

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

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Sunday October 29, 2017

Martyr Anastasia the Roman; Saint Abramius the Recluse and his niece Saint Mary of Mesopotamia; Saint Abramius, archimandrite of Rostov; Saint Anna of Constantinople; Martyrs Claudius, Asterius, Neon, and Theonilla of Aegae in Cilicia; Saint Abramius, recluse of the Kiev Caves; New-hieromartyr Athanasius of Sparta, at Muatanach; Martyr Timothy of Esphigmenou Monastery on Mount Athos; Martyrs Cyril, Menas, and Menaeus; Martyr Melitene of Marcianopolis; Saint Serapion of Zarzma; Saint Ermelindis, hermitess; Saint Colman, Bishop of Kilmacduagh

Services for the week of October 29

THERE ARE NO DIVINE SERVICES THIS WEEK UNTIL SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

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: October 22: \$1178.00

PLEASE REMEMBER Janet Mikel and Martha Smith who are suffering from serious illness. May God continue to bless and strengthen them! Martha has been at Lewis Gale Hospital this week,

THERE IS NO VESPERS THIS COMING SATURDAY November 4. Divine Liturgy will be served at the regular time on Sunday, November 5 at 10:00 am.

The Venerable Martyr Anastasia the Roman

She was born in Rome of noble parents, and was left an orphan at the age of three. As an orphan, she was taken to a convent near Rome where the abbess was Sophia, a nun of the highest level of perfection. After seventeen years, Anastasia was well known-among the Christians as a great ascetic, and among the pagans as a rare beauty. Probus, the pagan governor, heard of Anastasia and sent his soldiers to bring her to him. For two hours, the good Abbess Sophia counseled Anastasia how to keep the Faith, how to resist flattering deceits, and how to endure torture. Anastasia said to her: "My heart is ready to suffer for Christ; my soul is ready to die for my Sweet Jesus." Brought before the governor, Anastasia openly expressed her faith in Christ the Lord, and when the governor tried to turn her away from the Faith-first by promises and then by threats-the martyr said to him: "I am ready to die for my Lord not only once, but-oh, if it were only possible-a hundred times!" When they stripped her naked to humiliate her, she cried out to the servants: "Whip me, cut me up and tear me apart, cover my naked body with wounds and cover my shame with blood!" She was beaten, torn and cut up. On two occasions she felt a great thirst and asked for water, and a Christian, Cyril, gave her a drink, for which he was blessed by the martyr of Christ and beheaded by the pagans. Anastasia's breasts and tongue were severed, but an angel of God appeared and sustained her. Finally, she was beheaded outside the city. Blessed Sophia found her body and buried it honorably. Anastasia was crowned with the wreath of martyrdom during the reign of Decius.