



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 31, 2023

30th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 5

Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King, and James the Brother of the Lord
Leavetaking of the Nativity

COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY RIGHTEOUS DAVID THE
KING, JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, AND JAMES THE BROTHER
OF THE LORD

The Holy Prophet-King David, Saint Joseph the Betrothed, and Saint James the Brother of the Lord are commemorated on the Sunday after the Nativity.

If there is no Sunday between December 25 and January 1, their commemoration is moved to December 26. At an early date, some churches in the East began to commemorate certain important figures of the New Testament at the time of Theophany, and later during the Nativity season.

In Syria, for example, Saint Stephen (December 27), Saints James (April 30) and John (September 26), and Saints Peter and Paul (June 29) were commemorated near the end of December. In Jerusalem, the saints mentioned above were combined with a feast that the Jews of Hebron celebrated on December 25 or 26 in honor of the Old Testament Patriarch Jacob. Later on, the Christians substituted Saint James (October 23) for Jacob, and then the commemoration of the Brother of the Lord became associated with his ancestor King David.

In time, Saint Joseph was linked with Saints David and James. Saint Joseph had four sons from his previous marriage: James, Judah, Joses, and Simon (or Symeon), and three daughters: Esther, Martha, and Salome, who was the mother of Saint John the Theologian.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

CATECHUMEN: Calvin

MISSIONARIES: The McDonald family

NAMEDAYS: Emilia Barr, Andrew Garber, Christine Garber

DEPARTED: Archpriest Daniel

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE HOUR HOST: We are looking for one or two additional coffee hour hosts to serve once every 6 weeks. You can join forces with a fellow parishioner if you do not wish to do it on your own. We would be grateful if you would consider contributing to our hospitality ministry by joining the team!

CUTTING OF THE VASILOPITA: On January 1, the feast of the Circumcision of the Lord and the feast of St. Basil the Great, following the Divine Liturgy, we will bless and cut the special bread in honor of St. Basil, the Vasilopita.

BLESSING OF THE POTOMAC: On Saturday, January 6, following the Divine Liturgy, we will join His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon at the Oronoco Bay Park (plan to park on Pendleton St.) where His Beatitude will bless the Potomac River.

HOME BLESSINGS: If you would like to have your house blessed, please let Fr. Alessandro know. Home blessings will be scheduled through the end of February. To prepare for Father's visit, make a list of the names of those family members you want to pray for. On your dining room table or at your icon corner, lay out a white cloth if you have it, and set on it a candle that can be carried around the house and your prayer list. (No need to prepare a bowl with water). A member of the family will lead the priest around the house with the candle.

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.

PSALMODY CONCERT: On January 17, 7:30p, at Sts. Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church in Potomac, the Archdiocesan Choir will offer a special concert entitled "Behold How Good: A Concert of Psalmody." This is a ticketed event. For more information and to reserve your ticket, visit: archdiocesanchoir.org/psalmody-concert

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

December 31, Sun 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
January 1, Mon 9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
January 4, Thu 7:00 PM	Journey to Fullness
January 5, Fri 9:00 AM 6:00 PM	Royal Hours Theophany Vigil
January 6, Sat 9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Festal Liturgy Great Vespers
January 7, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School Divine Liturgy

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	Dec 31	Jan 7
<i>Coffee Hour:</i>	Hughes	Garber
<i>Reader:</i>	Class	Hughes

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