



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.

October 29, 2023

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 4

Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome
Ven. Abramius the Recluse, and his
niece, Bl. Mary, of Mesopotamia

Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome

The Monastic Martyr Anastasia the Roman lost her parents when she was three years old, and was taken to be raised by the Igomeness of a women's monastery, whose name was Sophia, a nun who had attained a high degree of spiritual perfection. After seventeen years, Anastasia became known as a great ascetic, and she was very beautiful. The Emperor Decius (249-251) began his persecution of Christians at that time. The city administrator, Probus, following the Emperor's orders, commanded that Anastasia be brought to him. Blessed by her Igomeness to suffer for Christ, the young martyr Anastasia went out to meet the armed soldiers. Seeing her youth and beauty, Probus first tried flattery to make her deny Christ.

While Saint Anastasia stood before the ruler, her mind stood before Christ, and with her spiritual eyes, she beheld the comeliness of her Bridegroom. The Saint replied, "My spouse, my riches, my life and my happiness are my Lord Jesus Christ, and you cannot turn me away from Him by your deceit!" Probus had her stripped of her clothing, in order to humiliate her. Probus subjected Anastasia to horrible tortures. The holy martyr bravely endured all of them, glorifying and praising God. When she became thirsty she asked for some water, and a Christian named Cyril gave her a drink. She thanked him, but Probus had him beheaded.

Then her tormentors cut off her breasts and ripped out her tongue, while an Angel held her upright. When the people witnessed the inhuman and disgusting treatment the Saint received, they became indignant, and Probus was forced to end the tortures by having her beheaded. In this manner, Saint Anastasia received the unfading crown of martyrdom. Saint Anastasia's body was thrown outside the city limits to be eaten by wild animals, but the Lord did not permit her holy relics to be dishonored. By the instructions of a holy Angel, Igomeness Sophia found Saint Anastasia's mutilated body. With the help of two Christians, she buried it in the earth.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Michelle, Yuri, Kelsey and her unborn

CATECHUMEN: Calvin

MISSIONARIES: The McDonald family

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUPPORT OF THE MINISTRIES OF THE OCA: His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon has designated November 5 as Stewards of the OCA Sunday. Across the Orthodox Church in America, parishes are encouraged to take a special collection to benefit the departments and offices of the OCA.

JOURNEY TO FULLNESS: Fr. Alessandro leads the discussion on the introductory course to the Orthodox Church called *Journey to Fullness* at 7:00p every Thursday via Zoom.

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY: Fr. Alessandro and the Parish Council have designated Sunday, November 12 as our Stewardship Sunday. Please, join us after Liturgy for coffee hour when Fr Alessandro will give a presentation on our vision for growth, budget, support for charity, and our collective financial commitment through pledges.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

October 29, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

November 1, Wed

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

November 2, Thu

7:00 PM

Journey to Fullness

November 4, Sat

5:00 PM

Great Vespers

November 5, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Oct 29

Nov 5

Coffee Hour:

Garber

Class

Reader:

Hughes

Woodill

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