

Today's Bulletin Sponsor is:**For the health of:**

MaryAnn Kuzemchak on the occasion of her birthday requested by her husband Bill and family. Please say extra prayers for MaryAnn as she fell this week and broke her shoulder.

Readings: [Galatians 5:22-26;6:1-2](#) (St Herman)

Colossians 3:4-11 (2 Sundays before the Nativity, Sunday of the Holy Ancestors of Christ)

[Luke 6:17-23](#) (St Herman)

Luke 14:16-24 (2 Sundays before the Nativity, Sunday of the Holy Ancestors of Christ)

BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

The Lord said this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.'"

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 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 is temporarily not meeting.

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 parish council today, December 13, after Divine Liturgy in the church.
- 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. (Our monthly revenue has recently dropped below our monthly expenditures.)
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 (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 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.

Rest of Venerable Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America:

*The eternal light of Christ our Savior,
guided you, O blessed father Herman,
on your evangelical journey to America,
proclaiming the Gospel of peace.
Now you stand before the throne of Glory;
intercede for your land and its people
peace for the world and salvation for our souls!*

Kontakion – Tone 3

Sunday of the Forefathers:

*Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrotting through them the Church of the gentiles.
These saints exult in glory, / for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
She who bore You without seed.
So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!*

Troparion – Tone 2

*You did not worship the graven image,
O thrice-blessed ones, / but armed with the immaterial Essence of God,
you were glorified in a trial by fire.
From the midst of unbearable flames you called on God, crying:
Hasten, O compassionate One!
Speedily come to our aid,
for You are merciful and able to do as You will.*

Kontakion – Tone 6

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/12/13>

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

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: docandrnl@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



**Glory to Jesus
Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

Rest of Venerable Herman of Alaska,
Wonderworker of All America
*O joyful north star of the Church of Christ,
guiding all men to the Heavenly Kingdom;
teacher and apostle of the true faith;
intercessor and defender of the oppressed.
Adornment of the Orthodox Church in America,
blessed Father Herman of Alaska,
pray to our Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of our souls!*

Troparion – Tone 7

Today the Church remembers:

**Rest of Ven. Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America (1837) •
Sunday of the Forefathers •** Martyrs Eustratius, Auxentius, Eugene, Mardarius,
and Orestes, at Sebaste (4th c.) • Virgin Martyr Lucia (Lucy) of Syracuse (304) •
Ven. Arkády (Arcadius) of Novotorsk (11th c.) • Ven. Mardárii (Mardarius),
Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th c.) • Ven. Arsenius of Latros (8th-
9th c.). Ven. Nikodemos (Romanian)

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Sunday of the Forefathers

Tone 2 of the Octoechos

Nativity Fast