

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

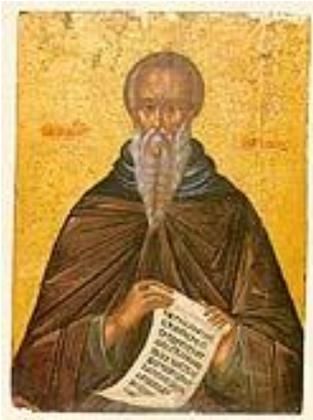
Confessions heard 9:00 AM Sundays, before and after evening services, and by appointment

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

TONE 8

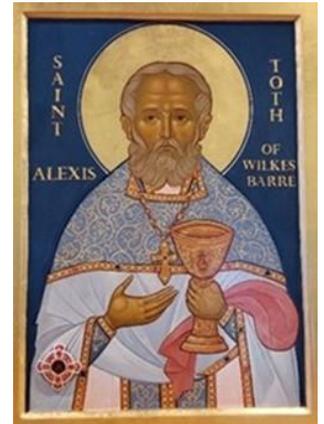
Fourth Sunday of Great Lent

St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)



“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:	Mar 22	Mar 29	April 5	April 12	April 19
	Michael P	Chris M	Olga L	Octavian F	Michael P

Announcements:

Fourth Sunday of Great and Holy Lent: Sunday of St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)

The Church draws our attention to this 7th century saint because of his reflections on a life of healing (repentance), the theme of Great Lent. Regardless of the words in the matins hymn which says, “his body became thin through abstinence,” St. John was not known for being a great ascetic in fasting or some other disciplines. He practiced moderation and balance, except when it came to *love*, which is the theme of the final chapter of his best-known work, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. This is summed up in the vespers hymn: “This is why thou dost entreat us: Love God so that ye may live in his eternal goodwill and let nothing be set higher than this Love” (from *The Year of Grace of the Lord*, p. 125). How will we live in the love of God this coming week, and express it to those we meet?

Moving Day! Our Last Service at St Stephen Chapel on Moody Boulevard is Sunday March 22

The time has arrived! Today following a shorter Coffee Fellowship we will be loading cars and trucks and go in procession with our vehicles to our new building. Upon arrival, we will gather outside and follow the cross, Gospel, icon and relic of St Alexis, and holy items from the altar into the church. After the holy things are placed, we will offer Prayers of Thanksgiving. This is a historic event in the life of our Mission and all are invited to participate. From this point on all services will be at **2323 N State St, Unit 112**, where week by week you will witness the Sanctuary being built and Iconostasis installed. Just like the construction God is doing in each of our lives, so our Church is being manifested.

It's All Hands on Deck! Please save the following Saturdays @10-3 for working in our new building:

- March 21 – While the choir rehearses for Holy Week and Pascha, others will be doing various projects (cleaning, watering the new landscaping, improvements, minor repairs, etc.) Come check out the new signage and lend a hand for as long as you are able! Lunch served at noon.
- March 28 – We will be moving the last of our belongings from St. Stephen Chapel on Moody Blvd to the new home of **St. Alexis Orthodox Church** at 2323 N State Street Unit 112, Bunnell, FL 32110. We will also be doing a final cleaning of St. Stephen Chapel.

Practical Application of General Guidelines About Fasting

For our healing we need to practice the spirit of the fast. We are not monastics, and we must function successfully in the workplace and in our homes for our families. A practical, suggested application is as follows:

1. No meat until Pascha.
2. Reduce/eliminate dairy products to the best of your ability.
3. According to the rubrics, a (modest-sized) glass of wine is permissible with the main course of our main meal of the day on feast days, Saturday, and Sunday (for those who do not need to abstain from alcohol completely).
4. Make your best fasting efforts on Wednesdays and Fridays, the first week of Lent (Clean Week) and Holy Week.
5. Limit meals and eat less. Stuffing ourselves on “legal” foods is still gluttony. Stop eating before you are full. Exercising, walking, running, and drinking plenty of water can help control gluttony. Moderation is a Christian discipline. Also, besides the overeating of “legal” delicacies, abstain from gluttony of the tongue by speaking less, listening more.
6. If we are fasting appropriately, we will experience weakness from time to time. If you are under care of a physician and taking prescribed medication, follow the directions if food and water are required! This is part of your fasting. You do not need to ask your priest for a blessing to modify fasting in this case.
7. Fast from social media and screentime as much as your work or studies allow.
8. The Great Fast is a gift. It is not done as a lone individual. It is done in the fellowship of the entire Body of Christ. Let us prayerfully offer our fast up to God in thanksgiving for all He has given us.
9. Take the fast seriously. With the services coming up, mark your calendar and attend as many as possible, bowing down to God in worship and enjoying His presence. Lent is a slow cook, not a microwave zap! There is nothing instantaneous in spiritual growth.
10. A custom for some is to give alms to those in need with the monies saved by fasting in addition to their regular tithes. We have a separate Alms Box for receiving such offerings.

Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs

Fr David is now facilitating a class for seekers, catechumens, and members of the faithful after Coffee Fellowship Hour 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, enjoy Coffee Hour then join us back in the nave.

Capital Campaign 2025-2026 In Progress

- ✓ The goal of \$400K has been reached, enabling us to pay for the new building. Thanks be to God!
- ✓ But *don't stop now!* 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. 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.

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
- If you need help setting up your account, see Mka Rozanne or Mike Ruddy



ONGOING Opportunities for Love and Ministry in our Parish:

- Stay tuned for updated opportunities to serve in our new building!

Prayer Lists – Pray for each other daily:

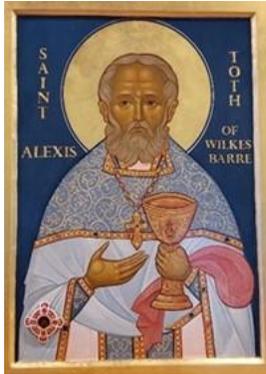
The Departed:

- The Priest Slava
- His Holiness Ilia II, Catholicos-Patriarch of All Georgia
- Mitered Archpriest John Ealy, founder of our Deanery
- Reader Nicholas (Rick) DeSpain
- Harlan Titcomb
- Irina Cruz
- Metropolitan Philip Saliba
- Kristo Dingo
- Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko
- Archpriest Anthony Karbo
- Archpriest Alexander Atty
- Victims of accidents, hostilities, and natural disasters around the world
- All the unborn

All whom we carry in our hearts, including:

- Fr Marcus and the members of St. John of the Ladder Orthodox Church in Greenville, SC as they begin repairing and restoring their church building struck by lightning this week
- Fr Aleksandr Yu Shi
- Fr Patrick, Mka Lauren, James, Walter, Henry, Kathryn, Ethan, Marissa, Andrew
- Fr Nicholas & Mka Anastasia, Fr Phillip & Kh Diane, Dn Daniel & Mka Aly

- Our missionary families: the Hoppes, Brandows, Macdonalds, and Hannah Valentine
- Ilya, Craig, Mary, Christopher, Cindy, Moses, Michael, Andrew, John, Monica, Elena, Stefan, Nina, Alexis, Michael, Jonathan, Daniel, Tasha & Tommy William, Anna and the child she carries, Amy and the child she carries, Nadia and the child she carries, Kenadea Mary and the child she carries, and all members of our community traveling or on the bed of sickness
- Zachary & Kenadea Mary preparing for holy matrimony
- 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 guests and inquirers seeking God through the Orthodox Church
- Catechumens Chris, Lesly, Gianna, Marco, Zachary, Samuel, Maryam, Vincent, Amy, Annie, Gillian



Prayer for the new home for St. Alexis (Augmented Litany):

Again we ask Thee to continue to grant us wisdom, understanding, and discernment **as we move into our new church building today.** We thank Thee for Thy provision and ask that Thou wouldst 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.

***O Righteous Father Alexis,
pray to God for us!***

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

Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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 1 Troparion (St. John Climacus)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,
you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.
You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer,
healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.
Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//
Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Tone 4 Kontakion (St. John Climacus)

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence,
to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, //
O our father and teacher John.

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: Hebrews 6:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

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

Saturday, Mar 21 **Church Work Day** – new building **10 AM-3 PM**
Choir Rehearsal – new building
(for Holy Week & Pascha)
Lenten lunch provided

+++++

Sunday, Mar 22 **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil** **9:30 AM**
(Sunday of St. John Climacus – 4th Sunday of Lent)
Coffee Fellowship Hour
Procession to new building & Prayers of Thanksgiving

Tuesday, Mar 24 **Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** **6:00 PM**
(Forefeast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos)
Lenten soup and bread following

***This and all future services will be held at our new building:
 2323 N State Street Unit 112, Bunnell, FL 32110***

*Tuesday, March 25 The Annunciation of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos
 and Ever-Virgin Mary*

Saturday, Mar 28 **Choir Rehearsal** – new building **10 AM-2 PM**
(for Holy Week & Pascha)
Lenten lunch provided – volunteer needed

+++++

Sunday, Mar 29 **Divine Liturgy of St. Basil** **9:30 AM**
(Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt – 5th Sunday of Lent)
Coffee Fellowship Hour
Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs **12-1:30 PM**

Wednesday, Apr 1 **Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** **6:00 PM**
Fellowship Meal to Follow (soup & bread)

Saturday, Apr 4 **Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom** **9:30 AM**
(Lazarus Saturday)
Light Lenten Lunch to follow (pancakes & fruit)
Palms & Pussy Willows – preparation & blessing **12-1 PM**
Choir Rehearsal (today OR April 5 - TBD) **1-2:30 PM**
(for Holy Week & Pascha)

+++++

Sunday, Apr 5 **Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom** **9:30 AM**
(Palm Sunday – Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem)
Coffee Fellowship Hour
Essential Orthodox Christian Beliefs **12-1:30 PM**
Choir Rehearsal (if no rehearsal April 4) **12-1:30 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