



ST. MARY'S HOLY DORMITION

NOVEMBER 17TH, 2024
ST. GREGORY OF NEO-CAESAREA
21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture Readings

Galatians 2:16-20 (Epistle)

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

Luke 12:16-21 (Gospel)

The Lord said this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 'And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.'" But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

NOV Birthdays & Anniversaries

5th - Georgianna Glover
7th - Becky Fischer
9th - Jason Britton
15th - Abigail Leithead
15th - Greg Olyejar
15th - Terri Volosin
20th - Richard & Debbie Molner
20th - Debbie Hlatki
21st - Camden Robinson
22nd - Morgan Sparks
23rd - Garth Perry
28th - Josh Leithead
29th - Lori Meier

SCHEDULE

Prayers for Rain on Hold

November 23rd - Great Vespers (5 PM)

November 24th - Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

"God is not going to demand of the novice why he did not become a theologian, but rather why he did not tend to himself. God will not abandon him in regard to salvation."

- St. Leo of Optina

"Troubles are usually the brooms and shovels that smooth the road to a good man's fortune; and many a man curses the rain that falls upon his head, and knows not that it brings abundance to drive away hunger."

- St. Basil the Great

WEEKLY JOKES

They're finally making a documentary about the world's most famous clocks. It's about time.

I told my suitcases there will be no vacation this year. Now I'm dealing with a lot of emotional baggage.

My wife asked me to go pick up 6 2-liter of Sprite from the grocery store. But when I got home, I realized that I had picked 7 up.

WELCOME! IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE!

Coffee Hour: 11/17 – Potluck | 11/24 – Nobody

Church Cleanup: 11/17 – Nobody | 11/24 – Nobody

Please sign up to clean the Church and for coffee hour.

New Carpet in Church – We will Discuss later this month

Slavic Fest Food for Sale

We have some leftover bags of Pierogi (Potato and Cheese) and boxes of Kielbasa for sale. The Pierogi are \$6 a dozen while the Kielbasa is \$50 a box. Please pick it up in the Hall and leave a check or cash with the Office.

Panakhida for Eurich Family Today

We will have a Panakhida at the end of Liturgy for the members of the Eurich family who are no longer with us.

Natalie Hlatki Work with Rooted (Next Sunday)

Natalie will be giving a short presentation about her work with the Orthodox College Campus Ministry, Rooted next Sunday. Please stay after Liturgy to hear the exciting things she is doing and how we as a parish can help.

Parish Council (Next Sunday)

Parish Council will be meeting the 24th, instead of today due to Fr. Andreas' visit.

Christmas Pageant (December 22nd)

Adult Class (On Hold)

Saint Gregory, Wonderworker of Neocaesarea

Saint Gregory the Wonderworker, originally named Theodore, was born between 210 and 215 in Neocaesarea, northern Asia Minor, into a prominent pagan family. After his early education, he and his brother Athenodoros traveled to Beirut to study law, yet Gregory found that secular teachings did not satisfy his quest for truth. It was only in the Christian Gospel that he found fulfillment, leading him to embrace Christianity. To further his education, Gregory went to Alexandria, where he studied under the esteemed Christian teacher Origen for eight years, eventually receiving baptism from him.

During his time as a student, Gregory's virtuous lifestyle drew both admiration and envy. In one incident, a woman falsely accused him of immorality, yet through his prayer, her deceit was exposed, marking the beginning of Gregory's miracles. Despite his inclination towards a solitary ascetical life, Gregory's reputation for holiness and wisdom led Bishop Phaidemos of Amaseia to appoint him as Bishop of Neocaesarea. Though reluctant, Gregory ultimately accepted this role, viewing it as God's will. His consecration was unique, performed in absentia when he hid to avoid the ordination.

As bishop, Gregory faced theological challenges, including heresies that distorted the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. Praying for divine guidance, he experienced a vision of the Mother of God and the Apostle John, who instructed him in the correct understanding of the Trinity. Gregory documented this teaching, known as the Symbol of Faith, which later became a foundational element in Orthodox theology. His writings influenced many Church Fathers and were affirmed by the First Ecumenical Council in 325, showcasing the lasting impact of his theological contributions.

Gregory's ministry was marked by profound miracles and a deep commitment to his community. He cast out demons, healed the sick, and resolved disputes, notably drying up a lake that had caused a quarrel over inheritance. During the persecution of Christians under Emperor Decius, Gregory protected his flock through prayer, making them invisible to persecutors. By the end of his life, Gregory's influence had transformed Neocaesarea from a pagan city to one where nearly all its inhabitants were Christians, a testament to his dedication and holiness.

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:

Clergy: Abp. Benjamin, Abp. Nathaniel, Abp. Alexander, Met. Isaiah, Fr. Dennis, Fr. Matthew

Community: Meryl, Harold, Tammy, Litsa, child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, Alicia, Iryland, Patricia, Danny, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Michael, Jill, Beverly, Jackie, Trisha, Stella, Lee, Carol, Kodiak, John, Miriham, Cheri, April, Madalyn, McKenzie, MaKiya, Hannah, Haylee, Keith, Samantha, Christina, Jake, Ashton, Jeanie, Jetlyn, Murl, Millie, Earnie, Cathy, Michael, Frances, Jim, Anna, Chris, Cindy, Nate, Ryan, Dusty, Natalie, Micah, Georgiana, Margret, Darrell, child Kylie, Jennifer, Kayla, Kelly, Terri, Kyle, Matti, Debbie, Norma, Scott, Roger, Catherine, James

Those with child: Lily, Alisha, Amber, Anna, Hannah, Cassi, Abigail, Kelly, Brittany, Lauren, Sabrina

Those who are confined: Casey, Basil, Mark, Hannah, Theodore

And all of those who are suffering throughout our community and the world who are in need of prayers.

And for the building up of all of our churches, including St. John's in Colorado Springs and all missions throughout the USA.

Departed:

Abp. Peter, Ray, Gabe, child Grayson, Rachel, Charles

Youth:

Cheyenne Mtn Zoo (Dec 1st)

We are looking at going to the zoo on the 1st of December with anyone who would like to join. Please let Fr. Stephen know if you are interested so he can get a proper headcount and cost. The Rose Marie Ladies are covering the cost.

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