

There are no bulletin sponsors this week.

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**Readings:**      **Ephesians 2:4-10** (*23rd Sunday after Pentecost*)  
                       **Luke 18:18-27** (*13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke*) \*

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**Brethren**, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

**At that time**, a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’” And he said, “All these I have observed from my youth.” And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” Those who heard it said, “Then who can be saved?” But he said, “What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

\* The 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke is always read two Sundays before the Nativity, and that Sunday’s reading from Luke is read on the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke.

**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 Father Matthew

**Pannikidas –** after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 meets every Sunday after Communion.**

**Announcements:**

- **Upcoming Nativity related events:**  
 Today, **Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> - Tree decorating** for parish children and guests after the Liturgy in the community room.  
**Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> - St Nicholas Day** celebration with visit from St. Nicholas.
- We have been asked to support the **Clergy Fund** of our mother **Diocese of Sitka and Alaska**. For the next three weeks, our parish will be taking collections to help the poor priests who are making only \$7,200 a year. Please use the collection basket **today, and Sundays December 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**.
- We will be celebrating the **Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ** in the Flesh with a Liturgy on **Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.**

**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](mailto: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.

**Prophet Nahum:**

The Holy Prophet Nahum, whose name means “God consoles,” was from the village of Elkosh (Galilee). He lived during the seventh century B.C. The Prophet Nahum prophesies the ruin of the Assyrian city of Nineveh because of its iniquity, the destruction of the Israelite kingdom, and the blasphemy of King Sennacherib against God. The Assyrian king Ashurbanipal died in 632 B.C., and over the next two decades, his empire began to crumble. Nineveh fell in 612 B.C.

Nahum differs from most of the prophets in as much as he does not issue any call to repentance, nor does he denounce Israel for infidelity to God.

Details of the prophet’s life are unknown. He died at the age of forty-five, and was buried in his native region. He is the seventh of the Twelve Minor Prophets.

The Prophet Nahum and Saint Nahum of Ochrid (December 23) are invoked for people with mental disorders.

*Enlightened by the Spirit,  
your pure heart became the dwelling place of most splendid prophecy;  
for you saw things far off as if they were near.  
Therefore, we honor you, blessed and glorious Prophet Nahum.*

Kontakion – Tone 2

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/12/1>

**The Nativity Fast:**

The Nativity Fast is one of the four Canonical Fasting Seasons in the Church year. This is a joyous fast in anticipation of the Nativity of Christ. That is the reason it is less strict than other fasting periods. The six weeks prior to Christmas (the Nativity of our Lord in the Flesh) is a fasting period that many call Advent. Advent means “coming.”

Please check the website of our Diocese: [nynjoca.org/](http://nynjoca.org/).

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: [www.oca.org/](http://www.oca.org/)

See us on the web at: [ChurchMotherOfGod.org](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

See us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog](http://www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog)

Email us at: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto: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

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**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



Prophet Nahum

Glory to  
Jesus Christ

Glory  
forever

*We celebrate the memory  
of Your prophet Nahum, O Lord;  
through him we entreat You,  
save our souls.*

Tone 4 – Troparion

**December 1, 2024****Today the Church remembers:**

Venerable Botolph of Iken (7<sup>th</sup> c.) • Prophet Nahum (7<sup>th</sup> c. B.C.) • Righteous Philaret the Merciful of Amnia in Asia Minor (792) • Martyr Ananias of Persia

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
11<sup>th</sup> (13<sup>th</sup>) Sunday of Luke

Tone 6 of the [Octoechos](#)  
**Nativity Fast**