

**Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:****Health of:**

**Jaclyn** on her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, offered by her family with love.

**Readings:**

**Romans 15:1-7** (7th Sunday after Pentecost)

**II Peter 1:10-19** (Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ)

**Matthew 9:27-35** (7th Sunday after Pentecost)

**Matthew 17:1-9** (Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ)

**Brethren**, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Brethren**, be more zealous to confirm your call and election, for if you do this you will never fall; so there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I intend always to remind you of these things, though you know them and are established in the truth that you have. I think it right, as long as I am in this body, to arouse you by way of reminder, since I know that the putting off of my body will be soon, as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me. And I will see to it that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things.

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we heard this voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word made more sure. You will do well to pay attention to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

**At that time**, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

**At that time**, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led him up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I

am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead."

**Saturday service:**

**Vespers – 6:30 PM**

**(Private Confession – After Vespers by appointment.)**

**Sunday service:**

**Hours - 9:40 AM** **Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**  
**(General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)**  
**(Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month)**

**Church School has ended for the school year.**

**Have a safe and blessed summer!**

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

**Announcements:**

- There will be a meeting of the Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God, today after coffee hour.
- **Memorial Plaque:** The \$25.00 donation for the submission of names has been extended until September 1, 2019. (Then it will return to \$100 per name.) There is now a sheet at the candle stand to submit names.

**Special Announcements:**

- There will be a **Paint and Sip Party** on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, in the church hall. All proceeds from this event benefit the Sisterhood. It is hosted by Susan Coll-Guedes. [See our Facebook page for more information.](#)

**Reminders:**

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by E-Mail to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org) Upcoming bulletins can also be sponsored by using the signup sheet at the candle stand. **If using the signup sheet, please give two weeks' notice.**
- 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.

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)

E-Mail us at: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

**The Holy Transfiguration of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ (the Second "Feast of the Savior" in August)**

The **transfiguration** of Christ is one of the central events recorded in the gospels. Immediately after the Lord was recognized by his apostles as "**the Christ, the Son of the Living God,**" he told them that "he must go up to Jerusalem and suffer many things ... and be killed and on the third day be raised". The announcement of Christ's approaching passion and death was met with indignation by the disciples. And then, after rebuking them, the Lord took Peter, James, and John "up to a high mountain" -- by tradition **Mount Tabor** -- and was "transfigured before them."

In the Transfiguration, the apostles see the glory of the Kingdom of God present in majesty in the person of Christ. They see that in him, indeed, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, that in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily. They see this before the crucifixion so that in the resurrection they might know who it is who has suffered for them, and what it is that this one, who is God, has prepared for those who love him. This is what the Church celebrates in the feast of the Transfiguration.

The presence of **Moses and Elijah** is also of great significance for the understanding and celebration of the feast. Many of the hymns refer to these two leading figures of the Old Covenant as do the three scripture readings of Vespers which tell of the manifestation of the glory of God to these holy men of old. Moses and Elijah, according to the liturgical verses, are not only the greatest figures of the Old Testament who now come to worship the Son of God in glory, they also are not merely two of the holy men to whom God has revealed himself in the prefigurative theophanies of the Old Covenant of Israel. These two figures actually stand for the Old Testament itself: **Moses for the Law** and **Elijah for the Prophets**. And Christ is the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets.

They also stand for the living and dead, for Moses died and his burial place is known, while Elijah was taken alive into heaven in order to appear again to announce the time of God's salvation in Christ the Messiah. Thus, in appearing with Jesus on the mount of Transfiguration, Moses and Elijah show that the Messiah Saviour is here, and that he is the Son of God to whom the Father himself bears witness, the Lord of all creation, of the Old and New Testaments, of the living and the dead. The Transfiguration of Christ in itself is the fulfillment of all of the theophanies and manifestations of God, a fulfillment made perfect and complete in the person of Christ. **The Transfiguration of Christ reveals to us our ultimate destiny as Christians, the ultimate destiny of all men and all creation to be transformed and glorified by the majestic splendor of God himself.**

There is little doubt that the feast of the Transfiguration of Christ belonged first to the pre-Easter season of the Church. It was perhaps celebrated on one of the Sundays of Lent, for besides certain historical evidence and the fact that today Saint **Gregory Palamas, the great teacher of the Transfiguration of Christ**, is commemorated during Lent, the event itself is one which is definitely connected with the approaching death and resurrection of the Saviour.

The **feast of the Transfiguration** is presently celebrated on **August 6**, probably for some historical reason. The summer celebration of the feast, however, has lent itself very well to the theme of transfiguration. The blessing of grapes, as well as other fruits and vegetables on this day is the most beautiful and adequate sign of the final transfiguration of all things in Christ. It signifies the ultimate flowering and fruitfulness of all creation in the paradise of God's unending Kingdom of Life where all will be transformed by the glory of the Lord.

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

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2019/8/4>

## Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

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Glory to Jesus  
Christ

Glory  
Forever

Holy Transfiguration of our  
Lord God and Savior Jesus  
Christ (*Tuesday*)

*You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God,  
revealing Your glory to Your disciples as far as they could bear it.  
Let Your everlasting Light also shine upon us sinners,  
through the prayers of the Theotokos.  
O Giver of Light, glory to You!*

Troparion – Tone 7

#### Today the Church remembers:

**Holy Seven Youths ("Seven Sleepers") of Ephesus: Maximilian, Jamblicus, Martinian, John, Dionysius, Exacustodian (Constantine), and Antoninus (250) • Martyr Eudoxia of Persia (362-364) • Martyr Eleutherius of Constantinople (4th c.)**

**August 4, 2019**

7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Dormition Fast

Tone 6 of the Octoechos