



ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA MISSION

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 18, 2022

27th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday before the Nativity
Sunday of the Holy Fathers
Martyr Sebastian at Rome and his
companions

HOLY MARTYR SEBASTIAN AND THOSE WITH HIM

This Saint, who was from the city of Milan, was a member of the Senate as well as a zealot for the Faith of Christ, and had converted many to the knowledge of God. As an honorable, just and merciful man, Sebastian was greatly beloved by his soldiers.

Whenever he could, he saved Christians from torture and death, and, when he was unable to do so, he exhorted them to die for Christ the Living God without turning back.

When Diocletian and Maximian began a Persecution against the Christians, Saint Sebastian was arrested and pierced with sharp arrows, and the bones of his body were shattered with clubs; and being cut into pieces, he gave up his spirit to God in the year 288. Together with him there were others also who died while enduring various tortures.

Their names are Marcellinus and Mark the brethren, Tranquillinus their father, Nicostratus and his spouse Zoe, Tiburtius, Claudius, Castulus, and Castor.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Fr. David, Bob, Barbara, Bobbi, Yuri,
David

DEPARTED: John

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION: Fr. Alessandro is available after Vespers and Small Compline to hear confessions. If you would like to schedule another time during the week, please email him. Fr. Alessandro will not hear confessions before Christmas after Thursday, December 22.

CHRISTMAS CARE KITS: Today, Sunday, Dec 18, we will assemble Christmas Care Kits during coffee hour. Please, plan to stay and help!

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: Our Annual Parish Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, following Divine Liturgy. We will hear reports, approve the 2023 Budget, discuss property search, and elect a new Parish Council. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this important gathering of our parish.

PARISH COUNCIL: Fr. Alessandro and the Parish Council decided to hold elections for all the members of the Council at the upcoming Annual Parish Assembly next January. If you would like to run for one of the positions, please speak to Fr. A. by Wednesday, January 11. While term limits are 2 years renewable 2 times (up to 6 consecutive years), we plan to have staggering terms. The positions available are:

- Lay Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Three (3) Trustees

CHURCH SCHOOL & BIBLE STUDY BREAK: Note that Church School and Bible Study will **not** meet on December 24-25 and Dec 31-Jan 1.

KEYS TO THE CHURCH: In the attempt to do an inventory of our Church keys, please let Fr. Alessandro know if you have one. If you do and no longer need/use it, please return it to him. Thank you.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: In preparation for the Nativity Vigil, our choir will have another rehearsal on Tuesday, December 20, following Vespers & Compline.

ARCHDIOCESAN CHOIR CONCERT: Join us for an evening of Christmas carols, singing alongside the Archdiocesan Choir! We will

begin with vespers at 6pm and then will share both Orthodox and Western carols. This is a ticketed event. To learn more or purchase tickets, visit our website: archdiocesanchoir.org/carol-sing-along

BOOK STUDY: Join us for a conversation on Fr. Evan Armatas' new book "Reclaiming the Great Commission." This book study meets every Wednesday at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Dec 18, Sun	
8:45 AM	Church School
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Dec 20, Tue	
6:00 PM	Vespers & Compline
7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Dec 21, Wed	
6:00 PM	Book Study
Dec 22, Thu	
6:00 PM	Vespers & Compline
Dec 23, Fri	
9:00 AM	Royal Hours
5:00 PM	Vespers & Compline
Dec 24, Sat	
9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
5:00 PM	Nativity Vigil
Dec 25, Sun	
9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Coffee Hour - Garber

Reader - Class

Assisting the Treasurer - Garber & Hecth

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