



## ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church  
in America

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

3130 Franconia Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22310

Father Alessandro  
Margheritino  
(703) 828-5068

[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 10, 2023**

27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 2

Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and  
Eugraphus, of Alexandria

St. Joasaph, Bishop of Belgorod

## Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and EUGRAPHUS of Alexandria

The Holy Martyrs Menas, Hermogenes, and EUGRAPHUS suffered for their faith in Christ under the emperor Maximian (305-313). Saint Menas was sent by the emperor from Athens to Alexandria to suppress the riots that had arisen between the Christians and the pagans. Distinguished for his gift of eloquence, Menas instead openly began to preach the Christian Faith and he converted many pagans to Christ. Learning of this, Maximian sent Hermogenes to Alexandria to place the saints on trial. Moreover, he gave orders to purge the city of Christians.

Martyr Hermogenes Hermogenes, although he was a pagan, was distinguished by his reverent bearing. And struck by the endurance of Saint Menas under torture and by his miraculous healing after the cruel torments, he also came to believe in Christ. Maximian himself then arrived in Alexandria. Neither the astonishing stoic endurance of Saints Menas and Hermogenes under torture, nor even the miracles manifested by God in this city, mollified the emperor. Instead, they vexed him all the more. The emperor personally stabbed Saint EUGRAPHUS, the secretary of Saint Menas, who had declared himself a Christian upon witnessing the endurance of Saints Menas and Hermogenes; and then gave orders to behead the holy Martyrs Menas and Hermogenes.

The relics of the holy martyrs, cast into the sea in an iron chest, were afterwards found and transferred to Constantinople in the ninth century. The emperor Justinian built a church in the name of the holy Martyr Menas of Alexandria. Saint Joseph the Hymnographer composed a Canon in honor of these holy martyrs.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Basil, Michelle, Yuri, Davide, Pina, Kelsey and her unborn

CATECHUMEN: Calvin

MISSIONARIES: The McDonald family

BIRTHDAYS: Anita Childs, James Class

NAMEDAYS: Bob Easton

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHOIR REHEARSAL: The next choir rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, December 17. All singers who wish to join the choir for the Nativity services are expected to attend the rehearsal.

PARISH CLEAN-UP BEFORE NATIVITY: In preparation for the great feast of Nativity, we are meeting on Saturday, December 16 at 10a for a parish clean-up and preparation. Please join us—we will provide lunch.

ANNUAL MEETING & PARISH COUNCIL: Please note that our next Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28. We will be holding elections for some of the Parish Council positions. If you are interested in running, please speak with Fr. Alessandro.

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS: Join the Archdiocesan Choir, on December 28, 6:00 pm, for Vespers followed by Christmas caroling at St. Luke in McLean. This is a ticketed event. Your ticket covers a packet of caroling music, desserts, tea, coffee and hot chocolate. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under. <https://www.archdiocesanchoir.org/carol-sing-along>

ST. NICHOLAS CARE KITS: On Dec 17, we will assemble St. Nicholas Care Kits - gallon Ziploc bags containing a Christmas card with \$5 in cash, warm socks and gloves, some soft foods, and additional items.

Our goal this year is to assemble 75 Care Kits containing more than 20 items each. Please sign up to bring items for the kits using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B45AFAA22A1FD0-46100294-stnicholas#/>.

### UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

December 10, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

December 12, Tue

7:00 PM

Parish Council

December 13, Wed

9:00 AM

Divine Liturgy

6:00 PM

Small Compline

December 14, Thu

6:00 PM

Journey to Fullness

December 16, Sat

10:00 AM

Parish Clean-up

5:00 PM

Great Vespers

December 17, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

11:00 AM

St. Nicholas Project

12:00 PM

Choir Rehearsal

### MINISTRY ROTATIONS

**Dec 10**

**Dec 17**

Coffee Hour:

Parish

Childs

Reader:

Hughes

Easton

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