

**St. Mary's Orthodox Church
(Dormition of the Mother of God)**

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Sunday August 27, 2017

Saint Pimen the Great; Saint Pimen of Palestine; Saint Sabbas of Benephali; Saint Liberius, Pope of Rome; Saint Hosius the Confessor, Bishop of Cordova; Hieromartyr Kuksha and Saint Pimen (Poemen) the faster of the Kiev Caves; Martyr Anthusa; Great-Martyr Phanourios the newly-appeared of Rhodes; Saint Caesarius, Bishop of Arles; Saint Osii, Bishop of Korudvisk; Martyr-Hermit Decuman of Watchet; Martyr Djan Darada, the Ethiopian eunuch of Queen Candace; translation of the relics of Saints Theognostus, Cyprian, and Photius, Metropolitans of Moscow.

Services for the week of August 27

Tuesday, August 29: 9:00 am Divine Liturgy for the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. (Strict Fast)

Saturday, September 3: 6:00 pm Great Vespers.

Parish News

WELCOME: to all of our guests today. We are so glad that you have come to enjoy our Orthodox worship. We invite you to come for coffee and sweets in our church hall and to enjoy fellowship with us. May God bless you!

OFFERINGS: August 20: \$780.20

PLEASE REMEMBER Janet Mikel and Martha Smith who are suffering from serious illness. May God continue to bless and strengthen them!

CHURCH WORLD FOOD FESTIVAL is coming up on September 23 from 11am-4pm. Please volunteer your help in any way you can. See Fr. Mark or any of the many people who are helping us (particularly Joyce Peters and Ranae Bailey) if you are able to lend a hand.

REFLECTION

One who crawls up a steep mountain and scrapes with both hands and feet to take one step forward, not thinking to look back, such were the great Orthodox ascetics in the difficult climb to the Kingdom of God. Their labor and their detachment is indeed for amazement. St. Pimen did not want to see his mother when she came to visit him. A prince wanted to see Pimen but he refused. Then the prince thought of a cunning way, to force the elder to meet with him; he arrested the son of Pimen's sister and said to her that he would release her son only if Pimen himself comes to speak with him. The sister went into the wilderness and, knocking at the door, begged her brother to come out and save her son. But Pimen did not come out. Then sister began to scold and curse him. Hearing of this, the prince ordered that a letter be written to Pimen saying that if he, Pimen, would at least put in writing, (since he did not do so orally) implore the prince to release his nephew, the prince would do so. Pimen replied: "O mighty prince, command to probe well the guilt of the young man and if the guilt is such that he deserves death, let him die, so that by temporal punishment, he will escape the torments in eternity but if the guilt does not merit the penalty of death then castigate him according to the law and then release him." Reading this just and impartial judgment, the prince was greatly astonished, released the youth and his respect for Pimen increased two-fold.