins at 5:00. The Missions Dinner begins with appetizers and social time, followed by the dinner and program at 6:30. Registration link: https://ocmc.org/potomac-dinner For more information, please contact Paula Massouh at <a href="massouh@aol.com">pmassouh@aol.com</a>.

"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" DIAPER & DONATION DRIVE: A big football game is coming up on February 9, 2025, and once again on that weekend our parish will "tackle" hunger to help people in need both near and far. We will be collecting diapers in sizes 5 and 6, baby wipes, toothpaste, bottles of dish soap (18 oz or smaller), and laundry detergent pods along with non-perishable food items for the Grace Pantry in Alexandria. We also will collect donations for the FOCUS North America LA Fire Relief Fund to help California residents suffering from the recent wildfires (see below). Our goals for this event are to collect over 1000 diapers and over \$1000 in donations for the FOCUS LA Fire Relief Fund. Please bring your donations of diapers, wipes, and other items for the food pantry on or before Sunday, February 9. Lory Easton is willing to purchase items at Costco for any who would like to contribute that way (PayPal to LBEBiz2010@gmail.com 312-401-5993), and a Souper Bowl of Caring Amazon Wish List also is available. We also will use an antique soup pot to collect cash donations for the LA Fire Relief Fund these next few weekends; if you choose to make a donation directly using the FOCUS website, please let Lory know so we can estimate the amount sent by our parish.

FOCUS LA FIRE RELIEF FUND: FOCUS North America is helping to provide essential resources such as food, clothing, diapers, personal hygiene products, and household items to those affected by the wildfires in Los Angeles. Please consider donating to the FOCUS NA Los Angeles Fire Relief Fund. For more information. please see the FOCUS North America website: https://focusnorthamerica.org/la-relief/, and Lory contact Easton at 312-401-5993 with any questions.

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

Jan 26, Sun 8:45 AM Church School 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

11:15 AM Annual Parish Meeting

Feb 1, Sat

5:00 PM Great Vespers 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Feb 2, Sun

8:45 ÅM Church School 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

#### MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Jan 26 Feb 2

Coffee Hour: Garber Margheritino

Reader: Barr Garber
Cleaning: Garber Easton

Communion Cloth: Barr/Garber Mikhalevski/Easton

Priest available for Confession after Vespers or by appointment