

## ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

3130 Franconia Rd Alexandria, VA 22310

### 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 26, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Leavetaking of the Annunciation Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel St. John Climacus

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#### SYNAXIS OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL

nunciation, the day on which the All-Pure Virgin is glorified, we give thanks to the Lord and we venerate His messenger Gabriel, who contributed to the mystery of our salvation. Gabriel, the holy Archistrategos (Leader of the Heavenly Hosts), is a faithful servant of the Almighty God. He announced the future Incarnation of the Son of God to those of the Old Testament; he inspired the Prophet Moses to write the Pentateuch (first five books of the Old Testament), he announced the coming tribulations of the Chosen People to the Prophet Daniel (Dan. 8:16, 9:21-24); he appeared to Saint Anna (July 25) with the news that she would give birth to the Virgin Mary. The holy Archangel Gabriel remained with the Holy Virgin Mary when She was a child in the Temple of Jerusalem, and watched over Her throughout Her earthly life. He appeared to the Priest Zachariah, foretelling the birth of the Forerunner of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist. The Lord sent him to Saint Joseph the Betrothed in a dream, to reveal to him the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God from the All-Pure Virgin Mary, and warned him of the wicked intentions of Herod, ordering him to flee into Egypt with the divine Infant and His Mother. When the Lord prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane before His Passion, the Archangel Gabriel, whose very name signifies "Man of God" (Luke. 22:43), was sent from Heaven to strengthen Him. The Myrrh-Bearing Women heard from the Archangel the joyous news of Christ's Resurrection. Mindful of the manifold appearances of the holy Archangel Gabriel and of his zealous fulfilling of God's will, and confessing his intercession for Christians before the Lord, the Orthodox Church calls upon its children to pray to the great Archangel with faith and love.

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: Igumen Leonty, Archpriest Daniel, Emilia, Steve, Daniel, Brian, Don, Bobbi, Yuri, David BIRTHDAYS: David Shoffner NAMEDAYS: Gabriel Woodill

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Please note that the next choir rehearsal is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, after Vespers.

POST-PRESANCTIFIED POTLUCKS: Join us for 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.

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 for Confession after the Liturgy of the Presanctified, after Great Vespers (Sat), or by appointment. If you wish to come before these services, please let him know ahead of time. Please, note that Friday, April 7 (the day before Lazarus Saturday) is the last day when Fr. Alessandro will hear Confessions before Pascha. When we enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, our focus must be exclusively on walking with our Lord through His passion.

#### **UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS**

Mar 29, Wed 6:00 PM 7:15 PM	Presanctified Liturgy Potluck Meal
Mar 30, Thu 7:00 PM	Parish Council
Apr 1, Sat 5:00 PM 5:45 PM	Great Vespers Choir Rehearsal
Apr 2, Sun 8:45 AM 9:30 AM	Church School Divine Liturgy

#### MINISTRY ROTATIONS

Coffee Hour - Childs Reader - Weaver Assisting the Treasurer - Garber & Childs

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