

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

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Sunday September 2, 2018

Martyr Mamas of Caesarea in Cappadocia, with his parents Martyrs Theodotus and Rufina; Saint John the Faster, Patriarch of Constantinople; 3628 Martyrs of Nicomedia; Venerable Anthony and Theodosius, Founders of Monasticism in Rus' of the Kiev Caves; Martyrs Diomedes, Julian, Philip, Eutykhian, Hesychios, Leonides, Eutykhios, Philadelphos, Melanippos, Parthagapa and Theodore; Righteous Eleazar, son of Aaron; Righteous Phineas, grandson of Aaron; Martyrs Aeithalas and Ammon of Thrace; Antonii and Feodosii of Pechersk; celebration of the Icon of the Theotokos at Kaluga

Services for the week of September 2

Friday, September 7: 6:30 pm Vigil for the Nativity of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Saturday, September 8: 9:00 am Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos...

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!

CONGRATULATIONS To Jon (Andrew) and Emily Lloyd who were joined in holy matrimony yesterday. Please remember them in prayer that God preserve them in every way.

OFFERINGS: August 26: \$516.00

MANY YEARS to our Bishop Gregory who was elevated on Friday to the rank of Metropolitan. We will receive instructions from the diocese very soon on how he will be commemorated in the Liturgy. Eis polla, eti despota!

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, September 9. All members who are sacramentally active and have paid their Diocesan Assessment are exhorted to attend.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Very Rev. Michael Miklos, Very Rev. Jonathan Tobias, Wanda (Martha) Smith, John (Randy) Bailey, Janet Mikel, Martha Akers, Alexander Shostko, the grieving members of the Budarin family (who lost their relative, +Timur) and Kenny Bamber. May God grant them the grace to bear the crosses of illness and sorrow. May His will be done in their lives.

The Holy Martyr Mamas

The Holy Martyr MamasHe was born in Paphlagonia of renowned Christian parents, Theodotus and Rufina. His parents were cast into prison for Christ's name. His father died first in prison, and as soon as Rufina bore Mamas, she also died. Thus the newborn child was left alone between the dead bodies of his parents. However, God the Provider sent an angel to a noble widow, Ammia. Ammia saw the angel in a dream: he told her to go to the prison and take the child in. The local eparch granted Ammia permission to bury the dead and to take the child to her home. When Mamas reached his fifth year, he began to talk and his first word was "Mama!"-for which he received the name "Mamas." In school, Mamas displayed unusual intelligence, and as he had been reared in a Christian spirit, he did not hide his faith, but confessed it to the other children and laughed at the idols. During the reign of Aurelian there was a bitter persecution of Christians. The pagans did not even spare the Christian children. Mamas was fifteen years old when he was brought before the emperor. The emperor told him that he needed only to deny Christ verbally. Mamas replied: "Neither in my heart nor with my lips will I renounce my God and King, Jesus Christ." The emperor ordered him to be beaten, burned with torches, and finally thrown into the sea. But an angel of God saved him, and took him to a high mountain near Caesarea. There he lived in solitude and prayer. Even the wild beasts were tamed by his sanctity. He was finally discovered by his persecutors and subjected to torture again. When he had overcome torture both by fire and by wild beasts, St. Mamas was run through with a trident by a pagan priest. Thus he gave his holy soul to God, to Whom he had been faithful during all of his tortures. From his relics many healings of the sick have taken place. 2. Saint John the Faster, Patriarch of ConstantinopleHe is also celebrated on August 30. He was at first a goldsmith, but because of his great and many acts of mercy- and by God's providence- he was ordained a priest. Once, when he was a young man, John was walking with Eusebius, an old monk from Palestine. Suddenly, a bodiless voice spoke to Eusebius: "Abba, do not walk to the right of the great John." It was the voice of God, foretelling the great service to which John would shortly be called. After the Blessed Eutychius, John was chosen to be Patriarch of Constantinople. He did not want to accept this but, having been frightened by a certain heavenly vision, he accepted. He was a great faster, intercessor and miracle-worker right up to his death. He reposed in the year 595. After his death, his only personal possessions were found to be a wooden spoon, a linen shirt and an old garment. His writings on repentance and confession are well known.





