

Holy Myrrhbearer Mary Magdalene, Equal to the Apostles

A woman whose name has entered forever into the Gospel account was born and grew up in Magdala. The Gospel tells us nothing of Mary's younger years, but Tradition informs us that Mary of Magdala was young and pretty, and led a sinful life. It says in the Gospels that the Lord expelled seven devils from Mary (Luke. 8:2). From the moment of her healing Mary led a new life, and became a true disciple of the Savior.

Formerly immersed in sin and having received healing, she sincerely and irrevocably began a new life and never wavered from that path. Mary loved the Lord Who called her to a new life. She was faithful to Him not only when He was surrounded by enthusiastic crowds and winning recognition as a miracle-worker, but also when all the disciples deserted Him in fear and He, humiliated and crucified, hung in torment upon the Cross. This is why the Lord, knowing her faithfulness, appeared to her first, and esteemed her worthy to be first to proclaim His Resurrection.

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the West

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St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Port Townsend, WA



Sunday, July 22nd, 2018

*Holy Myrrhbearer Mary Magdalene Equal to the Apostles;
Hieromartyr Phocas, Bishop of Sinope*

8th Sunday after Pentecost

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Readings

Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Gospel Matthew 14:14-22

Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, // granting the world great mercy.

Tone 1 Troparion (Mary Magdalene)

By keeping His commandments and laws, holy Mary Magdalene, thou didst follow Christ, Who for our sake was born of the Virgin, and in celebrating thy most holy memory today, // we receive forgiveness of sins by thy prayers.

Tone 4 Troparion (Hieromartyr Phocas)

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, thou didst become a successor to their throne. Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; by teaching the word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood. // Hieromartyr Phocas, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 7 Kontakion (Resurrection)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: "The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

Tone 3* Kontakion (Mary Magdalene)

Standing before the Cross of the Savior, suffering with the Mother of the Lord, the most glorious Mary Magdalene didst offer praise with tears. She cried out: "What is this strange wonder? He Who holds the whole creation in His hand chooses to suffer. // Glory to Thy power, O Lord!"

Tone 2 Kontakion (Hieromartyr Phocas)

The Master established thee as a brilliant sun, shining on all the faithful, glorious O hieromartyr Phocas. He accepted thy life, faith, and contest as myrrh, // for He is rich in mercy.

This Week at St. Herman's

NOTE: Father Nicholas will be away at the All American Council, Monday, July 23rd, through Saturday July 28th

Sunday, July 22nd - *Holy Myrrhbearer Mary Magdalene*

- 9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy
- Coffee Hour in the parish hall

Wednesday, July 25th - *Dormition of Righteous Anna*

- 6:45 AM - Coffee and Books

Thursday, July 26th - *Rest of St. Jacob Netsvetov*

- 6:00 PM - Greek Class in Port Townsend

Saturday, July 21th - *Apostles of the 70 Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, and Parmenas*

- 7:00 PM - Great Vespers