

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

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*Sunday January 28, 2017*

Venerable Ephraim the Syrian (373); Venerable Palladius the Hermit of Antioch, Wonderworker (4th century) The Holy Two Martyrs, mother and daughter, by the sword; Martyr Charita; Saint Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh and ascetic writer (7th century); Venerable James the Ascetic, of Porphyreon (*Porphyrianos*) in Palestine; Saint George the Martyr (1015); Venerable Ephraim of Novotorzhsk, Abbot and Wonderworker of the Sts. Boris and Gleb Monastery, Novotorzhok (1053) Saint Flavian, a deputy-prefect of Rome, martyred in Civita Vecchia in Italy under Diocletian (c. 304); Saint Valerius, Bishop of Saragossa in Spain, with whom St Vincent served as deacon (315); Cannera (*Cainder, Kinnera*), Virgin on the Isle of Inniscathy, Bantry Bay, Ireland (c. 530); Saint John of Reomans (*John of Reomay (Réomé)*), in Gaul (544); Saints Brigid and Maura, daughters of a Scottish Chieftain, Martyrs in Picardy while on pilgrimage to Rome; Saint Antimus, one of the first Abbots of Brantôme in France (8th century); Saint Glastian, patron saint of Kinglassie in Fife in Scotland (830); Saint Odo of Beauvais, Bishop of Beauvais (880); Venerable Ephraim of the Kiev Caves, Bishop of Pereyaslavl (c. 1098); Venerable Theodosius, founder of Totma Monastery, Vologda (1568); Saint Theodore, Spanish presbyter, Confessor (1933); New Hiero-confessor Arsenius (Stadnitsky), Metropolitan of Tashkent and Turkestan (1936); New Hieromartyr Ignatius (Sadkovsky), Bishop of Skopin (1938); New Hieromartyr Vladimir Pishchulin, Priest, at Simferopol (1938); New Hieromartyr Bartholomew (Ratnykh), Hieromonk, at Feodosia, Crimea (1938); Virgin-martyr Olga (1938); New Hiero-confessor Archimandrite Leontius (Stasevich) of Jablechna (Poland), who reposed at Mikhailovsk, Ivanovo, Russia (1972); **Other Commemorations:** "Sumorin Totma" Icon of the Mother of God (16th century).

*Services for the week of January 28*

Friday, February 2: 9:00 am Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple

Saturday, February 3: 6:00 pm Great Vespers

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## 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:** January 21: \$1015.00

**PLEASE REMEMBER** Janet Mikel and Martha Smith as well as Marin Sandu (Dr. Alina's stepfather) who are suffering from serious illness. Fr. John Zboyovski who serves in North Carolina and is known by many in our parish is still recovering from a stroke. Please remember him as well. May God continue to bless and strengthen them!

**ETERNAL MEMORY** to +John Cunningham who reposed on Wednesday, January 24. John attended our parish for years until he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. He has had a long, slow decline. May his memory be eternal!

**PARISH ASSESSMENTS** are now due. This money is paid to the Diocese and not to the parish. Every member over the age of 18 is asked to pay \$75.00 with a check paid to the parish. The memo line should read: Diocesan Assessment. All the assessments will be bundled by our church and sent in a lump sum to the diocese once all are collected. Anyone who might have trouble with this sum is asked to speak to Fr. Mark. He will confidentially assist. According to our Diocesan laws, this act is one of the two things we do to maintain "official membership" in the parish. The other thing we do is to confess and commune during the Great Fast.

**THIS IS THE WEEK OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE:** There is no fasting this week as we are taught eating to avoid the pride of the Pharisee: "I fast twice a week..." The Lenten Triodion (period from this Sunday to Great and Holy Saturday) is upon us.

## REFLECTION

The absence of envy among the saints is a startling and wonderful phenomenon. Not only did the saints not allow envy to seize their hearts but, with all their might, labored to uplift their companions and to diminish themselves. On one occasion when St. Hilarion of Palestine visited St. Anthony in Egypt, St. Anthony exclaimed: "Welcome Venus, the morning star!" To that St. Hilarion replied: "Greetings and health be to you, the shining pillar who sustains the universe!" When they praised St. Macarius as a monk, the saint replied: "Brethren, forgive me, I am not a monk but, I have seen monks!" When some people told St. Sisoës that he attained the same level of perfection as St. Anthony, Sisoës replied: "If only I had but a single thought as does Anthony, I would be all aflame."