



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.

FEBRUARY 2, 2025

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
TONE 7

Sunday of Zacchaeus

The Meeting of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ, in the Temple

SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation. Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12). The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions. We are also assured of God’s mercy and compassion by Christ’s words to Zacchaeus, “Today salvation has come to this house” (Luke 19:9). Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Kelly, Jim, Sharon, Martha, Larissa, Bob, David, Zondra, Art, Jerry, Davide

CATECHUMEN: Brooke, Sarah, Levi, Daniel

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF CANDLES: This Sunday, our Church School children will prepare candles for the feast of the Meeting of the Lord celebrated on February 2. At the end of the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Alessandro will bless the candles that will then be distributed to parishioners to take home.

CHRISMATION: Today, before Divine Liturgy, we will be welcoming our catechumen Sarah into the fullness of the Orthodox Christian Church through the rite of Chrismation.

INSTALLING PARISH COUNCIL: Today, at the end of Divine Liturgy, the new parish council will be installed after having received the blessing of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon.

MISSION'S DINNER: Everyone is welcome to attend the Missions Dinner at Ss Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church in Potomac on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Vespers begins at 5:00. The Missions Dinner begins with appetizers and social time, followed by the dinner and program at 6:30. Registration link: <https://ocmc.org/potomac-dinner> For more information, please contact Paula Massouh at pmassouh@aol.com.

"SOUPER BOWL OF CARING" DIAPER & DONATION DRIVE: A big football game is coming up on February 9, 2025, and once again on that weekend our parish will "tackle" hunger to help people in need both near and far. We will be collecting diapers in sizes 5 and 6, baby wipes, toothpaste, bottles of dish soap (18 oz or smaller), and laundry detergent pods along with non-perishable food items for the Grace Pantry in Alexandria. We also will collect donations for the FOCUS North America LA Fire Relief Fund to help California residents suffering from the recent wildfires (see below). Our goals for this event are to collect over 1000 diapers and over \$1000 in donations for the FOCUS LA Fire Relief Fund. Please bring your donations of diapers, wipes, and other items for the food pantry on or before

Sunday, February 9. Lory Easton is willing to purchase items at Costco for any who would like to contribute that way (PayPal to LBEbiz2010@gmail.com or Zelle 312-401-5993), and a [Souper Bowl of Caring Amazon Wish List](#) also is available. We also will use an antique soup pot to collect cash donations for the LA Fire Relief Fund these next few weekends; if you choose to make a donation directly using the FOCUS website, please let Lory know so we can estimate the amount sent by our parish.

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

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|------------|-----------------|
| Feb 1, Sat | |
| 5:00 PM | Great Vespers |
| 6:00 PM | Choir Rehearsal |
| Feb 2, Sun | |
| 8:45 AM | Church School |
| 9:00 AM | Chrismation |
| 9:30 AM | Divine Liturgy |
| Feb 8, Sat | |
| 5:00 PM | Great Vespers |
| 6:00 PM | Choir Rehearsal |
| Feb 9, Sun | |
| 8:45 AM | Church School |
| 9:30 AM | Divine Liturgy |

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

| | Feb 2 | Feb 9 |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <i>Coffee Hour:</i> | Margheritino | Class |
| <i>Reader:</i> | Garber | Mykyta |
| <i>Cleaning:</i> | Easton | Class |
| <i>Communion Cloth:</i> | Mikhalevsky/Easton | Mazzeo/Class |

Priest available for Confession after Vespers or by appointment