

# 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, JANUARY 18**

**TONE 7**

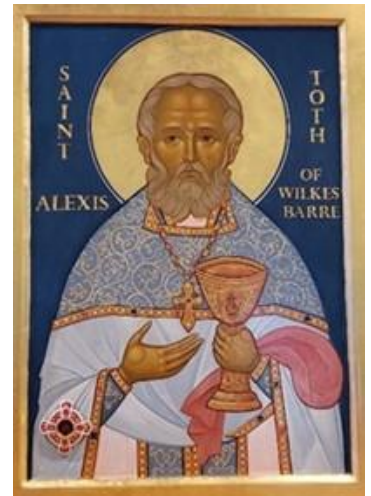
**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sts. Athanasius the Great and Cyril, Archbishops of Alexandria**



“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.

<b>Greeter Schedule:</b>	<b>Jan 18</b>	<b>Jan 25</b>	<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>Feb 8</b>	<b>Feb 15</b>
	Chris M	Olga L	Octavian F	Kenadea N	Michael P

### **Announcements:**

**We welcome today the Brandows (Jesse, Juanita, & baby Mateo), OCMC Missionaries in Guatemala!**

They have been in the USA for months now ministering to their Support Team in meetings and events throughout the country. They will be sharing briefly with us, giving all a wonderful opportunity to meet them and hear about what God is doing in and through their family's YES to God!

### **Installation of the Parish Council (PC) and first Meeting**

We are blessed to have a gifted PC team united by a common Vision and Purpose to become disciples of Jesus Christ as they participate in making disciples, each with their own unique, unrepeatable talents. Today at the end of the Liturgy Parish Council members will be installed, as our Bylaws dictate.

We welcome aboard two new members this year: Mr. Charles Fausey and Mrs. Ali Marie Phipps. We are grateful for all who have served on the PC, with great appreciation for Mike Poleschuk and Tamara Checklin who have most recently ended their terms of service. Please pray daily for your PC members: Jim Humphries, Helen Ireland, George Andrews, Jr., Karla Anna Ayer, Charles Fausey and Ali Marie Phipps, who provide daily counsel and support for Fr. David as our Archpriest. In their first meeting of the year they will be electing officers for 2026.

**It's House Blessing Season Again!** Please reach out to Fr David by text (904-599-5812) or email ([priest@stalexisoca.org](mailto:priest@stalexisoca.org)) to schedule a house blessing by February 21.

### **Capital Campaign 2025-2026 In Progress**

- ✓ **We announced last Sunday that the goal of \$400K has already been reached, enabling us to pay for the new building with no debt. Thanks be to God!**
- ✓ From this time forward all donations received for the Building Fund will be used for renovations, icons, and the many other items needed for us to occupy and worship together. *So, don't stop now!* All pledges for the campaign are due by St. Thomas Sunday, April 19, 2026.
- ✓ Make sure any donation intended for the Building Fund is clearly marked with "Building Fund" written on your offering envelope and/or check.

### **New Building Update and January PC Meeting**

It has been a very busy period for the PC. We continue doing final "due diligence" until January 23 in preparation for the Closing on January 30. The professional inspection was completed with good results; Appraisal is scheduled; We are actively receiving bids on insurance and internet, and setting up Utility accounts. To our surprise the monthly management fee will be 40% less than we budgeted! All is on schedule. Cleaning/workdays will be appearing on the calendar in February and we welcome all the help we can get. Want to hear more? All are welcome to the PC meeting starting shortly after 12 today.

### **Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs — Encountering Orthodoxy through the Divine Liturgy**

Fr David is now facilitating a class for seekers, catechumens, and members of the faithful after Coffee Fellowship Hour in the nave on appointed Sundays - *check the calendar for dates!* Catechumens, please make it a priority to attend – and all others are welcome to join in. 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 please join us!

### **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. To donate via ACH, register with **Church Connect**, a one-time, quick, secure set up:

#### **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](https://stalexisoca.org/give)
- If you need help setting up your account, see Mka Rozanne or Mike Ruddy



### **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.

**2026 Church Calendars** from St. Tikhon's Monastery are available, one per household, on the back table, free of charge thanks to a sponsor.

**Church Offering Envelopes** are now available! Please get your box from Helen, our Treasurer! These envelopes allow the Treasurer to properly credit cash donations.

**Prayer Lists – Pray for each other daily:**

**The Departed:**

- The Priest Slava
- Kirk Lewis (Jan 6, 2021)
- Michael Goch (Jan 7, 2014)
- The Archpriest Jacob Myers, “The Good Samaritan of Atlanta” (Jan 16, 2013)
- The Archpriest Joseph Gibson (Jan 20, 2021)
- The Protodeacon Michael Malanowski (Jan 20, 2022)
- Fred (George) Haltof (Jan 22, 2022)
- HB The Most Blessed ANASTASIOS (Yannoulatos), Met. of Tirana, Archbishop of all Albania (1/25/2025)
- The Archpriest Stephen Plumlee (Jan 14, 2026)
- Victims of accidents, hostilities, and natural disasters around the world
- All the unborn

**All whom we carry in our hearts, including:**

- Fr Aleksandr Yu Shi
- 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, Fr Theophan, Pres Elena, Dn Jim, Mka Robin
- Our missionary families: the Hoppes, Brandows, Macdonalds, and Hannah Valentine
- Ilya, Anastasia, Mary, Christopher, Cindy, Moses, Michael, Andrew, John, Nina, Alexis, Monica, Bill Michael, Carol Anna, Elena, Stefan, Sdn Daniel, Sophia, Emmelia, Michael, Gregory, Tania, Jonathan, Anna and the child she carries, Amy and the child she carries, Nadia and the child she carries, 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 Chris, Lesly, Gianna, Marco, Zachary, and 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 move forward with all due diligence toward the purchasing a building for St. Alexis Orthodox Mission.** Grant us great love and compassion for one another and the ability to inquire respectfully, listen carefully, act judiciously, and proceed graciously. 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.

**Hymns for this Sunday:** *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 3      Troparion      (Sts. Athanasius and Cyril)**

You shone forth with works of Orthodoxy and quenched all heresy,  
and became victorious trophy-bearers, hierarchs Athanasius and Cyril.  
You enriched all things with piety and greatly adorned the Church,  
and worthily found Christ God, Who grants His great mercy to all.//  
intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls!

**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 4      Kontakion      (Sts. Athanasius and Cyril)**

Athanasius and Cyril, great hierarchs of true piety, and noble champions of the Church of Christ,  
Preserve all who sing://  
“O Compassionate Lord, save those who honor Thee!”

**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:** 1 Timothy 1:15-17

**Gospel:** Luke 18:35-43

**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

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Sunday, Jan 18

**Divine Liturgy**

**9:30 AM**

**Installation of Parish Council Members**

*Coffee Fellowship Hour/ Annual Blessing of Vehicles*

**Parish Council Meeting**

Thursday, Jan 22

**Bible Study in St. Augustine** *(at the Ayer home)*

**6:00 PM**

Friday, Jan 23

**Fr David available for House Blessings**

*To schedule, contact him at: 904-599-5812 or [priest@stalexisoca.org](mailto:priest@stalexisoca.org)*

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Sunday, Jan 25

**Divine Liturgy**

**9:30 AM**

*(Sunday of Zacchaeus)*

*(Sanctity of Life Sunday)*

*Coffee Fellowship Hour*

**Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs**

**12-1:30 PM**

**Choir Rehearsal**

**12-1:30 PM**

*(for Meeting of the Lord in the Temple + Great Canon)*

Thursday, Jan 29

**Bible Study in St. Augustine** *(at the Ayer home)*

**6:00 PM**

*(Last one until after Pascha!)*

Friday, Jan 30

**Closing on the Trades of Hope property**

*Keep Fr David and all involved in your prayers!*

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Sunday, Feb 1

**Divine Liturgy**

**9:30 AM**

*(Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee - Forefeast of the Meeting in the Temple - Beginning of the Lenten Triodion)*

*Coffee Fellowship Hour*

**Vespers for the Meeting of Our Lord in the Temple**

*\*Fast-free Week\**

*February 2 The Meeting of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the Temple*

*Feb. 4-6 DOS Pastoral Conference; [Holy Cross Orthodox Church](http://HolyCrossOrthodoxChurch.com), Kernersville, NC*

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Sunday, Feb 8

**Divine Liturgy**

**9:30 AM**

*(Sunday of the Prodigal)*

*Coffee Fellowship Hour*

**Parish Council Meeting**

Friday, Feb 13

**Fr David available for House Blessings**

*To schedule, contact him at: 904-599-5812 or [priest@stalexisoca.org](mailto:priest@stalexisoca.org)*

His Eminence, The Most Reverend ALEXANDER, Archbishop of Dallas and the South

Archpriest David C. Rucker ♦ 904-599-5812 ♦ [priest@stalexisoca.org](mailto:priest@stalexisoca.org)

Parish Council President James Humphries ♦ 904-540-2476