

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

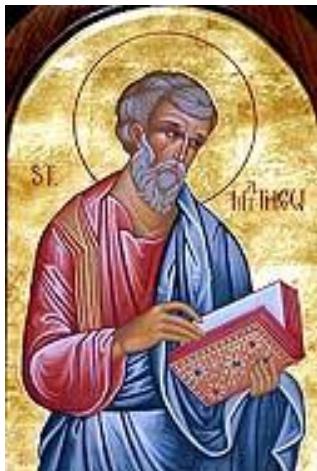
Confessions heard 9:00 AM Sundays, before and after evening services, and by appointment

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

23rd Sunday after Pentecost (8th of Luke)

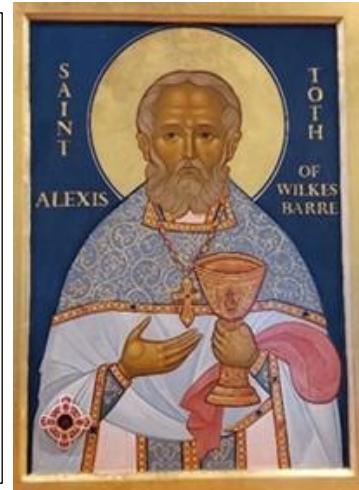
Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew

TONE 6



“The Orthodox Christian Church is evangelical, but not Protestant. It is orthodox, but not Jewish. It is catholic, but not Roman. It is not denominational, it is pre-denominational. It 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



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 a greeter or put it in an offering box. You are also invited to *Coffee Fellowship* in the parish hall following the Liturgy this morning. Our priest, Fr David, looks forward to meeting you!

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.

Greeter Schedule:	Nov 16	Nov 23	Nov 30	Dec 7	Dec 14
	Octavian F	Kenadea N	Michael P	Chris M	Olga L

Announcements:

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! This Year's Annual Parish Meeting TODAY - Sunday, November 16

All Faithful members of our parish are requested to attend the Annual Parish Meeting following the Divine Liturgy. This yearly gathering is an opportunity to rejoice together in all that God is doing in and through our parish — and we have much to rejoice over. It is also an opportunity to renew our Vision for the coming year. The meeting includes financial reports, approval of the 2026 budget, election of the Parish Council, building/property search updates, and officers' reports. Please plan to attend.

Shortened Coffee Fellowship TODAY - Sunday, November 16

Due to our Annual Parish Meeting, there will be a short break between the Liturgy and the meeting – just enough time to get a cup of coffee and a snack provided by the Church. No birthdays will be celebrated at the church on November 16. If you are still hungry, take someone out to lunch after the Annual Parish Meeting!

Saturday, November 15 began the season of “winter Lent” when we intensify our prayer, almsgiving, and fasting for 40 days in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (Christmas). In our fasting as a community, there will be *no meat or dairy* for Coffee Fellowship Hour until the Sunday after Christmas. Thank you!

Thursday, November 20, 6PM: Great Vespers for the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple

- Do not miss the opportunity to celebrate one of the [Twelve Great Feasts](#) in the Orthodox Church!
- Fr David will be available 4:00-5:30 pm to hear confessions.
- Choir will gather to rehearse at 5:15pm.
- About this Feast - Met. Tikhon in a Pastoral Letter:

We prepare to celebrate the great feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple, when, in the words of Basil the Monk, ‘Anna led the undefiled Temple into the house of God’ (2nd canon of the feast). According to the 2nd Book of Maccabees, the holy prophet Jeremiah hid the ancient treasures of the temple—the ark, the tent, and the altar of incense—in a cave until the latter days, when God shall gather together his people and reveal his mercy (2 Macc. 2:5). Thus, when the Virgin Mary was brought into the Holy of Holies, she found it empty. But, as the hymns of the feast teach us, the Most Holy Theotokos is in fact the fulfillment of the shadowy ark and all that it contained. She is the true ark of God’s Presence (1st canon). She is the true tabernacle, the true altar. She is the true Holy of Holies, the true treasure of the true Israel, which is the Church. And by entering into the temple, she fulfilled the shadows of the Old Covenant and proclaimed the New.

As Christians, we are heirs to all of these treasures of both Testaments: both those ancient objects hidden in a cavern by the prophet, and the Maiden who is lovelier than all other creation, whom the Lord has given to us as our loving and protective Mother (Jn. 19:27). But these divine treasures are given to us, not so that we can hoard them up and build bigger barns, but so that we can share these spiritual riches with the world (Lk. 12:18).

- More About this Feast - Father Thomas Hopko in [The Winter Pascha](#):

*In the Orthodox Church the Virgin Mary is the image of those who are being saved. If Jesus Christ is the Savior, Mary is, par excellence, the image of the saved. **She is, in every aspect of her life, as Father Alexander Schmemann so often said, not the great exception, but rather the great example.** From her conception to her dormition, that is, her true and real death, she shows how all people must be when they are sanctified by the Holy Spirit as servants of God and imitators of Christ.*

Special Activities Bag for Young Children to Use at Church

Parents, you will find cloth St Alexis bags in the back of the church designed for you and your younger children to use during services. Please return the bag to the book table before you leave! We are just beginning to fill the bags with quiet learning tools (ex: books, soft Bible characters and saints) designed for our youngest ones ages 0-5 to multitask while standing with you or seated quietly in a seat, on a lap, or on the floor during church. Every service is a time of gently and lovingly teaching our children how to pray, worship, and receive Christ. We want their earliest memories to be about how much they are loved by their Church family. Please select one bag for the day, put everything back in the bag at

the end of the service, and return it to the book table so it is available for you and others next time! If you see books or other items you would like to own, check out the Book Table and if you can't find it there, let Ali Marie know and we will try to order it for you at our cost.

We love our little brothers and sisters very much!

Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs — Encountering Orthodoxy through the Divine Liturgy

The OCA has a wonderful course of study using the Divine Liturgy as a guide for exploring the Orthodox faith, beginning with the Service of Preparation of the Gifts. Fr. David is now facilitating this class after Coffee Fellowship Hour on appointed Sundays - ***check the calendar for dates!*** Catechumens specifically are asked to attend, but all are welcome. In the Orthodox Church we pray what we believe and we believe what we pray. If you are a guest, seeker, inquirer or member, this is an opportunity to learn more about the meaning behind how we pray. So, enjoy Coffee Hour then join us back in the nave.

Toward the Kingdom Study Group (Flagler County)

- **WHEN:**
 - Thursday, December 11 ~ 5:30-7:30pm
 - If you cannot arrive by 5:30pm or need to leave before 7:30, no problem. *Come anyway!*
- **WHAT:**
 - Potluck followed by study/discussion facilitated by Fr David & Mka Rozanne
 - We will use ***Parenting Toward the Kingdom + Companion Guide*** (Dr. Philip Mamalakis)
 - 1 book + 1 companion guide will be provided per household if you don't already own them
- **WHO:**
 - Adults of all ages are welcome!
 - If you cannot secure childcare, bring your children & a plan for them while we meet
- **WHERE:**
 - Parish Hall of St. Alexis Orthodox Mission
- **HOW OFTEN:**
 - Monthly (2nd Thursdays)
 - Questions? See Fr David or Mka Rozanne!

ONGOING 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!
- **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 info 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 over time

To donate via ACH, register with **Church Connect** (our St Alexis Orthodox Church App), a one-time, quick, secure set up:

- 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 or Mike Ruddy



Mid-Week Bible Study in St. Augustine!

- WHAT:** St. Alexis Midweek Bible Study & Potluck
- WHEN:** *Thursdays 6:00-8:00pm
- WHO:** All are welcome! (Facilitated by Fr David or Jim Humphries)
- WHERE:** Karla (Anna) Ayer's home
Address: See Karla
Phone: 904-806-2410
- Note:** There's plenty of room for parking!

We gather and begin eating at 6:00pm and start our study at 6:30.

If you are driving in after work and arrive late, no problem.

Help yourself to food and join right in!

*Attention:

- **No Bible Study Thursday Nov 20** (meet instead at St. Alexis Church, 6pm, for Great Vespers for the Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple)
- **No Bible Study Thursday Nov 27** (due to family Thanksgiving festivities)

Prayer Lists – Pray for each other daily:

The Departed:

- The Priest Slava
- The Newly Departed Servants of God: Nina, and Olga
- His Eminence, DAVID, Archbishop of Sitka and Alaska (Nov 27, 2020)
- The Archpriest Sergius (Nov 22, 2023)
- The Priest Photios (Nov 15, 2003)
- Victims of accidents, hostilities, and natural disasters around the world
- The unborn child of God Obadiah (Nov 19, 2010)
- All the unborn

All Whom We Carry in our Hearts, including:

- Fr Aleksandr Yu Shi
- The newly ordained Dn Daniel Werner, Mka Aly, and family at Seminary
- Fr Patrick, Mka Lauren, James, Walter, Henry, Kathryn, Ethan, Marissa, Andrew
- Fr Phillip, Kh Diane, Fr Jordan, Mka Vanessa, Fr James, Mka Daphne, Fr Patrick, Mka Kristen, Dn Jim, Mka Robin
- Ilya, Mary, Christopher, Cindy, Moses, Michael, Andrew, John, Nina, Alexis, Monica, Bill Michael, Carol Anna, Elena, Stefan, Sdn Daniel, Emmelia, Sophia and the child newly born of her, Seraphina, Tabetha, AJ, and 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
- All of our Seekers/Inquirers
- Catechumens Kenadea, Michael, Chris, Lesly, Gianna, Marco, Annie

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.

Prophora Baking at St. Alexis Mission

Next prophora baking day is Saturday, Dec 6!
See calendar on last page of bulletin for details



Hymns for this Sunday: Please sing along with the choir -- and all week long!

Tone 6 Troparion (Resurrection)

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Thy grave,
seeking Thy most pure body.
Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it.
Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead,/
glory to Thee.

Tone 3 Troparion (St. Matthew)

With zeal you followed Christ the Master,
Who, in His goodness, appeared on earth to mankind.
Summoning you from the customs house,
He revealed you as a chosen apostle:
the proclaimer of the Gospel to the whole world.
Therefore, divinely eloquent Matthew,
we honor your precious memory./
Entreat the merciful God that He may grant our souls remission of transgressions!

Tone 6 Kontakion (Resurrection)

When Christ God, the Giver of Life,
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,
He bestowed resurrection on the human race./
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

Tone 4 **Kontakion** (*St. Matthew*)

Casting aside the bonds of the customs house for the yoke of justice,
you were revealed as an excellent merchant, rich in wisdom from on high.
You proclaimed the word of truth
and roused the souls of the slothful//
by writing of the hour of Judgment.

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 for this Sunday:

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

The Lord's Prayer

English

Our Father, Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.

Slavonic (Transliterated)

Ot-che nash,
Ee-zhe ye see na nye-bye-sekh!
da svya-tee-tsya ee-mya Tvo-ye, da pri-ee-dyet Tsar-stvi-ye Tvo-ye:
da boo-dyet vol-ya Tvo-ya, ya-ko na nye-bye-see ee na zem-lee.
Khleb nash na-soosch-nui dazhd nam dnyes:
ee o-sta-vee nam dol-gee na-shya, ya-ko-zhe ee mui o-sta-vlya-yem
dol-zhnee-kom na-shim:
ee nye vye-dee nas vo ees-koo-shye-ni-ye,
no eez-ba-vee nas ot loo-ka-va-go.

Spanish

Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos,
Santificado sea tu nombre.
Venga tu Reino.
Hágase tu voluntad así en la tierra como en el cielo.
El pan nuestro de cada día dánosle hoy,
Y perdona nuestras deudas, así como nosotros perdonamos nuestros deudores;
Y no nos dejes caer en la tentación, mas líbranos del mal.

Life in our Church

* Nativity Fast begins Saturday, November 15*

(No meat or dairy for Coffee Fellowship Hour until the Sunday after Christmas)

Sunday, Nov 16	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <u>Shortened</u> Coffee Fellowship Hour (NO POTLUCK) Annual Parish Meeting	9:30 AM ~11:45 AM
Thursday, Nov 20	Festal Great Vespers with Litya Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple	6:00 PM
Friday, November 21 Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple		
Sunday, Nov 23	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Coffee Fellowship Hour <i>Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs</i>	9:30 AM 12-1:30 PM
Happy Thanksgiving Thursday, Nov 27 (No Bible Study)		
Sunday, Nov 30	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Coffee Fellowship Hour	9:30 AM
Thursday, Dec 4	Bible Study in St. Augustine (Ayer home)	6:00 PM
Saturday, Dec 6	<i>Prosphora Baking</i> (Ayer home)	10 AM-2 PM
Sunday, Dec 7	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Coffee Fellowship Hour <i>Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs</i>	9:30 AM 12-1:30 PM
Thursday, Dec 11	Bible Study in St. Augustine (Ayer home)	6:00 PM
Thursday, Dec 11	Toward the Kingdom Study Group (Parish Hall)	5:30 PM
Saturday, Dec 13	<i>Choir Rehearsal</i> (location TBD) Rehearsal for Nativity, Theophany, & more!	10 AM-2 PM

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