

(There are no bulletin sponsors this week.)

Readings: [Hebrews 7:26-28;8:1-2](#) (*Saint Tikhon*)
Hebrews 4:14-16;5:1-6 (*3rd Sunday of Great Lent, Adoration of the Cross*)
[John 10:9-16](#) (*Saint Tikhon*)
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 Services:

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

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.

Sunday School meets every Sunday after Communion.

Announcement:

- **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** will be served **every Wednesday during Great Lent at 6:30 PM**
- **Tickets** are now available for the Sisterhood’s annual **Pascha basket raffle.** Tickets cost \$1.00 each, and the Sisterhood is asking each parishioner to buy or sell 10 tickets. Included in the basket will be a variety of delicious traditional ethnic foods. The raffle will be held on **April 28th.** **To purchase tickets please see Maribeth Romanofsky.**
- The **next meeting** of the **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God has been rescheduled to **Sunday April 14th.**

Reminders:

- The **Sisterhood’s food drive** is ongoing. Donation bins are located both downstairs and in the back of the church. Please be generous. Thank you!
- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers. And please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East.
- 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. (There is also a donation basket at the candle stand. Or a **Venmo account** can be used for donations to our parish. It is at <https://venmo.com/u/Hala-Dawson>)
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, should be **submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org**
- **The Grey Book Step Meeting Group** of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Tuesday from 7-8:00 pm downstairs in the community room.
- **The Living Clean Group** of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday from 8-9:15 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 – Tone 7

Repose of Saint Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America:

*Let us praise Tikhon, the patriarch of all Russia,
and enlightener of North America an ardent follower of the Apostolic traditions,
and good pastor of the Church of Christ.
Who was elected by divine providence,
and laid down his life for his sheep.
Let us sing to him with faith and hope,
and ask for his hierarchical intercessions:
Keep the church in Russia in tranquility,
and the church in North America in peace.
Gather her scattered children into one flock,
bring to repentance those who have renounced the True Faith,
preserve our lands from civil strife,
and entreat God's peace for all people!*

Troparion – Tone 1

*Today the assembly of New Martyrs
stands together with us in the Church
and together we raise a festive song
celebrating the uncovering of the relics of our Hierarch Father Tikhon
who defeated the enemy and preserved the Faith
While protecting the flock entrusted to him.
For he ever prays for us all
that we may never be deprived of the Love of God.*

Kontakion – Tone 3

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/04/07>

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynjoca.org/.

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.org/

See us on the web at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin

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Email us at: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

Temporary Rector

Email: searbks1@verizon.net Phone: 856-227-6915

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!*

Tone 4 – Troparion

April 7, 2024

Today the Church remembers:

Veneration of the Cross • Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia and Enlightener of North America (1925—March 25 O.S.) • St. George the Confessor, Bishop of Mytilene (9th c.) • Ven. Daniel, Abbot of Pereslavl-Zalesky (1540) • Martyr Calliopos at Pompeiopolis in Cilicia (304) • Martyrs Rufinus the Deacon, Aquilina, and 200 soldiers with them at Sinope (ca. 310) • Ven. Serapion of Egypt (5th c.)

3rd Sunday of Great Lent
Triodion week 7

Tone 3
Great Lent