

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Mission

1635 Shaffer Road

Atwater, California 95301

Sunday October 4th 2026

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens (1st c.)

Activities and Events this Week

Tuesday	Oct 6	Choir Rehearsal	6:00pm
Wednesday	Oct 7	Adult Education (End Fall Session)	6:00pm
Friday	Oct 8	Friday Morning Book Club	10:30am
Saturday	Oct 10	Catechism Great Vespers	3:00pm 5:00pm
Sunday	Oct 11	Hours Divine Liturgy <i>Parish Council Meeting</i>	9:40am 10:00am

Announcements

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.

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!

Sing with the Choir – You are invited to sing (with the Choir and Choir Director) The Troparion and Kontakion for St. Mary Magdalene, as well as the Creed and the Our Father.

The Parish Council is considering utilizing the sort of multi-purpose room to create needed additional space for the hall. Please look at the last Parish Council Meeting Minutes and speak with a council member of questions and issues.

Flowers – Please sign up on the bulletin board to provide flowers in the church, especially for Church feast days. Contact Diane Holmes for questions etc. Thank you so much!

Help with noise and distraction – If your child is crying and or having a meltdown – please feel free to utilize the narthex or the church hall so as to minimize noise and distraction. As our community continues to grow this will become more and more necessary.

Reflection

The American Left or so called Progressives often decry that the “wealthy do not do their fair share.” This is a lie! Not only do the top 1%, the wealthiest in our nation combined, contribute over 50% of all confiscated monies, but the wealthy in this country do so much more. They are the ones who provide the private sector jobs, they give to universities, hospitals, and all manner of charitable organizations. They are the ones who invested their wealth in the market so that retirement funds might be available. A quick look at the facts show that the political left give far less to charity than their “friends” across the aisle. “It is the wealthy that allow most communities to build their churches. I have had individuals who have been asked to give one million down to a few thousand dollars, thank me for the opportunity to participate in a meaningful and sacrificial manner. How would you suppose the over 4 million dollar church being built in Sacramento is going to happen if not for the wealthy in that community. Bake sales, raffles and dinners are not going to cut it, and they know that. In many more ways, the wealthy in America use their money for so much good. Far more than most countries combined! Never fall for that “the wealthy are not doing their fair share.” I would argue that we should look to the wealthy to teach us how to give in a sacrificial, meaningful, and proportionate manner. The number one reason why wealthy people give so much of their money is because they are asked. The number two reason is that it gives them joy. Giving to our church can also be a tremendous source of joy. I want to encourage all members of this community to find joy in supporting our church and the charities we support. When we give even seemingly beyond our ability, God always finds a way to bless us and to ensure that we have what we need.

Contact Fr. Lawrence

Call or text – 719-357-1211

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