

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church

Sunday November 2, 2025

21st Sunday After Pentecost

Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidophorus, and
Anempodistus and the 7,000 martyred with them in Persia (c.a. 341-5)

Activities and Events this Week

Tuesday Nov 4	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm
Wednesday Nov 5	Adult Education	6:00pm
Thursday Nov 6	St. John Brotherhood	6:00pm
Saturday Nov 8	Hours	6:40am
	Divine Liturgy	7:00am
	<i>Synaxis of the Archangel Michael and the Other Bodiless Powers</i>	
	Finance Committee Meeting	9:00am
	Catechism	3:00pm
	<i>No Great Vespers Scheduled</i>	

Announcements

Annual Parish Thanksgiving Dinner and Petar's Slava

All next Sunday! Please sign up in the Hall to bring something! With our crowd we could probably use another ham and or Turkey for the dinner. Please plan to attend!

Nativity Fast Book Club

Beginning Tuesday November 11th at 10:30am. All are welcome to participate! The group will be reading *Mary as the Early Christians Knew Her: The Mother of Jesus in Three Ancient Texts*. Diane Holmes is sponsoring the 6 week book study. Books will be arriving soon for those interested to purchase. Diane has printed a schedule and is available on the table next to the office. Please see Diane for more information.

Bookstore News – The \$50,000 check has arrived. I will pick up the check on Monday. Our small bookstore committee including myself, Reader Steven and Michele Perez will put a plan together to present to the parish council

2026 Budget Requests

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church • 1635 Shaffer Road • Atwater • 209-617-9389
<https://orthodoxmerced.org>

Next Saturday (Nov 8) the Finance Committee will be meeting to put the budget together. If any organization has a budget request, please submit those to Sara Crawley, the chair of the finance committee.

Matushka Olga Feast Day

As the saying goes..."You only get to do something for the first time once." We celebrated our newly canonized saint Matushka Olga for the first time. And while we could have done a much better job as a community, it was a glorious service and dinner to follow. Thank you to everyone who participated. We even had a family drive all the way from Madera to be with us!

Flowers in Our Church

There is a signup sheet for donating flowers to the beautification of our church. I realize they are very expensive – so if we could have them for feasts that would be ideal as well as other times as we are able. Please see Diane Holmes (contact person) if you have any questions. Thank you ladies for all that you do to beautify our church. *We also have a small flower donation box in the hall underneath the bulletin board is anyone would like to donate toward having flowers in the church.*

Snack Bar

Thank you for supporting and we ask for your continued support as to provide more snacks and drinks that everyone enjoys!

St. John Brotherhood – Thank you to all the brotherhood members who came yesterday to complete the yard work we needed to do. We will plan another event on the first Saturday of December.

Reflection – Conforming to the Will of God

St. Pimen always gave this council: never act according to your own will if it contradicts God's will; may your will be always in agreement with God's. And if your desire truly does not contradict the will of God, then God will reveal this to you through the Gospels or by inspiring in your heart the thought of holding off on doing your intended deed, and instead to commit it to God's will, saying, "If my desire is pleasing to God, it will happen; if it is not, it will not happen. As God wants, so do I."

Taken from The Sunflower: Conforming the Will of Man to the Will of God. St. John of Tobolsk. Holy Trinity Publications 2018.