

Bulletin sponsors this week are for:**The health of:**

My Godson, **Mark Dantine**, on his birthday, offered with love by Tammy, Nick, and Elizabeth.

Jaelyn on her birthday, offered by her family, with love.

Readings: **Romans 12:6-14** (*6th Sunday after Pentecost*)
Matthew 9:1-8 (*6th Sunday after Pentecost*)

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 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 has ended for the summer.**Announcements:**

- The **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will be **meeting today, August 4th** after coffee hour.
- The **Sisterhood** would like to **thank** those who worked on and attended the **luncheon** for Archbishop Michael. The luncheon was a big success and the archbishop appreciated everyone's effort.
- The Holy Day of the **Transfiguration will be celebrated with an evening Liturgy on Monday, August 5.** We will bless fruit at that time.
- The Holy Day of the **Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos** is August 15th. **We will celebrate that Holy Day on Sunday, August 18th and will bless flowers and seeds at that time.**
- Fr. Matthew will be away August 14-29. Fr. Bohdan Chaikivsky will serve Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 18th and Fr. Dennis Rhodes will serve Divine Liturgy on Sunday, August 25th.

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.

7 Holy Youths “Seven Sleepers” of Ephesus:

*Those who renounced the perishing comforts of this world,
preferring the eternal things of Heaven,
were incorrupt after death and rose from the dead
and buried the snares of the devils!*

O Faithful, let us then honor them, singing a hymn of praise to Christ!

Kontakion – Tone 4

This week we celebrate *The Transfiguration of our Lord:*

In order to strengthen the faith of His disciples when they would see His suffering, Jesus Christ took three disciples, Peter, James and John, and led them up on a high mountain to pray. According to ancient Church Tradition, it was the beautiful Mount Tabor covered with luxurious growth from the foot to the summit.

As the Saviour was praying, the disciples slept from fatigue. When they woke up, they saw Jesus Christ transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun and His garments became white as snow and glistened as light. There, two prophets, Moses and Elijah, in heavenly glory appeared with Him, and they were talking with Jesus about the suffering and death which He would have to endure in Jerusalem. Extraordinary joy filled the hearts of the disciples during this time. Peter exclaimed, “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,” not understanding what He was saying. Suddenly, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and they heard the voice of God the Father saying, “This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased. Listen to Him!”

When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces. Jesus Christ came to them, touched them, and said, “Rise, and have no fear.” When the disciples lifted up their eyes, they saw Jesus Christ as He usually appeared.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus Christ commanded them to tell no one about the vision until He was raised from the dead.

The Holy Orthodox Church celebrates the glorious Transfiguration of our Lord Jesus Christ, on August 6th. This day is one of the major feast days. By His Transfiguration, the Saviour has showed us how people become in the future life, in the Kingdom of Heaven, if they follow God’s Law and how the entire earthly world would be transfigured. The Lord also reminds us that we can be transfigured even now if we lead a truly Christian life.

On the Feast of Transfiguration, after the Liturgy, fruit is brought to the church to be blessed for eating: grapes and, in general, fruit from orchards such as apples, pears, and plums in order to ask the Lord’s blessing on the fruits of the harvest.

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/08/04>

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

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 Searforce,

Temporary Rector

Email: searbks1@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
forever**

7 Holy Youths “Seven Sleepers”
of Ephesus

*Your holy martyrs, O Lord,
through their sufferings have received their incorruptible crowns from You, our God.
For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.
Through their intercessions, save our souls!*

Tone 4 – Troparion

August 4, 2024

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.)

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 5 of the Octoechos

Dormition Fast