



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 25, 2022

28th Sunday after Pentecost

The Nativity According to the Flesh
of our Lord God and Savior Jesus
Christ

The Adoration of the Magi

THEE NATIVITY OF OUR LOD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son (Galatians 4:4) to save the human race. And when nine months were fulfilled from the Annunciation, when the Archangel Gabriel had appeared to the Most-holy Virgin in Nazareth, saying, *Rejoice, thou that art highly favored ... behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son* (Luke 1:28, 31), at that time there went forth a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the people of the Roman Empire should be taxed. In accordance with this decree, everyone had to go to his own town and be registered. That is why the righteous Joseph came with the Most-holy Virgin to Bethlehem, the city of David, for they were both of the royal lineage of David. Since many people descended on this small town for the census, Joseph and Mary were unable to find lodging in any house, and they sought shelter in a cave which shepherds used as a sheepfold. In this cave, the Most-holy Virgin gave birth to the Savior of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ. Giving birth to Him without pain just as He was conceived without sin by the Holy Spirit and not by man, she herself wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, worshiped Him as God, and laid Him in a manger. Then the righteous Joseph drew near and worshiped Him as the Divine Fruit of the Virgin's womb. Then the shepherds came in from the fields, directed by an angel of God, and worshiped Him as the Messiah and Savior. The shepherds heard a multitude of God's angels singing: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.* At that time three wise men arrived from the east, led by a wondrous star, bearing their gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh. They worshiped Him as the King of kings, and offered Him their gifts. Thus entered the world He Whose coming was foretold by the prophets, and Who was born in the same manner in which it had been

prophesied: of a Most-holy Virgin, in the town of Bethlehem, of the lineage of David according to the flesh, at the time when there was no king in Jerusalem of the lineage of Judah, but rather when Herod, a foreigner, was reigning. After many types and prefigurings, messengers and heralds, prophets and righteous men, wise men and kings, finally He appeared, the Lord of the world and King of kings, to perform the work of the salvation of mankind, which could not be performed by His servants. To Him be eternal glory and praise! Amen

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Fr. David, Elizabeth, Evangelos, Barbara, Bobbi, Yuri, David

DEPARTED: John

ANNIVERSARIES: Anton & Irina Dolgopolov

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

ONLINE DONATIONS: As we announced a few months ago, you are now able to make donations through a secure portal on our website. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Treasurer, Lisa.

WEEKDAY PARKING: Because Cameron Methodist rents out the front parking lot on Monday-Friday during the day, for any weekday services at All Saints in the morning or early afternoon, we are asked to park in the large parking lot behind the main building. Please note that this does not apply to evening services or weekends.

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 25, Sun 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
Dec 27, Tue 6:00 PM	Archdiocesan Choir Concert @St. Luke
Dec 31, Sat 5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Jan 1, Sun 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Coffee Hour - NO COFFEE HOUR

Reader - Bob & Robert Easton

Assisting the Treasurer - Easton & Childs

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