



# ST. MARY'S HOLY DORMITION

### **Scripture Readings**

#### Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15

Brethren, it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

#### Gospel: Matthew 22:35-46

At that time, a lawyer, asked Jesus a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

## September 17th, 2023 AFTERFEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

## SEPT Birthdays & Anniversaries

2nd - Austin & Tori Jackson

5th - Linda Deak

6th - Victor & Terri Volosin

7th - Stephen Osburn Sr.

12th - Ken Denson

14th - Cassandra Head

17th - Trevor Hendrix

20th - Noah Scott

22nd - Bill Stevens

23rd - Rick & Shirley Sandbothe

24th - Dave Guy

29th - Michael Mikita

29th - Bodie Glover

29th - Eilidh Robinson

## **SCHEDULE**

Sept 23rd - Great Vespers (5:00 PM) Sept 24th - Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

## WISDOM

"Question: What does this mean: "Thy rod and Thy staff, they have comforted me" (Psalm 23:4)? Answer: The rod is the Cross, afflictions and the staff is the Jesus Prayer. The rod is the active part of virtue, and the staff is the noetic part."

- St. Ambrose of Optina

## **WEEKLY JOKES**

I met a magical Genie. He gave me one wish. I said, "I wish I could be you." The Genue saud, "Weurd wush but U wull grant ut."

My wife found letters I had been hiding, proving that I was cheating on her. Now, she refuses to play Scrabble with me.

I asked my wife what she wants for Christmas this year. She said "a divorce." I said, "I wasn't planning on spending that much."

## WELCOME! IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE!

#### **Calhan Community Highlights**

Last week Dave Guy was named the Denver Broncos High School Football Coach of the Week. Great job Coach Dave and May God Grant him and all his family Many More Years!

#### **Adult Class Every Saturday Night After Vespers** Parish Council - Briefly meeting in church after Liturgy Beer and Brat Festival at St. Paul's (September 23rd)

Coming up in a few weeks is St. Paul Lutheran Church's annual Beer and Brat Festival. The food is always great and its good to support them as they always support our Slavic Fest.

#### **Church School Begins October 1st** MVEA Meeting/Dinner (October 26th - 5:30 PM)

MVEA sent out some of their cards to the wrong addresses. In case you did not get yours, the Lamplighter meeting for MVEA is confirmed for October 26th at 5:30. RSVP to 719-494-2528 or by e-mail: communications@mvea.coop with first and last name, total Adult Guests, and name of guests, special dietary considerations.

#### **Special Collection Next 2 Sundays**

His Eminence has asked every parish to take a special collection for Fr. Ian Shipley and family. His wife, Mat. Priciscilla, after going through several major and complicated surgeries and having to be placed in hospice care fell asleep in the Lord this past week. She leaves behind a young family with ages ranging from 3 to 21. Donations may be sent directly to: St. Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church, 2956 Cohasset Rd., Chico, CA 95973 (Please include a notation that it is for the "family fund.") You may also use https://www.orthodoxchico.com/giving/. We will take a special collection for the next 2 Sundays and May God guide and protect Fr. Ian and their children Jessica, Evan, Lydia, and Adriana as the go through this difficult time and May He keep Mat. Priscilla's Memory Eternal!

#### Slavic Fest Prep Work & Tickets On Sale - SlavicFest.net

Slavic Fest is just around the corner. Pierogi and noodle making will be September 10th, 17th, & 24th with the Oct 1st as an extra work day if needed. Please everyone be available to help! Let's make this Slavic Fest bigger than ever. Slavic Fest tickets are also now on sale. Facebook ads have started. The daily posts to promote the festival are also scheduled. Please like and share them so Facebook's algorithms feed them into as many folks' feeds as possible. Flyers also available in the Narthex. Please take and distribute.

#### Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross

In ancient times, pagan Roman Emperors sought to erase the significance of Christian holy places like Golgotha and the Lord's Sepulchre. Emperor Hadrian went as far as to bury these sites and erect Rockies Game (September 30th): pagan temples in their place. This suppression continued for about three centuries until Emperor Constantine the Great came to power. He played a pivotal role in the history of Christianity, legalizing the faith through the Edict of Milan in 313, which put an end to the persecution of Christians in the Western half of the Roman Empire. Constantine's mother, Empress Helen embarked on a mission to rediscover these sacred sites, including the Holy Cross upon which Jesus Christ was crucified. Despite facing numerous challenges and conducting extensive inquiries among both Christians and Jews, her quest remained elusive for a while. However, she eventually received guidance leading her to a location where the Cross was believed to be buried beneath a temple dedicated to Venus. After the temple's demolition and fervent prayers, the Holy Cross was unearthed and authenticated by Patriarch Makarios through a miraculous event. This discovery marked a significant turning point in Christian history, with the Cross becoming a symbol of faith and redemption for believers worldwide. Subsequently, the Holy Cross was venerated by multitudes, and parts of it were transported to Constantinople. In Jerusalem, a magnificent church was constructed to commemorate the Resurrection of Christ, and it was consecrated in 335. This event led to the establishment of the Exaltation of the Cross celebration on September 14th. The article also mentions the Cross's return to Jerusalem from Persia after a fourteen-year captivity during the reign of Emperor Herakleios, emphasizing the profound humility associated with the Cross's journey. In a sermon on the Exaltation of the Cross, Saint Andrew of Crete says: "The Cross is exalted, and everything true is gathered together, the Cross is exalted, and the city makes solemn, and the people celebrate the feast."

#### The Come and See **Challenge:**

Have you brought someone NEW this month or brought someone back?

Have you gone to Great Vespers at least once this month?

When was the last time you went to Confession?

#### **Prayer List**

#### Living:

Abp. Benjamin, Met. Isaiah, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Dennis, Meryl, Harold, Tammy, Daron, Steve Sr, Litsa, Leilani, child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Johnny, Jeremy, Mark, Alicia, Iryland, Patricia, Casey, Bruce, Alice, Danny, Christina, Jerry, Roberta, Leonard, Annabelle, Devin, Morgan with child, Natalie, Wendy, Judy, April with child, Greg, Haily with child, Anita, Joseph, Michael, Janie, Allison, child Maisyn, Beverly, Lyndi with child, Venette, Dani with child, Lily with child, John, Ronald, Gene, Abigail with child, Infant Dominic, Gary, Chris, Kristina, Jaime, child Carolina, child Chloe, child Aubrey, child Andrew

#### Departed:

Met. Danial (of Japan), Mat. Priscilla, Rdr. Stephen, Savva, Judy, James

#### Youth:

We don't meet the group discount threshold (we need 20 and we have 15), so everyone has 1 more weekend to tell Fr. Stephen if they'd like to go. If not, we will have to order tickets individually and hope for the best in getting them grouped. Please see Fr. Stephen this weekend to let him know you would like to go. Tickets are \$17 per

#### St. Ambrose Donations

Bin in the hall. Please donate.

#### **Volunteers Needed**

New Lists up (June-Dec) for Coffee Hour and Church Clean Up. Please sign up!

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