

**Today's Bulletin Sponsor are:****For the Health of:****Jaclyn** on her birthday, offered by the Dantine family

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**Readings:** **I Corinthians 1:10-17** (*8th Sunday after Pentecost*)  
**Matthew 14:14-22** (*8th Sunday after Pentecost*)

**Brethren**, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest anyone should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

**At that time**, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

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

**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 has ended for the school year.

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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.

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**Announcement:**

- We will be having Liturgy for the **Holy Day of the Transfiguration on Wednesday evening, August 5, at 6:30.** Please let Father Matthew know if you wish to attend this Liturgy. (**Blessing of fruit after Liturgy.**)
- 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:**

- Because of the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) pandemic, SERVICE and EVENT info, here and on our web site's calendar, may change.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org) (there is no longer a signup sheet at the candle stand).
- 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 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.

**Translation of the relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople:**

The Transfer of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople took place about the year 428.

After the holy Protomartyr Archdeacon Stephen was stoned by the Jews, they left his holy body unburied to be devoured by the beasts and birds. After a day and a night, the renowned Jewish teacher of the Law, Gamaliel sent people to take up the body of the Protomartyr. Gamaliel buried him on his own property, in his own tomb, not far from Jerusalem.

When Lord's secret disciple Nikodemos died, Gamaliel also buried him near the grave of Saint Stephen. Afterwards Gamaliel himself, who had been baptized with his son Abibas, was buried near the grave of the Protomartyr Stephen and Saint Nikodemos.

In the year 415 the relics of the saint were uncovered in a miraculous manner and solemnly transferred to Jerusalem by Bishop John and the bishops Eutonium of Sebaste and Eleutherius of Jericho. From that time healings took place from the relics.

Afterwards, during the reign of holy Emperor Theodosius the Younger (408-450), the relics of the holy Protomartyr Stephen were transferred from Jerusalem to Constantinople and placed in the church of the holy deacon Laurence (August 10). When a church dedicated to the Protomartyr Stephen was built, the relics were transferred there on August 2. Saint Stephen's right hand is preserved in the Serapionov chamber of the Trinity-Sergius Lavra.

*You were the first to be sown on the earth by the Heavenly Husbandman,  
O all-praised one.*

*You were the first to shed your blood on the earth for Christ, O blessed one.*

*You were the first to receive the crown of victory from Him in heaven,  
Stephen, first of the suffering God-crowned martyrs.*

Kontakion – Tone 6

**To read more about the saints remembered today, see:**

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/08/02>

**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**

**Translation of the relics of the  
Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen  
from Jerusalem to Constantinople**

*Your relics have risen from the depths of the earth,  
like a treasury for the immortal life of all of creation.  
The Church, rejoicing in the grace that she receives from them,  
duteously honors you, Protomartyr Stephen.  
Preserve us from error and heresy by your intercession!*

Troparion – Tone 4

**Today the Church remembers:**

Translation of the Relics of the Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen from Jerusalem to Constantinople (ca. 428) • and the finding of the Relics of the Righteous Nikodemos, Gamaliel, and Abibas (ca. 428) • Blessed Basil of Moscow, Fool-for-Christ (1552) • Bl. Basil of Kubensk (15th c.) • Hieromartyr Stephen, Pope of Rome, and those with him (257)

**August 2, 2020**

**8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST**

**Tone 7 of the Octoechos  
Dormition Fast**