



## ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA MISSION

Orthodox Church  
in America

[orthodoxalexandria.org](http://orthodoxalexandria.org)

3130 Franconia Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22310

Father Alessandro  
Margheritino  
516-353-4204  
[fatheralessandro@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## DECEMBER 4, 2022

*25th Sunday after Pentecost*

Glorification of Hieromartyr  
Alexander (Hotovitzky)  
Ven. John of Damascus  
Greatmartyr Barbara

## GREATMARTYR BARBARA

This glorious follower of Christ was betrothed to Christ from early childhood. Her father Dioscorus was a pagan and was renowned for his position and wealth in the city of Heliopolis in Egypt. Dioscorus locked up his only daughter Barbara, brilliant in mind and of beautiful countenance, in a high tower. He surrounded her with every comfort, gave her female servants, erected idols for worship, and built her a bathing room with two windows. Looking through the window at the earth below and the starry heavens above, Barbara's mind was opened by the grace of God. She recognized the One True God, the Creator, despite the fact that she did not have a human teacher to bring her to this knowledge. Once, while her father was away from the city, she came down from the tower and, according to God's providence, met some Christian women who revealed the true Faith of Christ to her. Barbara's heart became inflamed with love for Christ the Lord. She ordered that a third window be cut open in the bath so that the three windows would represent the Holy Trinity. On one wall she traced a Cross with her finger, and the Cross etched itself deep in the stone as if cut by a chisel. A pool of water sprang forth from her footprints on the floor of the bath, which later gave healing of diseases to many. Learning of his daughter's faith, Dioscorus beat her severely and drove her from the tower. He pursued her in order to kill her, but a cliff opened up and hid Barbara from her brutal father. When she appeared again, her father brought her to Martianus, the magistrate, who handed her over for torture. They stripped the innocent Barbara and flogged her until her entire body was covered with blood and wounds, but the Lord Himself appeared to her in prison with His angels and healed her. A certain woman, Juliana, upon seeing this, desired martyrdom for herself. Both women were severely tortured and with mockery were led through the city. Their

breasts were cut off and much blood flowed from them. They were finally led to the place of execution, where Dioscorus himself slaughtered his daughter, and Juliana was slain by the soldiers. That same day, lightning struck the house of Dioscorus, killing him and Martianus. St. Barbara suffered in the year 306 A.D. Her miracle-working relics rest in Kiev. Glorified in the Kingdom of Christ, she has appeared many times even in our own day, sometimes alone and sometimes in the company of the Most-holy Theotokos.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Fr. David, the Easton family, Edison, Barbara, Bobbi, Yuri, David

NAMEDAYS: Nicholas Barr

TRAVELER: Nadia

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION: All Orthodox Christians should approach the mystery of Confession regularly, and especially before great feasts like the Nativity of the Lord for which we are currently preparing. Fr. Alessandro is available after Vespers on Saturday. If you would like him to hear your confession at other times during the week, please email him in advance to schedule a time.

CHRISTMAS CARE KITS: On Sunday, Dec 18, during coffee hour, we will assemble Christmas Care Kits -- gallon Ziploc bags containing soft foods, \$5 cash in a Christmas card, socks, gloves, and additional small items. We all will be able to take these bags to distribute to people who are in need. Our goal is to assemble 75 Christmas Care Kits this year. Please sign up to bring items for the kits using the link provided via email by Fr. Alessandro.

BOOK STUDY: On November 23, Fr. Alessandro leads a book study group on the new book by Fr. Evan Armatas titled "[Reclaiming the Great Commission: A Roadmap to Parish Health](#)." This book study will meet every Wednesday at 7:00pm via Zoom.

### UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Dec 4, Sun	
8:45 AM	Church School
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Dec 6, Tue	
6:00 PM	Small Compline
Dec 9, Fri	
9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
Dec 10, Sat	
4:00 PM	Adult Education (1 Thess 5)
5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Dec 11, Sun	
8:45 AM	Church School
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Dec 13, Tue	
6:00 PM	Small Compline
Dec 14, Wed	
7:00 PM	Book Study

### MINISTRY ROTATIONS

*Coffee Hour* - Margheritino

*Reader* - Childs

*Assisting the Treasurer* - Easton & Garber

*Fr. Alessandro is available to hear confessions after Vespers or by appointment during the week*