

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

Aunt **Jean** and **Sandra** on their birthdays, offered by Linda & Richard Dantine

Valentina Markevich on her birthday, offered by Tatsiana Markevich DeGrosa

Maribeth Romanofsky on her birthday, offered by her family.

For memory of:

Michael Bodulow, Sr., offered by the Bodulow & Inferrera families.

Readings:

Colossians 3:4-11 (*Forefathers*)

Luke 14:16-24 (*Forefathers*)

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, freeman, 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.'"

Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM**Sunday service:**

Hours - 9:40 AM **Divine Liturgy** – 10:00 AM
 (Private Confession – After Vespers by appointment.)
 (General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)
 (Pannikhidias – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School

2nd through 8th grades – 9:30 AM (No Church School on the first Sunday of each month.)

Preschool through 1st grades meet immediately after communion every Sunday.

Coffee hour - after Liturgy

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

Announcements:

- The Sisterhood's Gourmet Popcorn and Holiday Treats fundraiser items are in. Please see Tammy Zimmerman to pick up your order.
- Our parish will celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord in the Flesh on Monday evening December 24 at 6:30 PM with the Nativity Liturgy.
- There will be a Church Council meeting December 30th after coffee hour.

Special Announcements:

- **Any Announcements or prayer requests for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to:** Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the signup sheet at the candle stand.
- **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.

Sunday of the Forefathers:

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, “In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

*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

Readings on all saints remembered today can be found at:
<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/12/16>

The Venerable Herman of Alaska, Wonderworker of All America, (December 13) can be found at:
<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/12/13/103530-repose-of-the-venerable-herman-of-alaska-wonderworker-of-all-ame>

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

Temporary Rector
856-227-6915



Sunday of the Forefathers

**Glory to
Jesus
Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

*Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrothing 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 (*Sunday of the Forefathers*) – Tone 2

**On this day the Church remembers:
Sunday of the Forefathers**

- Prophet Haggai (Aggæus—50 B.C.)
- Martyr Marinus of Rome (3rd c.) • Bl. Empress Theophano (Theophania—893-4) • St Sophia (1542).

December 16, 2018 - Bulletin

Nativity Fast
Tone 4 of the Octoechos

29th Sunday After Pentecost
2nd Sunday before Nativity

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E-Mail us at: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org