



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.

December 17, 2023

28th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 3

Sunday of the Forefathers

Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three
Holy Youths: Ananias, Azarias and
Misael

THE THREE HOLY YOUTHS: ANANIAS, AZARIAS AND MISAEAL

The Holy Youths Ananias (“God is gracious”), Azarias (“whom God helps”), and Misael (“Who is what God is?”) were companions of the Holy Prophet Daniel. They were chosen to serve in the king’s palace with Daniel (Daniel 1:6) and were all from the tribe of Judah. They gave Ananias the Chaldean name Shadrach (“royal”), Azarias the Chaldean name Abednego (“servant of Nego”), and Misael the Chaldean name Meshach (“guest”).

They were thrown into a fiery furnace when they refused to worship the golden idol set up by King Nebuchadnezzar, but the angel of the Lord preserved them (Daniel 3:25). The Seventh and Eighth Odes of the nine Biblical Odes at the back of the Psalter are taken from The Song of the Three Holy Youths (found in the Septuagint text of the Old Testament used by the Orthodox Church).

The Three Holy Youths and the Prophet Daniel are also commemorated on the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers and the Sunday of the Holy Fathers.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

CATECHUMEN: Calvin

MISSIONARIES: The McDonald family

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION: As we draw closer to the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, please note that Thursday, December 21 is the last day Fr. Alessandro will hear Confessions. All Orthodox Christians who regularly commune are expected to come to Confession before the great feast. Please, do not wait until the last few days.

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.

CHURCH SCHOOL BREAK: Please note that there will be no Church School on Sunday, December 24 and Sunday, December 31.

ANNUAL MEETING & PARISH COUNCIL: 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 17, Sun

8:45 AM

Church School

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

11:00 AM

St. Nicholas Project

12:00 PM

Choir Rehearsal

December 20, Wed

6:00 PM

Vespers & Compline

December 21, Thu

6:00 PM

Vespers & Compline

December 22, Fri

9:00 AM

Royal Hours

December 23, Sat

5:00 PM

Great Vespers

December 24, Sun

9:30 AM

Divine Liturgy

5:00 PM

Nativity Vigil

December 25, Mon

9:30 AM

Festal Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Dec 17

Dec 24

Coffee Hour:

Childs

Margheritino

Reader:

Easton

Barr

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