

Today's Bulletin Sponsors is for:

**The memory of:**

**Walter Romanofsky**, offered by Andrew and Maribeth

**Readings:** **Hebrews 6:13-20** (*4th Sunday of Great Lent, St. John of the Ladder*)

[Ephesians 5:9-19](#) (*Saint John*)

**Mark 9:17-31** (*4th Sunday of Great Lent, St. John of the Ladder*)

[Matthew 4:25-5:12](#) (*Saint John*)

**Brethren**, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

**At that time**, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

**Sunday service:**

**Hours - 9:40 AM**

**Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**

**Wednesday: Presanctified Liturgy - 6:30 PM**

**Saturday: Personal Confessions - between 6:30-7:30 PM**

**Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in person services in our parish have been cut back for now. Fr Matthew has sent out reader's services via email each week to follow at home. In addition, the diocesan web page [nynjoca.org](http://nynjoca.org) has online services for viewing.**

**Sunday services are celebrated with only the allowed number of people in attendance. Please contact Fr Matthew if you wish to attend as part of the restricted number.** (No one else should attend in person.)

**Church School**

Church School is temporarily not meeting.

We are praying for all of our parishioners and their families. Let's keep praying for each other and remember to reach out and keep in touch.

**Announcement:**

- Father has requested those with **Pussy Willow** bushes to clip them at the proper time, and **save them for Palm Sunday**.
- **The Sisterhood will be purchasing flowers to decorate our church for Pascha.** Donations for flowers will be greatly appreciated. Please leave your donation in an envelope marked "Sisterhood Flowers" at the candle stand. **Checks should be made out to the Sisterhood.** Thank you
- **The Sisterhood is continuing to accept purchases for raffle entries in their Pascha basket raffle.** Entries are \$1.00 each and each parishioner is asked to sell 10 chances. Checks should be made out to the Sisterhood and mailed to Maribeth Romanofsky, 8 Willowbrook Lane, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234. Anyone purchasing entries should check their email for a link to the live Zoom drawing to be held on April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **The annual meeting of the parish will be held today, April, 11<sup>th</sup>** after the Liturgy. Since everyone cannot attend, please let Andy Romanofsky know if you plan to attend.
- As we are asked to refrain from public gatherings, **please consider mailing your weekly donation to our treasurer:**  
**Church of the Mother of God, c/o Holly Dawson, treasurer,**  
**111 Main Ave, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234**  
 The parish still needs to pay its bills.  
 Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their donations.

**Reminders:**

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org). We still need sponsors for the bulletin each week as they go out via e-mail to many people. Send your donation to the treasurer.
- The Living Clean Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday from 8-9:15 pm downstairs in the community room.
- The Grey Book Step Meeting Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Tuesday from 7-8:00 pm downstairs in the community room.

**4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus (of the Ladder):**

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent. The abbot of Saint Catherine’s Monastery on Mount Sinai (6th century) stands as a witness to the violent effort needed for entrance into God’s Kingdom (Mt.10: 12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is a real one, “not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ...” (Eph 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, according to the Lord, only “he who endures to the end will be saved” (Mt.24:13).

*The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence,  
to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe,  
O our Father and Teacher John.*

Kontakion – Tone 4

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To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/04/11>

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Please check the website of our Diocese:

<https://nynjoca.org/>

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America:

<https://www.oca.org/>

and our website:

<https://churchmotherofgod.org/>

See us on the web at: [ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin)

See us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog](http://www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog)

Email us at: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

# Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

**The Most Reverend Michael**

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

**V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,**

Temporary Rector

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**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



**Glory to Jesus  
Christ**

**Glory  
Forever**

4th Sunday of Great Lent:

St John Climacus (of the Ladder)

*Dweller of the desert and angel in the body,  
you were shown to be a wonder-worker, our God-bearing Father John.  
You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer:  
healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.*

*Glory to Him who gave you strength!*

*Glory to Him who granted you a crown!*

*Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all!*

Troparion – Tone 1

**Today the Church remembers:**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT • St. John Climacus (of The Ladder) •**  
Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum, disciple of St. John the Theologian (92) •  
Ven. Jacob (James), Abbot of Zheleznobórovsk (1442), and his fellow ascetic, James  
• St. Varsonúfii (Barsanuphius), Bishop of Tver’ (1576) • Martyrs Processus and  
Martinian of Rome (1st c.) • Ven. Pharmuthius, Anchorite, of Egypt (4th c.) • Ven.  
John, disciple of Ven. Gregory of Decapolis (9th c.) • St. Callinicus of Cernica,  
Bishop of Rimnicului in Romania (1868) • The Appearance of the “FOOTPRINT”  
Icon of the Mother of God at Pochayev

**April 11, 2021**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent  
Triodion week 8**

**Tone 3 [of the Octoechos](#)  
Sunday of St John Climacus**