

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Mission

1635 Shaffer Road
Atwater, California 95301

Sunday January 11th 2026
31st Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday after Theophany
After feast of Theophany
Ven. Theodosius the Great (529)

Activities and Events this Week

Tuesday 13	Tuesday Morning Book Study Choir Rehearsal	10:30am 6:00pm
Wednesday 14	Adult Education Class	6:00pm
Thursday 15	St. John Brotherhood	6:00pm
Saturday 17	Great Vespers	5:00pm

Announcements

The 40th Annual Mission Assembly will be on Sunday January 18th following Coffee Hour. Catechumens and Inquirers are invited.

St. Eugene Camp is on track for June 21-27 at the Armenian Camp in Dunlap. Sunday January 25 we will take a collection to defray the cost for the camp counselors. Counselors often times take a week vacation and drive long distances at their expense to help at the camp. This is the only youth focused event in our mission and in the Central Pacific Deanery. Your generous contribution allows you to be a part of the great experience for the kids.

Theophany is house blessing season. Please sign up in the narthex if you would like your home blessed.

Sign up in the hall if you would like to sponsor flowers to beautify our church. See Diane Holmes for any questions.

The Joseph Czyzowsky Bookstore construction continues as we will be ordering more books and gift items. We are hoping the grand opening will be soon.

Please feel free to contact Fr. Lawrence for questions or to visit. 719-347-1211
Rector@StMaryMagdalenechurch.org
Welcome to all visitors!

The Christian life is the goal of every Orthodox Christian. We strive to live a life of rhythm between our earthly lives and communion with God. We do this in a number of different ways. Don't be concerned with the number of each item – it's difficult to put them in priority – except the first one!

1. To be an Orthodox Christian is to be one who above all else desires to be in communion with God through the sacrament of Holy Communion. This is done of course within the context of the Divine Liturgy. Regular attendance is how Orthodox Christians live – missing liturgy for frivolous earthly affairs is antagonistic to the Christian life.
2. In connection to Holy Communion – regular confession is a must! Saying our daily prayers and reading our pre-communion prayers is our practice. No daily prayers, communion prayers and confession is akin to going to the car wash that does not have water!
3. Lectio Divina – the daily reading of Scripture – four chapters a day you will read the entire Bible in one year!
4. Limited alcohol and sleep – too much will excite the passions.
5. Sanctifying the day – prayers and sunrise and sunset, 12 noon, 3pm, 5pm, 8pm etc. – give thanks to God and stand before our icons at various times during the day.
6. Pious language and speech
7. Fornication, pornography, lying, stealing, cheating, slander, greed, sloth, indifference, despair etc. are not God's goodwill for you!
8. Sacrificial, meaningful and proportionate giving to the Church.
9. Fast when it is time to fast and feast when it is time to feast – hold these things sacred and teach your children to do so.
10. Bless and discipline your children.
11. Keep the marriage bed pure and undefiled. Out do your wife or husband in serving the other. Marriage is a foretaste of the Kingdom.
12. Completely believe and trust in God. Forgive everyone everything completely, no matter what.
13. Endure the trial of yourself, with all peace and serenity, knowing that God's mercy far outweighs our wretchedness.