

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Mission

1635 Shaffer Road

Atwater, California 95301

Sunday September 20th 2026

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Exaltation of the Cross

Greatmartyr Eustathius, his wife, Martyr Theopistes, and their children

Martyrs Agapius and Theopistus, of Rome (ca. 118)

Activities and Events this Week

Tuesday	22	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm
Wednesday	23	Adult Education	6:00pm
Saturday	26	Catechism	3:00pm
		Great Vespers	5:00pm
Sunday	27	Hours	9:40am
		Divine Liturgy	10:00am

Announcements

Parish Council Meeting today following Coffee Hour

New items in the bookstore – incense, charcoal, incense burners. I will be very happy to help anyone who needs help with using incense and charcoal at home.

Sunday Potluck

Congratulations on the Sunday Potlucks Keep it up! Remember how it was for you when you first came to this community and there was a nice meal. A great potluck is a great missionary tool!

Prospornitsa (Prosporia Baker) – we are looking for one more individual who would like to learn the art of making the Church Bread that is offered on the Altar each Sunday as a worthy sacrifice. We will train you and get you started. Please see Fr. Lawrence if you are interested!

The Tuesday Morning Book Club is returning, but this time it will be the "Friday Morning Book Club". The Friday Morning Book Club will resume on Friday October 2nd at 10:30am in the Hall. The first book studied is **The Art of Myrrhbearing** by Elissa Bjeletich Davis. The bookstore will be ordering the books for the group. The book discusses some of the Myrrhbearing women and men, their path through Christianity and how they found ways to serve others. The book study is open to everyone – even Myrrhbearing men! For more information, please contact Diane Holmes 209-489-8177.

Adult Education and Catechism Classes are now in full swing. Everyone is invited to participate in either of the classes. Adult education classes are on Wednesdays at 6:00pm and Catechism classes are on Saturdays at 3:00pm as indicated on the schedule.

"The Rule of Life for a perfect person is to be in the image and likeness of God"
St. Clement of Alexandria

"Too late will they believe in eternal punishment, those who would not believe in eternal life."
St. Cyprian of Carthage

"This is the aim of the enemy of the human race, the Devil: to continually sift us like wheat, forcing us to constantly spin in a whirlwind of entertainment and diversions, not allowing us to collect ourselves and contemplate our inner state, our soul."
Archbishop Averky (Taushev)

"The numbing of the soul is a lack of 'watch and pray' be alert and be watchful."
Fr. Spyridon Bailey

"The Saints always refused to be distracted by the world and its distractions – this is the only way we can become watchful ourselves." Fr. Spyridon Bailey

"A life filled with distractions is spiritually empty. Someone who is a slave to things of the world fall into depression and can taste despair. It's when we are depressed or full of despair we often go to the world to get healed, but the Church Fathers are the true clinicians of our souls."
Fr. Spyridon Bailey

"Guard your souls from every empty distraction that world and Devil lay before us."
Fr. Spyridon Bailey