

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre Orthodox Church

A Mission of the Orthodox Church in America

2323 N State St, Unit 112, Bunnell, FL 32110

Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Confessions heard Saturday after Great Vespers or by appointment

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

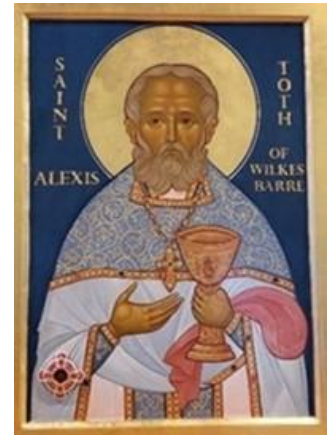
TONE 8

17th Sunday after Pentecost (1st of Luke)

Martyr Callistratus and his companions



“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 blue guest information card next to the weekly bulletin with today's hymns on the table where you entered. Please fill out the card and give it to a greeter or to our priest, Fr David, who looks forward to meeting you! You are also invited to *Coffee Fellowship* 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:

Many Years to Noelle Mary Spooner & to her godparents & family on the occasion of her baptism!

Today Zachary Daniel and Kenadea Mary offer their newly born daughter back to the Lord through the arms of Christ's holy Church in baptism. The service begins with prayers of exorcism, drawing a line in the sand, so to speak, forbidding the evil one from destroying this child. Water is consecrated to be life-giving and not death-bearing, and the child is anointed with oil, as an athlete before a contest. Buried in water and rising with Christ, life truly begins. The child is then anointed with holy Chrism, affirming "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit," to which we respond, "Sealed!" The child makes a first offering to the Lord in tonsuring and then is formally introduced to her new holy house, the Church building. When the parents finally receive the child back into their own arms, they are holy stewards, for the child belongs to the Lord. All present in this service are promising to pray for this child all the days of their lives and to assist the parents in the discipling of this precious life!

Be sure to check the church calendar, aka *Life in our Church*, on the last page of the bulletin!

There are numerous upcoming baptisms and chrismations, so be sure to mark your calendars and plan to be present to bear witness as our new brothers and sisters are joined to the Body of Christ through these holy Mysteries and to welcome them to our St. Alexis parish family!

Orthodox Conversations 2.0! *Orthodox Conversations* is taking a new turn, rotating each week with different age groups. This Sunday Fr David will be sharing with children/youth and their parents the first of many (God willing) *Awesome Anecdotes* illustrating our weekly scripture readings. Let your kids know that Fr David and others in their church family look forward to time with them each month.

Member-Missionary Map of the World

The world map hanging in the hallway across from the kitchen has small **blue**-headed pins on the side. ***Members are invited to place a blue pin where they were born.*** All blue pins remain anonymous, helping us rejoice in the countries and cultures represented in our local parish and how the Body of Christ brings us together. **Green** pins will indicate where our missionaries serve and will be connected to their pictures.

Want to schedule time during the week with Fr David for confession or pastoral counsel? There's an app for that...or at least a link! [Schedule Time with Fr David](#) Please note that any meeting scheduled with him will be *at the church* unless otherwise requested.

See below for full link information if you only have a hard copy of this bulletin:

<https://bookings.cloud.microsoft/book/ScheduletimewithFrDavidPriestatStAlexisMission@synergylife.coach/?ismsaljsauthenabed>

Annual Church Musician Sunday in the OCA is on October 4 this year. Due to scheduling conflicts, however, our local church musicians will be recognized on Sunday October 11. *Church Musician Sunday* highlights the essential role of liturgical music in Orthodox Christian worship and the important role of church musicians in the life of the Church.

Encouraging ACH donations at St. Alexis for Tithes and Offerings and the Building Fund

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
- Note that payments to the Book Store are NOT payable on-line.



NEW ONGOING Opportunities for Love and Ministry in our Parish:

- ❖ **Church Cleaning Time happens every Wednesday 3:30-5:30pm (Vespers begins at 6pm).** Nelya Lashkul is a steward of this ministry. Ask her how you can help or contact the church office.
- ❖ **We are looking for volunteers for church projects and assistance in the office.** Come by the church office during office hours and ask, "How can I help?"
- ❖ **Child Care:** Interested in helping our catechumens in providing supervision for their children during *Orthodox Conversations* each Sunday after Coffee Fellowship Hour and catechism each Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm? This is a special ministry requiring at least two qualified adults each Wednesday evening. An honorarium may be available if needed for this ministry. See Fr David or Mka Rozanne to learn more.

- NOTE: According to OCA policies, anyone who works with children in the parish must submit to a background check and complete a briefing process. There must be two adults caring for children at all times unless the children are with a parent or relative.
- ❖ **Are you interested in evangelism and the apostolic ministry of the Church (missionaries and their work)?** OCMC is looking for representative for each parish to assist the priest in promoting and sharing how we are fulfilling the Great Commission of our Lord to "go make disciples of all nations" in Jerusalem (our own county), Judea (our state), Samaria (the state of GA-- just kidding!), AND to the ends of the earth. See Fr David if you are interested in partnering with him to better equip our members to be the Lord's disciples. If you are not going to "go" be a missionary, then you can help others to go! This relates to the central purpose of St. Alexis Orthodox Mission.
- ❖ **Volunteer for October Medical Team in Guatemala.** Medical professionals are needed for a mission team this October 15-25 at Ascension Orthodox Church in Pebilpam, Guatemala-primary care providers & dentists especially needed. Prospective applicants should see Fr. David.

Prayer Lists – Pray for each other daily:

The Departed:

- His Beatitude Metropolitan HERMAN
- Archimandrite Joannes
- The Priest Slava
- Alexandra
- Lidia
- Micah
- The unborn
- Victims of accidents, hostilities, and natural disasters around the world

All whom we carry in our hearts, including:

- Fr Aleksandr Yu Shi, Fr. Kung Ming Cheung, Fr. Denis
- Fr Patrick, Mka Lauren, James, Walter, Henry, Kathryn, Ethan, Marissa & the child she carries, Andrew
- The Harris, Drennan, Hargrave, & Kingery clergy families
- Archimandrite Sergius
- Our missionaries: the Hoppes, Brandows, Macdonalds, and Hannah Valentine
- Iconographers Elena, Anya & Victor and wood craftsmen Artem, Zachary, Daniel, Ryan & James
- Ilya, Moses, Elena, Stefan, Naomi, Danica, Stela, Gordana, Larry, Gabriel, Elizabeth, David
- Emilia and the child she carries
- Joanna and the child she carries
- The newly illumined Noelle Mary and her family and godparents
- The newly illumined Isaiah Patrick and his family and godparents
- Catechumens Chris, Lesly, Gianna, Marco, Samuel, Maryam, Gillian, Tyler
- Catechumens Vincent, Amy & Isabel Maria preparing for illumination
- All members of our community traveling or on the bed of sickness
- All who are homeless, unemployed, or under-employed in our community
- All of our guests and inquirers seeking God through the Orthodox Church

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 3 Troparion (St. Callistratus)

In contest you were strengthened by the Holy Spirit, O Martyr Callistratus,
and were glorious in casting down the Enemy.
You offered a noble army of athletes
as sweet-smelling incense to Christ.//
With them pray for us who praise you with hymns!

Tone 8 Kontakion (Resurrection)

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,//
and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Tone 4 Kontakion (St. Callistratus)

Like stars you have shone upon the world,
shedding the light of your contests and miracles upon all who cry to you://
“Rejoice, Martyr Callistratus and fellow company of martyrs!”

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: 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1; Romans 6:3-11

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11; Matthew 28:16-20

His Grace, The Right Rev. GERASIM, Bishop of Ft. Worth, *Locum Tenens* of the Diocese of the South

Archpriest David C. Rucker ♦ 904-599-5812 ♦ priest@stalexisoca.org

Parish Council President James Humphries ♦ 904-540-2476

Helen Ireland, Treasurer, George Andrews, Jr., Secretary and Members-at-Large: Charles Fausey, Ali Marie Phipps, Karla Anna Ayer

Life in our Church

Saturday, Sep 26	Choir Rehearsal <i>(in the nave)</i> Great Vespers <i>(Confessions following)</i>	3:30 PM 5:00 PM
Sunday, Sep 27	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Baptism <i>(infant Noelle Mary Spooner)</i> <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i> Orthodox Conversations - <i>children/youth</i>	9:30 AM 12:30 PM
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Wednesday, Sep 30	Church Cleaning Vespers Catechism	3:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM
Saturday, Oct 3	Choir Rehearsal <i>(in the nave)</i> Great Vespers <i>(Confessions following)</i>	3:30 PM 5:00 PM
Sunday, Oct 4	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i> Orthodox Conversations	9:30 AM 12:30 PM
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Wednesday, Oct 7	Church Cleaning Vespers Catechism	3:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM
Saturday, Oct 10	Choir Rehearsal <i>(in the nave)</i> Great Vespers <i>(Confessions following)</i>	3:30 PM 5:00 PM
Sunday, Oct 11	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council</i> Baptism <i>(infant Isabel Maria Aravena-Rodriguez)</i> Chrismations <i>(Vincent & Amy)</i> <i>Church Musician recognition</i> <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i>	9:30 AM
SAVE THE DATE: Annual Parish Meeting SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1 <i>(Agenda & 2027 Budget draft available)</i>		
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Wednesday, Oct 14	Parish Council Meeting Church Cleaning Vespers Catechism	3:30 PM 3:30 PM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM
Saturday, Oct 17	Choir Rehearsal <i>(in the nave)</i> Great Vespers <i>(Confessions following)</i>	3:30 PM 5:00 PM
Sunday, Oct 18	Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom <i>Coffee Fellowship Hour</i> Open Discussion/Q&A <i>in preparation for Annual Meeting Oct 18</i> <i>(Agenda & 2027 Budget draft available)</i>	9:30 AM 12 -12:30 PM