

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018  
*Venerable Alypius the Stylite*  
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Epistle Reading**  
Colossians 1:12-18

**Gospel Reading**  
Luke 13:10-17

*Christ is in our midst!  
He is and ever shall be!*

**Troparion for Venerable Alypius the Stylite of Adrianopolis**

You were a pillar of patient endurance, having imitated the forefathers, O Venerable One: Job in suffering, and Joseph in temptations. You lived like the Bodiless Ones while yet in the flesh, O Alypius, our Father. Beseech Christ God that our souls may be saved.

**Kontakion:** The Church glorifies and praises you today, Alypius, as a perfect example of virtue and the boast of ascetics. Through your prayers, grant remission of sins to all who venerate your life and your struggles.

**The Nativity Fast - Through Saturday, January 6**

We are entering the third week of our prayer, fasting and charitable giving in spiritual preparation for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ on Monday, January 7. Fr. John invites us to schedule a time with him for the Sacrament of Confession.

**Sisterhood Annual Holiday Bake Sale**

Congratulations to our Sisterhood for yesterday's beautiful Bake Sale. Alexia Kolia is to be commended for coordinating the many details. Many thanks to the Sisterhood members and men volunteers for giving their time and to all who donated baked goods. Our customers and guests enjoyed our hospitality and the great holiday specialties – and we had a successful fund raiser.

Good News: A varied selection of items is still available today at Coffee Hour.

**Welcome to Our Guests**

We offer a warm welcome to all guests. May you experience along with us the fullness of the Orthodox Faith through the Divine Liturgy. Please sign the guest book at the entrance and pick up a welcome folder. Join us for Coffee Hour. You are always welcome in our worship, fellowship, study and charity outreach.

**Praying for All People Affected by Recent Disasters**

We continue in prayer for all the people affected by the recent wildfires in California, the earthquake in Alaska and tornadoes in Illinois. May the Lord grant them His divine helping grace as the rebuilding begins.

**Faith in Action: NVFS “Gifting for Families” – Final Day Today**

Many thanks to all for the generous donations of toys for the children of the homeless and working poor families assisted by Northern Virginia Family Services. Cash and checks payable to NVFS with “Holiday Programs” in the memo line will still be accepted. Donations can also be made at <https://www.nvfs.org/gifting>.

**Sisterhood Meeting - Today**

All women are invited to attend the Sisterhood meeting after Coffee Hour today. The agenda includes a preliminary bake sale report and plans for January 6 & 7.

**Vespers and Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, December 12 – 7:00-8:30PM**

Vespers will be served Wednesday at 7PM followed by the study of the Divine Liturgy as the “Heavenly Banquet”. Everyone is invited for prayers and discussion.

**Feast of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker – Wednesday, December 19**

We will celebrate a Vespers Liturgy for St. Nicholas at 7:00 PM on Wednesday the 19th. Bring a fasting food to share afterwards. God bless all those who celebrate St. Nicholas for their Family Slava or as their personal patron saint.

**Support our St. Luke Church through Amazon Smile**

Reminder: Parishioners who shop on line at Amazon may select St. Luke from the list of charitable organizations. Amazon then donates 0.5% of the purchase to St. Luke! No extra cost is passed on to the buyer. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

**God Grant You Many Years! Mnogaja ljeta!**

God bless Fr. Deacon Patrick on his December 7 birthday. Many years!



On cold winter days, please enter the Chapel through the parish hall.

