

The bulletin is sponsored this week for:**The health of:**

Fr. Deacon Ed for healing and quick recovery, from our parish family.
Jaclyn on her birthday, offered by her family, with love

Readings: Romans 12:6-14 *(6th Sunday after Pentecost)*I Corinthians 1:18-24 *(Cross)***Matthew 9:1-8** *(6th Sunday after Pentecost)*John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35 *(Cross)*

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

At that time, he crossed over in a boat, and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" –he then said to the Paralytic—"rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

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

We will no longer be taking temperatures when you enter the Church and signing up for services is no longer necessary. Services are open to all. Those that are not fully vaccinated are still requested to wear a mask.

Church School

Church School will be returning in September.

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:

- There will be a **meeting of the Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God** today, August 1st after the Liturgy. The resumption of coffee hour will be discussed.
- Our church's air conditioner has been replaced. The \$8,243.00 cost of the system was covered by funds in our building fund. The council is asking for donations to our building fund to replenish the money so that we can be prepared for upcoming emergencies. Thank you to everyone that can help.
- Donations are also being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- If you are unable to attend church, 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.

Reminders:

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org (there is no longer a sign up sheet at the candle stand).
- We still need sponsors for the bulletin each week as they go out via email to many people. Send your donation to the treasurer in time to get it into the bulletin.
- 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.

Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Life-Giving Cross of the Lord:

The origin of this Feast is explained in the Greek Horologion of 1897: "Because of the illnesses which occur during the month of August, it was customary at Constantinople to carry the Precious Wood of the Cross in procession throughout the city for its sanctification, and to deliver it from sickness."

On the eve (July 31), the Cross was removed from the imperial treasury and placed it upon the Holy Table of the Great Church of Hagia Sophia (which is dedicated to Christ, the Wisdom of God). From August 1 until the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, there was a procession throughout the entire the city, and then the Cross was placed where all the people could venerate it.

In the Russian Church this Feast is combined with the remembrance of the Baptism of Rus on August 1, 988. In the "The order of services for the holy, catholic, and apostolic Great Church of the Dormition," which was compiled in 1627 by order of Patriarch Philaret of Moscow and All Rus, there is a similar explanation of the Feast: "On the day of the Procession of the Precious Cross there is a Cross Procession with the Sanctification of Water, for the enlightenment of the people, in all the towns and places."

Knowledge of the day of the actual Baptism of Rus is preserved in the Chronicles of the XVI century: "The Baptism of the Great Prince Vladimir of Kiev and of all Rus took place on August 1."

In the current practice of the Russian Church, the service of the Lesser Sanctification of Water on August 1 takes place either before or after Liturgy. Because of the Blessing of Water, this first Feast of the Savior in August is sometimes called "the Savior of the Water." Along with the Blessing of Water, there may also be a Blessing of Honey (thus it is also called "the Savior of the Honey)," because on this day, the newly-gathered honey is blessed and tasted.

*As You were voluntarily crucified for our sake,
grant mercy to those who are called by Your name;
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power,
granting them victories over their adversaries,
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your weapon of peace!*

Kontakion – Tone 4

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/08/01>

Please check the website of our Diocese:

<https://nynjoca.org/>

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America:

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

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

See us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog

Email us at: 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

Email: docandrnl@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



Glory to Jesus
Christ

Glory
Forever

Procession of the Honorable Wood of the
Life-Giving Cross of the Lord
*O Lord, save Your people,
and bless Your inheritance!
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
over their adversaries.
And by virtue of the Cross,
preserve Your habitation!*

Troparion – Tone 1

Today the Church remembers:

Procession of the Honorable Wood of the Lifegiving Cross of the Lord (First of the three "Feasts of the Savior" in August) • Holy Seven Maccabean Martyrs: Abimus, Antoninus, Gurias, Eleazar, Eusabonus, Alimus, and Marcellus, their mother Solomonina, and their teacher, Eleazar (166 B.C.) • The Martyrs of Perge in Pamphylia: Leontius, Attius, Alexander, Cindeus, Minsitheus (Mnesitheus), Cyriacus, Mineon (Menæus), Catanus, and Euclous (3rd c.) • "Foreteller" Icon of the Mother of God.

August 1, 2021

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 5 of the Octoechos
Dormition Fast