



## ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church  
in America

[orthodoxalexandria.org](http://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.

## MARCH 23, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Tone 6

Veneration of the Cross

Martyr Nikon and 199 disciples with  
him in Sicily

## HIEROMARTYR NIKON

Nikon was born in Naples of a pagan father and Christian mother. He was a Roman officer in Naples and was unbaptized, even though his mother tutored him in the Christian Faith, hiding this from his father. Once, when Nikon was sent into battle with his troops, his mother counseled him to make the sign of the Cross and to call upon Christ for help if any misfortune should befall him. And, indeed, when during the battle Nikon's troops were completely surrounded and extremely close to final destruction, Nikon made the sign of the Cross and in his heart cried out to Christ. Immediately he was filled with extraordinary strength and pursued his enemies. Some he slew, and others he forced to flee. Returning to his home, Nikon continuously cried out in amazement: "Great is the Christian God." After he had made his mother happy with the news of his victory with the help of the Cross of Christ, he secretly sailed to Asia. There he was baptized by Theodosius, Bishop of Cyzicus. Following his baptism, he secluded himself in a monastery, where he devoted himself to study and asceticism. Before his death Theodosius had a vision in which he was told to ordain Nikon as his successor. Immediately the aged Theodosius summoned Nikon and ordained him a deacon, then a priest, and finally a bishop. Shortly thereafter, according to God's providence, Nikon came to Naples where he discovered that his mother was still living. Following his mother's death, Nikon withdrew to Sicily with nine disciples, his former military companions. There he dedicated himself to preaching the Gospel. At that time, however, there was a terrible persecution of Christians. Prince Quintianus captured Nikon with his companions and inflicted great pain and suffering upon them. Nikon's 199 disciples and companions were beheaded. The tormentor tied Nikon to the tails of horses, hurled him from a steep wall into a gorge, beat him, and skinned him. Nikon, however, survived all of these tortures. Finally, he was beheaded and took up his habitation with the Lord. His body was left in the fields to be devoured by the birds. A certain herdsman, possessed by a violent evil spirit, tripped and fell over the body of Christ's martyr, and was immediately healed. He proclaimed the news about Nikon's body, and Christians came forth and

honorably buried it. St. Nikon suffered during the reign of the Emperor Decius

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Larissa, Bob, David, Zondra, Art, Jerry, Davide

CATECHUMEN: Brooke, Levi, Daniel, Robert

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

DEPARTED: Archpriest Paul

BIRTHDAYS: Archpriest Sean, Matushka Juliana, Benjamin Garber, Harned Calvin, Robert Easton

NAMEDAYS: Gabriel Woodill

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT EDUCATION: We have begun a new Adult Education course based on the *Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs*, a new manual for adult instruction published by the Orthodox Church in America. The adult education takes place on Sunday at 8:45a in the large Methodist building, where Church School takes place. The discussion will go until 9:10a. Everyone is welcome to attend!

CONFESSION: It is important that every Orthodox Christian receives the Mystery of Confession during the Lenten season. In the coming weeks, Fr. Alessandro will be available after Great Vespers (Sat), or by appointment. If you wish to come before services, please let him know ahead of time. Please, note that Friday, April 11 is the last day when Fr. Alessandro will hear Confessions before Pascha.

POST-PRESANCTIFIED POTLUCKS: As it is customary in many Orthodox communities, we will share a lenten meal following the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. Please, feel free to bring (but not mandatory), a lenten dish or side to share.

MEALS SIGN-UP: A sign-up genius has been shared via email to invite parishioners to sign up for dishes to share after the Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent.

21st ALL-AMERICAN COUNCIL: The 21st All-American Council will take place in Phoenix, AZ on July 14-18. As in the past, there will be a youth program that week. For more information and to register, please visit [oca.org/aac](http://oca.org/aac).

## UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Mar 23, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School & Adult Ed. Divine Liturgy
Mar 25, Tue 6:00 PM	Vesperal Liturgy
Mar 26, Wed 6:00 PM 6:00 PM	Presanctified Liturgy Potluck Meal
Mar 27, Thu 7:00 PM	Parish Council
Mar 29, Sat 5:00 PM	Great Vespers
Mar 30, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School & Adult Ed. Divine Liturgy

## MINISTRY ROTATIONS

	<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>Mar 30</b>
Coffee Hour:	Margheritino	Schmitt/Bomadevar
Reader:	Hughes	Barr
Cleaning:	Garber	Mykyta/Voss
Communion Cloth:	Class/Terezi	Garber/Mikhalevsky

*Priest available for Confession after Vespers or by appointment*