

Today's Bulletin Sponsors is for:

The health of:

Our parish family, especially Irene Infererra, Lore Stefy and Mary Ann Kuzemchak

Readings: Hebrews 4:14-16;5:1-6 (3rd Sunday of Great Lent, Cross)
Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 (3rd Sunday of Great Lent, Adoration of the Cross)

Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM **Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**

Wednesday: Presanctfird 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 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 preparing for their annual Paschal basket raffle.** Please help out by purchasing at least 10 entries at \$1.00 each. Checks for the raffle should be made to the Sisterhood and mailed to Maribeth Romanofsky, 8 Willowbrook Lane, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234. Cash purchases should be left at the candle stand in an envelope marked "Sisterhood raffle". Please include your name and a list of individual entries if desired. The drawing will be held on April 24th. Thank you!
- **The annual meeting of the parish will be held on Sunday April, 11th** 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. 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.

3rd Sunday of Great Lent: Veneration of the Cross

The Third Sunday of Lent is that of the Veneration of the Cross. The cross stands in the midst of the church in the middle of the lenten season not merely to remind men of Christ’s redemption and to keep before them the goal of their efforts, but also to be venerated as that reality by which man must live to be saved. “He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me” (Mt.10:38). For in the Cross of Christ Crucified lies both “the power of God and the wisdom of God” for those being saved (1 Cor.1:24).

*Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden;
it has mysteriously been quenched by the wood of the Cross!
The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished;
for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell:
“Enter again into paradise.”*

Kontakion – Tone7

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:
<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/04/01>

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

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Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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The Most Reverend Michael

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Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



**Glory to Jesus
Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

3rd Sunday of Great Lent:
Veneration of the Cross

*O Lord, save Your people,
and bless Your inheritance.*

*Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians,
over their adversaries.*

*And by virtue of Your Cross
preserve Your habitation!*

Troparion – Tone 4

Today the Church remembers:

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT • Veneration of the Cross • Ven. Joseph the Hymnographer (883) • Ven. George of Mt. Maleon in the Peloponnesus (6th c.) • Ven. Joseph the Much-ailing, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—14th c.) • Ven. Zosimas, Abbot of Vorbozómok (ca. 1550) • Ven. Zosimas, of Palestine (4th c.) • Virgin Martyr Pherbutha of Persia, her sister, and servants (341-343) • Martyr Nikita of Pojani (1808) • St. Isidore, Bishop of Seville (636) • Ven. Theonas, Archbishop of Thessalonica (1545)

April 4, 2021

**Third Sunday of Lent
Triodion week 7**

**Tone 2 of the Octoechos
Sunday of the Cross**