

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre Orthodox Church

A Mission of the Orthodox Church in America

Meeting at St. Stephen Catholic Chapel, 2400 E Moody Blvd, Bunnell, FL 32110

Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Confessions heard 9:00 AM Sundays, before and after evening services, and by appointment

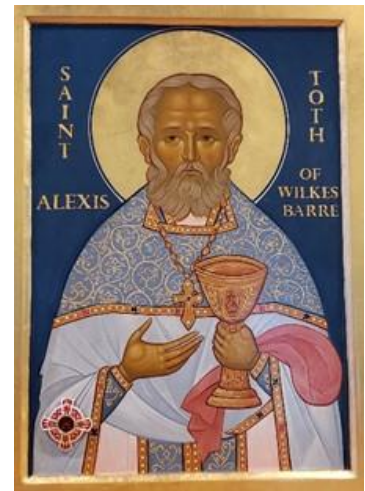
SUNDAY, August 3, 2025

TONE 7

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Ven. Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus, Ascetics of the Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople

“The Orthodox Christian Church
is evangelical, but not Protestant.
orthodox, but not Jewish.
It is catholic, but not Roman.
not denominational, it is pre-denominational.
has believed, taught, preserved, defended
and died for the Faith of the Apostles
since the Day of Pentecost nearly 2,000 years ago.”
– *Our Life in Christ*



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Welcome to our Guests! Thank you for coming to pray with us. You will find a weekly bulletin with today's hymns and a blue guest information card on the back table. Please fill out the card and give it to Fr David after the service so he can meet you. You are also invited to *Coffee Fellowship Hour* in the parish hall following the Liturgy this morning.

According to ancient Christian practice, Holy Communion (Eucharist) is served to members of the Orthodox Church who have made preparation through prayer, fasting, and recent confession, and who are at peace with their neighbor. If you are not a member of the Orthodox Church, you may be offered blessed bread (*antidoron*) by others in respect and love.

Announcements:

Great Vespers this Tuesday, August 5 @ 6:00 pm in celebration of the Feast of the Transfiguration with the blessing of first-fruits! We will return Tuesday evening for Great Vespers and Litya at 6:00 pm. The texts from the Old Testament which we hear during Great Vespers of the Feast of the Transfiguration begin with the account of Moses on Mt. Sinai where God gives the Law written on stone tablets (Exodus 24:12-18). Now, in the Transfiguration, God reveals His Son in His glory, standing with Moses. The next reading is also from Exodus when Moses asks to see God's glory, of which we glimpse in the Transfiguration. We also read two episodes from the life of the great prophet, Elijah, who also appears with Jesus (LXX 3 Kings 19). Jesus is the fulfillment of all law and all prophecy, the completion of the Old Testament Covenant. The Transfiguration, the Procession of the Cross, and the Dormition of the Theotokos bring closure to the church year ending on August 31.

Invitation to Bring Fruit *Tuesday evening* for the Blessing of "First-Fruits"

Fr Alexander Schmemmann wrote: *"On the Transfiguration we bring to church apples, pears, grapes, vegetables, and suddenly the church itself is transformed anew into that mystical garden, into that blessed paradise where man's life and his encounter with God began. And just as that first man rejoiced and gave thanks to God as he opened his eyes for the first time and saw this world where everything, by God's own word, was 'very good,' so in this rite of blessing we see the world as if for the first time, as the reflection of God's wisdom and love, and we rejoice and give thanks. And through this joy and thanksgiving our life is purified, renewed and reborn"* (Celebration of Faith, Vol 2, p 161).

All are invited to bring fruits and vegetables to the table in the front of the nave where they will be blessed *after Vespers on Tuesday, August 5.*

Memory Eternal to our sister in Christ, Jalina (*Galina*) Garcia (reposed July 27, 2025)

Those of us who knew Jalina (Galina) from her years at St. Alexis Orthodox Mission will miss her smile and indomitable spirit. What a faithful, energetic, and lovely handmaiden of the Lord! She would often bring photos and share stories of the early days of St. Alexis Mission which she and her husband by their prayers and support helped to start. How fitting and true to character that her big heart held and loved her brothers and sisters in Christ in not just one, but two, church communities! We have benefited and will continue to be blessed through her prayers for us all, along with those of her beloved husband with whom she is now reunited. May their memory be eternal! **Memorial prayers will be offered at St. Alexis following the Divine Liturgy Sunday August 3. Her obituary and funeral arrangements may be found here:** <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/flagler-beach-fl/jalina-garcia-12466339>

We Are Growing... and there are two important ministries in our church community needing additional volunteers. These opportunities are open to both men and women who are chrismated members of the faithful at St. Alexis: ***Greeters & readers of the Hours.***

- ***A brief instructional session this Sunday, August 3, following the Liturgy (12:00)*** will be given for those interested in offering their time and talents in this way. *If you signed up or are interested in learning more, please attend.*
- We need multiple people to share in this responsibility so that it does not land on just one person every week. Men and women are welcome to inquire.
- We also need volunteers to sign up to read the 6th and 9th Hour prayers before the Divine Liturgy each Sunday. Those who are signed up to read the Hours arrive by 9AM Sunday to be ready to start chanting 6th and 9th Hour prayers at 9:15.
 - ***A tutorial on Sunday, August 17, following the Liturgy*** will be led by Fr David and Mka Rozanne for all who are interested in learning more about chanting the Hours in the OCA, and specifically at our parish.
- Interested? Want to learn more? Let Fr David know (**text:** 904-599-5812 or **email:** priest@stalexisoca.org or **speak with him personally**).

Catechism in the Nave after Coffee Fellowship (12:15-1:30) on Designated Sundays

Members and enquirers are welcome to join our Catechumens during these open sessions led by our priest. Check the calendar and listen for announcements.

Preparing for the New Church Year

The annual cycle of services in the Orthodox Church begins on September 1 and ends on August 31. We begin the Church year with the Nativity of Mary (the Theotokos, or God-bearer) on September 8, followed by the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14. As we end each Church year we commemorate the Procession of the Cross on August 1 (not one of the Great Feasts) and the Dormition (*falling asleep*) of Mary on August 15. This is *The Story* in which we participate as we each pick up our own cross and follow our Lord from birth to death. We are not alone in our journey through this life. We accompany our Lord's blessed Mother, the disciples, and all who have gone before us. This new Church year will bring many blessings and new ministry opportunities to our parish. Orthodoxy is not a "spectator sport." Every person who enters our Church is a participant according to their faith, love, and gifts. Yes, every person! Come and see. Come and BE!

MORE Opportunities for Love and Ministry in our Parish:

- **We need your help to set up our worship space on Sunday mornings.** Arrive by 8:00 AM and our Altar Servers will supervise the setting up process. **If you are an able-bodied member of our parish but cannot help during set-up, PLEASE do assist in the take-down process and clean-up.**
- **Can you push a light-weight stick vacuum?** We need volunteers to vacuum 1) ***the nave*** by noon each Sunday, and 2) ***the parish hall & kitchen*** after Coffee Fellowship Hour! See Mike or Karla.
- **Woodworkers, carpenters, and other skilled craftsmen needed!** In preparation for having our own building, there are projects waiting to be completed. If you have tools and expertise, your services will be greatly appreciated. Do you know someone with these skills? Send information to Fr David.

Building Fund: Still Growing!

Offerings may be designated at any time for the Building Fund and given online or placed in the ***Tithes & Offerings*** box on a table at the back of the nave.

Encouraging ACH donations at St. Alexis

We encourage online donors to choose **ACH** rather than credit card transactions. Our parish is charged a 2.2% transaction fee for each credit card donation. In contrast, we are charged only \$.25 for each ACH donation. This adds up to significant savings over time. In order to donate via ACH, you will need to register with **Church Connect**, a one-time, quick, secure set up. Mka Rozanne, Sdn Daniel, or Mike (Ruddy) are available to assist you.

Church Connect - Our St Alexis Orthodox Church App

- Scan the **QR code** with your smart phone to create your account
- You may also go directly to the link at: stalexisoca.org/give
- If you need help setting up your account, see Mka Rozanne



Prayer Lists – Pray for each other daily:

The Departed

- His Eminence, DMITRI (Royster), Founding Bishop of the DOS (August 28, 2011)
- Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware) of Diakleia, Great Britain (August 24, 2022)
- The Priest Slava
- Archpriest John Reeves, DOS (August 22, 2022)
- The newly departed Jalina (*Galina*) Garcia (July 27, 2025)
- Mka Anne Hopko (Aug 4, 2022)
- Nikolay Lagunchik (Aug 10, 2019)
- Missionary Lynette (Katerina) Hoppe (Albania, Aug. 27, 2006)
- Victims of accidents, hostilities, and natural disasters around the world
- The Unborn

Servants of God

- Fr Aleksandr Yu Shi, Church of the Protection of the Mother of God (Harbin, China)
- The Werner family at St Vladimir Seminary
- Fr Patrick, Mka Lauren, James, Walter, Henry, Kathryn, Ethan, Marissa, Andrew
- Mka Robin, Dn Jim, Fr Jordan, Mka Vanessa, Fr James, Fr Patrick, Mka Kristen, Sdn Irenaios, Lindsey, Nathan, Gabriela, Daniel, Sophia
- Ilya, Mary, Christopher, Cindy, Moses, Michael, Andrew, John, Nina, Alexis, Emilia & the child she carries, Monica, Bill, Carol, Linda, Madelyn, Stefan, Elena
- All members of our community traveling or on the bed of sickness
- St Gerard Campus staff and the mothers and babies they serve
- All who are homeless, unemployed, or under-employed in our community
- Catechumens Kenadea, Michael, Chris, Lesly, Gianna, Marco

Prayer for a home for St Alexis (Augmented Litany):

Again we ask Thee to continue to grant us wisdom, understanding, and discernment as we purchase buildings and property. Grant us great love and compassion for one another and the ability to inquire respectfully and listen carefully. Lead us in the way of Thy Truth for the glory of Thy Kingdom as we continue becoming Thy disciples and participate in making disciples, for the salvation of our children, our neighbors, and all people.

Today's Hymns: *Please sing along with the choir -- and all week long!*

Tone 7 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that Thou art risen,//
granting the world great mercy.

Tone 4 Troparion (*St. Alexis*)

O righteous Father Alexis,
our heavenly intercessor and teacher,
divine adornment of the Church of Christ!
Entreat the Master of All
To strengthen the Orthodox Faith in America,
To grant peace to the world //
And to our souls great mercy.

Tone 7 Kontakion (*Resurrection*)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:
"The Savior has come to those in faith;//
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

Tone 2 Kontakion (*Venerable Ones*)

Through asceticism you shone like lights in the world,
and by your faith you overthrew heresies.
We praise you with hymns, Isaac, Dalmatus, and Faustus,//
as servants of Christ, who are praying for us all.

Tone 6 Kontakion (*Steadfast Protectress of Christians*)

Steadfast Protectress of Christians,
Constant Advocate before the Creator;
despise not the entreating cries of us sinners,
but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith.
Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, //
for you always protect those who honor you!

Scripture Readings:

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Gospel: Matthew 14:14-22

Life in our Church

Dormition Fast August 1-15

Sunday, Aug 3	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour (NO meat or dairy)</i> Greeters Mini-Workshop Catechism	9:30 AM 12:00-12:30 12:30-1:30 PM
Tuesday, Aug 5	Festal Great Vespers with Litya <i>Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord</i>	6:00 PM

Wednesday, August 6 Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

<i>Thursday, Aug 7</i>	<i>NO Bible Study</i>	<i>6:00 PM</i>
Sunday, Aug 10	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour (NO meat or dairy)</i> Parish Council Meeting	9:30 AM
Thursday, Aug 14	Festal Great Vespers with Litya <i>Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos</i>	6:00 PM

Friday, August 15 Feast of the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos

Sunday, Aug 17	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i> Readers Workshop	9:30 AM 12-1:30 PM
Thursday, Aug 21	Bible Study (at the Ayer home)	6:00 PM
Saturday, Aug 23	Prosphora Baking (at the Ayer home)	10 AM-2 PM
Sunday, Aug 24	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i> Catechism Choir Rehearsal	9:30 AM 12-1:30 PM 12-1:30 PM
Thursday, Aug 28	Bible Study (at the Ayer home)	6:00 PM
Sunday, Aug 31	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i> Catechism	9:30 AM 12-1:30 PM

Church New Year September 1

His Eminence, The Most Reverend ALEXANDER, Archbishop of Dallas and the South
Archpriest David C. Rucker ♦ 904-599-5812 ♦ priest@stalexisoca.org
Parish Council President James Humphries ♦ 904-540-2476