

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

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Sunday July 1, 2018

Holy and Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian, brothers, Martyrs at Rome (284); Holy 2000 Martyrs, by the sword; Holy 25 Martyrs in Nicomedia, by fire; Saint Maurice; Venerable Peter the Patrician (Peter of Constantinople), monk (854); Venerable Basil, founder of the Monastery of the Deep Stream, Cappadocia (10th c.) Saint Leo the Hermit, Ascetic; Saint Martin of Vienne, third Bishop of Vienne in France (ca.132); Martyr Potitus at Naples (161); Martyrs Julius and Aaron, Protomartyrs of Wales, suffered in Caerleon-on-Usk under Diocletian (304); Saints Castus and Secundinus, much venerated in the south of Italy (305); Saint Domitian, founder of Monastery of Bebron (ca.337-440); Saint Theodoric (Thierry, Theodericus), Abbot of Mont d'Or near Rheims, priest and disciple of the blessed Bp. Remigius (ca.533); Saint Carilefus (Calais), a companion of St Avitus, founded the monastery of Anisole in Maine in France (ca.536); Saint Gal I (Gallus of Clermont), uncle and teacher of St Gregory of Tours (ca.553); Saint Leonorius (Léonor, Lunaire) (ca. 570); Saint Eparchius (Cybar), a noble from Périgord in France, renounced his title to become a monk at Sessac in Gaul (581); Saint Serf (Servanus), Bishop of Kinross, the Apostle of West Fife in Scotland (ca.583); Saint Veep ((Veepus, Veepy, Wimp, Wennapa), patron saint of St Veep in Cornwall (6th c.); Saint Cewydd, a saint of Anglesey in Wales and at Lancut in Gloucestershire in England (6th c.); Saint Juthware, sister of St. Sidwell, she was of British descent and lived in Devon in England (7th c.); Martyr Constantine of Cyprus (Constantine of Allemagne), Wonderworker, and those with him (late 12th c.); Saint Leontius of Rădăuți, Bishop of Rădăuți in Moldavia (1432); Saint Angelina of Serbia, Despotina (16th c.) (see also December 10); Venerable Nicodemus of Svyatogorsk (Nikodim Svyatogorets), (1809) (see July 14); New Hieromartyr Arcadius, priest (1918); New Hieromartyr Alexis, deacon (1942); **Other Commemorations:** Second translation of the relics of Venerable John of Rila (946), from Trnovo to Rila (1470).

Services for the week of July 1

Saturday, July 7: 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: June 24: \$809.00

WEDDING SHOWER: On July 8, there will be a wedding shower for Emily and Jon at the Coffee Hour following Liturgy. They are registered at Wal Mart and Amazon. Please attend and enjoy! Remember, their wedding is on September 1st.

RANDY BAILEY has returned to Winston-Salem on account of certain complications. Please keep him and his family in your prayers!

PLEASE ALSO PRAY for Alexander (a dear friend of Nicholas Tyson's Godmother, Eleanor Dussling, who is suffering from an acute infection in his leg after ACL surgery. He is Orthodox. Timur, (not Orthodox) is a relative of Fr. Mark's friends in Yakutsk, and is missing after swimming in a river with some friends. He is presumed drowned. Please remember them when you speak to the Lord.

HOMILY

About how we should rejoice in Christ

"In this you greatly rejoice though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials" (1 Peter 1:6).

Thus speaks St. Peter the Apostle whose life was filled with many temptations and frequent sorrows. Thus speaks the man who left his home and family members and followed after Christ and who, for the sake of Christ, endured many difficulties: from hunger, from thirst, from the Jews, from the Romans, from false prophets, from cruel heathens and who, in the end was crucified on the cross, all for the sake of the Lord Christ. He, who in this life was unmercifully scourged with great sorrows and great temptations, counsels us to rejoice in Christ so that this joy may swallow up all our proportionally lessor sorrows and temptations.

But why brethren should we rejoice in Christ? Because He revealed and showed us the reality of the greatest and most beautiful hopes and dreams of mankind; He revealed to us the One God, Living, Omnipotent, All-wise All-merciful and He gave us the privilege to call ourselves His sons; He revealed and showed us the immortal and eternal life; life incomparably better than this life on earth;

He revealed to us the spiritual kingdom; the kingdom of angels and the righteous; the kingdom of all good and the light of truth and justice; He revealed and showed us the goal of our existence here on earth and the purpose for all our efforts and sufferings in this transient life;

He revealed to us the ocean of heavenly joy compared to all of our sorrows and temptations as a drop of muddy water, which cannot disturb or muddy that ocean. O brethren, what joy awaits us! O brethren, how small a price does our Lord ask of us to purchase this joy in which the angels bathe and in which the righteous swim! Only to fulfill a few of His short commandments that is the entire price!

O Lord Jesus, the all-miraculous source of our joy, our boast and our pleasure, our glory and our thanks, place Your finger on our mouths and do not allow a drop of muddy sorrow and temptations to poison us.

To You be glory and thanks always. Amen.

