

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
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Phone: 570-645-2772
OUR WEBSITE: www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

Sunday, August 29, 2021
Choir Director: Wash King

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Tone 1.

The Beheading of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner, and Baptist John.
Venerable Theodora and her daughter Theopiste. Deposition of the Holy Relics of St. Joseph
Samakos the Sanctified. St. Arkadios the Wonderworker, Bishop of Arsinoe, Cyprus.

Glory Be to Jesus Christ Glory Be Forever!

Tone 1 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.

The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:

“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!

Glory to Thy Kingdom!//

Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Tone 2 Troparion (Forerunner)

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner.
Thou wast shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets,
for thou wast deemed worthy to baptize in the streams of the Jordan Him Whom
they foretold.

Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy,
thou didst proclaim to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh,
Who takes away the sin of the world,//
and grants us great mercy.

Tone 1 Kontakion (Resurrection)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Thyself.

Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.

Adam exults, O Master!

Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://

“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Tone 5 Kontakion (Forerunner)

The glorious beheading of the Forerunner
became an act of divine dispensation,
for he preached to those in hell the coming of the Savior.
Let Herodias lament, for she entreated lawless murder,
loving not the Law of God, nor eternal life,//
but that which is false and temporal.

Tone 1 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee! (Ps. 32:22)

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (Forerunner)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall hope in Him. (Ps. 63:11a)

Silent Prayer before reading the Holy Scripture:

Illumine our hearts, O Master Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teachings. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Acts 13:25-33 (Epistle, Forerunner)

And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'Who do you think I am? I am not He. But behold, there comes One after me, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to loose.' Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent.

For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him. And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb.

But God raised Him from the dead. He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. And we declare to you glad tidings – that promise which was made to the fathers.

God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You.'

1 Corinthians 4:9-16 (Epistle)

For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ! We are weak, but you are strong! You are distinguished, but we are dishonored! To the present hour we both hunger and thirst, and we are poorly clothed, and beaten, and homeless.

And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now. I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you.

For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel. Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

Mark 6:14-30 (Gospel, Forerunner)

'Now King Herod heard of Him, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or like one of

the prophets.” But when Herod heard, he said, “This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!” For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife; for he had married her. Because John had said to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.”

Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly. Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee.

And when Herodias’ daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, “Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you.”

He also swore to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom.” So she went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask?”

And she said, “The head of John the Baptist!” Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her.

Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother.

When his disciples heard of it, they came and took away his corpse and laid it in a tomb. Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught.

Matthew 17:14-23 (Gospel)

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, “Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water.

So I brought him to Your disciples, but they could not cure him.” Then Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me.”

And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"

So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up." And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

SERVICES

Sunday, August 29 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Beheading of St. John The Baptist) Strict Fast Day
to follow: Parastas

Sunday, September 5, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, September 8, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Nativity of the Theotokos)

Sunday, September 12, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, September 14, 9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

Offerings for August 29

7-Day Vigils/Altar...In memory of John D. Sidoriak offered Olga Sidoriak

Altar Candles...In memory of Michael & Jennie Harb offered by John & Jeanne Cannon

Eternal Lamp...In memory of Mary Hudak offered by William & Lorene Hudak

Vigil Crosses ...In memory of Aunt Olga Hebda offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod...In memory of Helen Yurchak offered by Gloria Bench

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod...In memory of Husband, Frank Forte offered by Julia Forte

Financials: Candles \$30 Offerings \$142 Non-envelope \$150 Holy Day \$10 Donation \$95=Total \$427

Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Thank you!

Please use Amazon Smile when ordering from Amazon.

When you shop for gifts or merchandise at **[smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile)**, Amazon Smile will donate a portion of your eligible purchases to St. Mary's Orthodox Church at no cost to you!

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King. Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King.

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772. Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

CONFESSION

Confessions have resumed with minor modifications. Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out during the week. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations.

Prayer List:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic
Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Ellen Gundersen, Karen Harkins, John King, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Olga Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Martha Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Marie Yurchak.

August Birthdays: 2- David Bogosh, 5- Rose Harkins, 14-David King, 22-Nancy Lorchak
August Anniversaries: 20- Dennis & Geri Vavra

Parastas: August 29

In memory of Michael & Jennie Harb offered by John & Jeanne Cannon
In memory of Olga Hebda offered by Sister Anna & nieces & nephews
In memory of John Sidoriak offered by Olga Sidoriak
In memory of Mary Hudak offered by Lori & Bill Hudak
In memory of Richard York offered by Gloria Bench
In memory of Helen Scheese offered by the Family
In memory of Walter G. Scheese offered by the Family
In memory of Helen & Nicholas Macenka, Jr offered by Shelly Macenka &
Elaine (Macenka) Andrews



BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



A star football player, drafted by a team in the NFL, faced a grave decision. He decided, after much prayer and thought, not to play professional football. His reason was that playing in the league would interfere with his keeping of Sunday as the Lord's Day!

That is what is called having a standard in life, a value, which a person will uphold at all costs. This is what is so lacking as we look at people in all walks of life today. There has been compromise with God's standards and laws.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST had a high moral standard. When King Herod married his brother's wife, John went to him and protested, saying it was against God's law. The king's standards were different from John's. Though he listened to the Baptist's admonition carefully, the king didn't change. The woman involved, Herodias, also lacked standards. In fact, she was so angry that she wanted John killed.

An opportunity for just that came at a birthday party. The daughter of Herodias, Salome, danced for the crowd, and so delighted the king that he promised to give her whatever she asked. After consultation with her mother, Salome asked for the head of John. The King ordered the Baptist decapitated, and soldiers carried out this gruesome task.

And so each year the Church honors the man with high standards, who refused to compromise his deep-seated beliefs. He paid with his life, for what he believed. That man, "the greatest born of woman," was St. John the Baptist.