

# St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Mission

1635 Shaffer Road

Atwater, California 95301

**Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup> 2026**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**VEN. ATHANASIUS, FOUNDER OF THE GREAT LAVRA AND  
COENOBITIC MONASTICISM ON MT. ATHOS AND HIS SIX  
DISCIPLES (1000)**

## Activities and Events this Week

Tue	7	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm
Sat	11	Great Vespers	5:00pm

## Announcements

**Help with mission website** - We are presently looking for two volunteers to help manage our church website. Responsibilities include updating weekly news, posting calendar events and blogs, sending the weekly newsletter, managing photos, and helping with Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. If interested, please contact our webmaster, Nicholas Tamraz (webmaster@stmarymagdalenechurch.org).

**Special Prayers needed** for Lucas Doiel as he continue to have problems with his rods that are supporting his back. He is in much pain and all prayers will be helpful. Please also keep Reader Mark and Kristine in your prayers. They will keep us in the loop regarding Lucas' health and probable surgery.

**Prospora Baking** - we are on the lookout for baking talent. We are looking for a few good prospora bakers who will commit to baking the church bread. Please see Fr. Lawrence for details.

**Flowers for the Church** - don't forget to sign up to help beautify out church. Sign up in the Hall.

**Special Ladies Meeting during fellowship hour today** - to plan for Bishop Vasily's arrival for our patronal feast on July 21<sup>st</sup>. -22<sup>nd</sup>. Traditionally in Orthodox communities - the Patronal Feast of the community is "the second Pascha of the community."

**New Arrivals in the Bookstore** - lots of new children's books! Check out the wide selection!

**Special Thank You!** To all who contributed to the success of our summer camp! We had over 100 campers – the most I have seen in a while. Many of the campers come to us unchurched – they at least got to see for one week what the Church looks like!

**Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday** will be **July 26<sup>th</sup>**. It is my prayer that everyone can contribute \$25.00 to this great ministry among us to help those incarcerated to know Christ to and to have their lives transformed.

**Prayer for America's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**

Almighty God stretch forth your right hand and give to the leaders of our nation, its president and congress, its governors and judges, its military commanders, all wisdom and guidance and direct them to discharge their duties in the manner commanded by thee. Grant them reason and understanding that they may judge justly and act rightly, preserving the commonwealth in harmony and peace. Kindle in their hearts the will to care for the needy, to show kindness to the poor, to aid the homeless, to help the helpless...Guide them in all things that they may govern our nation...putting aside all deceit and corruption, that they may maintain the confidence of the people of this land.

Grant also, O Lord, to the people of this nation, the will to do good, to flee from all evil and to practice righteousness. Drive from their hearts the lusts of the flesh and all covetous desire. Make them respectful of life and sharers of thy blessings, caring for one another in mercy and truth. Banish all evil from their hearts and all wickedness from their laws, that in every national action and individual deed, they may be servants of thy will and performers of thy love. Grant also, O Master, that the members of thy Church may be faithful witness of thy truth in unity and peace, fulfilling all thy commandments in true worship of thy glory. Bless the Orthodox Church in America with thy powerful blessings and deliver thy people from all falsehood and sin, through guidance of the bishops and priests filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Our most merciful Lord, the God of all bounties and the Father of all consolations, turn not thy face from thy people and put us not to shame in our hope, for thou knowest our needs even before we ask, and dealest in all things according to thy goodness.

For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from thee, the Father of Lights, and unto thee we ascribe all glory, thanksgiving and worship, together with thine Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and thy most holy good and life-creating Spirit, always now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

*Prayer adapted from the statement of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America together with a service of Thanksgiving offered on the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States of America.*