

No bulletin sponsors this week

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Romans 13:11-14;14:1-4 (*Sunday of Cheesefare, Sunday*)

Readings: *before lent*

Matthew 6:14-21 (*Sunday of Cheesefare, Sunday before lent*)

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

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 3 rd Sunday of each month	

Mask wearing in church is now optional. Please be respectful of your fellow parishioners.

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.

Church School is now meeting every week after Communion.

Announcements:

- The Sisterhood is hosting a **pre-Lenten luncheon** today, **February 26th** (Cheesefare Sunday). The cost of the luncheon is \$5 for everyone 12 years of age and up.
- The Sisterhood's annual Paschal basket raffle will be held on Sunday April, 2nd. Tickets for the raffle cost one dollar each, and each parishioner is asked to sell or buy 10 tickets. Please see Maribeth Romanofsky for tickets. If you wish to contribute an item to the basket, there is a sign-up sheet downstairs.
- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- Prospora (bread) will again be available at the candle stand for a donation of \$2, starting in March. The faithful can have the bread sent into the altar with a list of names for prayers of health and salvation for the living and for the repose of the departed servants of God. (Prospora should be purchased at least a week in advance of the Sunday Liturgy.)

Reminders:

- 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.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, should be **submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org** (there is no longer a sign up sheet at the candle stand).
- 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.

Sunday of Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam from Paradise:

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam’s expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendants became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/02/26>

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 Searfoorce,

Temporary Rector

Email: searbks1@verizon.net Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



Glory to
Jesus Christ

Glory
forever

Sunday of Cheesefare:
Expulsion of Adam from Paradise

*O Master, Guide to wisdom, Bestower of prudence,
Instructor of the foolish, and Defender of the poor:
make firm my heart and grant it understanding.*

O Word of the Father,

*give me speech, for behold, I shall not restrain my lips from crying out to Thee:
"Have mercy, have mercy on me who have fallen."*

Kontakion – Tone 6

February 26 2023

Today the Church remembers:

**SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE • The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise •
 “Mezhetsk” Icon of the Mother of God • St. Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza (420) • Ven.
 Sebastian of Poshekhónsk (ca. 1500) • Martyr Christodoulos.**

37th Sunday after Pentecost.
Lenten Triodion week 4

Tone 4 of the Octoechos.
Forgiveness Sunday.