

**Bulletin sponsors for this week are for:****The health of:****All parishioners of the parish** for a blessed Pascha feast day

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**Readings:**    **Acts 1:1-8** (*Sunday of Holy Pascha*)  
                   **John 1:1-17** (*Sunday of Holy Pascha*)

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**IN THE FIRST BOOK, O Theophilos,** I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?” He said to them, “it is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”

**In the beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.’”) And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

**Pascha (Easter Sunday) Service:****April 23 (Saturday) 11:30 PM** - Holy Pascha Vigil - Nocturns, Matins, Divine Liturgy, blessing of food baskets.**All other Sundays:**

<b>Hours - 9:40 AM</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM</b>
<b>General Confession – 9:45 AM</b> on the first Sunday of each month	
<b>Private Confession -</b> by appointment, contact Fr Matthew	
<b>Pannikhidas –</b> after Divine Liturgy 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month	

**Mask wearing in church is optional for vaccinated persons. Those who are unvaccinated should continue to mask up. Thank you for caring about your fellow parishioners!**

**Coffee hour - after Divine Liturgy.**

**We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy, downstairs, for Coffee hour.**

**Church School****Schedule for the remainder of the school year:**

May 1, May 15 and June 12 (last class)

No class on Memorial Day weekend

**Announcements:**

- **The Sisterhood** is accepting **donations for Paschal flowers.** There is a basket at the candlestand for your donations. **Checks should be made out to the Sisterhood.**
- The Sisterhood would like to thank everyone who participated in the Pascha basket raffle. Your support helped to make the raffle a success! Congratulations to the basket winners, the Dantine family!
- **Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.**
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.

**Reminders:**

- 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  
Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their donations.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, should be **submitted by email to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)** (there is no longer a sign up sheet at the candle stand).
- 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.

**HOLY PASCHA: The Resurrection of Our Lord:**

The great event, the Glorious Resurrection of Christ, is celebrated by the Holy Orthodox Church as the greatest of all feast-days. It is the Feast of Feasts and celebration of celebrations. This Feast is called Pascha (Greek for "Passover"), that is, the day on which is accomplished our passage (Passover) from death to life and from earth to Heaven.

On the Feast, Matins begins at midnight. Before the beginning of Matins, the celebrants, vested in brilliant robes, together with the faithful, accompanied by the ringing of bells, carrying burning candles, the cross and icons, proceed around the church emulating the Myrrh-bearing women who proceeded to the tomb of the Saviour in the early morning. During the procession, everyone sings, "Thy Resurrection, O Christ Saviour, the angels hymn in the heavens; vouchsafe also us on earth with pure hearts to glorify Thee." The first exclamation of Matins is made before the closed doors of the church while the festal hymn "Christ is Risen..." is repeated many times; and then while singing the hymn they enter the church. The services continue all night with open Royal Doors signifying that now, by the Resurrection of Christ, the gates of the Kingdom of Heaven are opened for all. On every day of this great feast we greet one another with the brotherly kiss and the words, "Christ is Risen!" and answer with the words, "Truly He is Risen!" We greet each other in this way and exchange coloured eggs, which symbolize the new, blessed life revealed from the tomb of the Saviour. Bells ring all week. From the first day of Holy Pascha until vespers of the Feast of the Holy Trinity, no one is permitted to kneel in church or to make prostrations.

Besides this, the day of the Resurrection of Christ is celebrated by us on every Sunday of the year.

*The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:  
"Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,  
your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!  
With Himself He has raised all the dead."  
Rejoice, O ye people!*

*Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on you.  
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the Resurrection of your Son!*

Hymn to the Theotokos

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:  
<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/04/24>

Please check the website of our Diocese: [nynjoca.org/](http://nynjoca.org/)  
and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: [www.oca.org/](http://www.oca.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 Searfoorce,**

Temporary Rector

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**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



**Christ is risen!**

Христос  
Воскресе!

**Indeed he is risen!**

Воистину  
Воскресе!

**HOLY PASCHA:**

The Resurrection of Our Lord

*Christ is risen from the dead,*

*trampling down death by death,*

*and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!*

Pascha Troparion

**April 24, 2022**

**Today the Church remembers:**

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST** • Martyr Savva Stratelates ("the General") of Rome, and 70 soldiers with him (272) • Ven. Savva and Aleksey the Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—13th c.) • Martyrs Valentine and Pasikrates in Moesia, Bulgaria (228). Martyrs Eusebius, Neon, Leontius, Longinus, and others, at Nicomedia (303) • Ven. Thomas the Fool, of Syria (6th c.) • St. Elizabeth the Wonderworker of Constantinople (6th-8th c.) • Ss. Iorest (1678) and Savva Brancovici (1683), Metropolitans of Ardeal and Confessors (Romania) • Hieromartyr and Confessor Elijah (Ilie) the Wallachian (1657)

**HOLY PASCHA**

Beginning of the Pentecostarion