

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

Fr. Deacon Ed for healing and quick recovery, from our parish family.

Readings: Romans 15:1-7 (*7th Sunday after Pentecost*)
Matthew 9:27-35 (*7th Sunday after Pentecost*)

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.

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.

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:

- We will bless fruit after the Liturgy today for the Holy Day of the Transfiguration. Also, the Holy Day of the Dormition is Sunday, August 15th and we will be blessing flowers and seeds after the Liturgy.
- The Sisterhood has decided to continue to suspend coffee hour for the time being, due to the present surge of the delta variant of the virus.
- The council is asking for donations to our building fund to replenish the money used for the new heater/AC unit. 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.

Afterfeast of 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.

*On the Mountain You were Transfigured, O Christ God,
and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;
so that when they would behold You crucified,
they would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,
and would proclaim to the world,
that You are truly the Radiance of the Father!*

Kontakion – Tone 7

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

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

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

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Attached Deacon



Glory to Jesus
Christ

Glory
Forever

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord

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

Troparion – Tone 7

Today the Church remembers:

Afterfeast of the Transfiguration • St. Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzikus (813-820) • Ven. Gregory the Iconographer, of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—12th c.) • Translation of the Relics of Ven. Zosimas and Sabbatius of Solovétsky Monastery (1566) • St. Myron, Bishop of Crete (ca. 350) • Martyrs Eleutherius and Leonidas of Constantinople, and many infants martyred with them • Ven. Gregory of Sinai (and Mt. Athos—14th c.) • The "TOLGA" Icon of the Mother of God (1314).

August 8, 2021

7th Sunday after Pentecost
Tone 6 of the Octoechos

We are in the Dormition Fast