

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

**Joseph** Sheehan, father of Maribeth, offered by the Romanofsky family.

**Readings:**

**I Timothy 1:15-17** (*31st Sunday after Pentecost*)

**Matthew 15:21-28** (*17th Sunday after Pentecost*)

**Timothy**, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**At that time**, Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

*By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb  
and blessed Simeon's hands, O Christ God.*

*Now You have come and saved us through love.*

*Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,*

*O only Lover of Man!*

**Kontakion** (*Meeting of our Lord*) – Tone 1

**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)

(**Pannikhidas** – after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month)

**Church School**

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

Preschool through 1<sup>st</sup> 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:**

- **Dues and assessments** are now being collected for the year 2019. Total Parish Membership Fee is \$200. Partial payments are gladly accepted. Please indicate on the check that it is to be applied to Membership.
- Today's meeting **of the Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God, will be postponed to a later date. Dues for 2019 can be paid at that meeting.
- Our **Annual Parish Meeting of the Parishioners** will be held next Sunday, February 10, 2019 right after coffee hour.

**Special Announcements:**

- Parishioners who would like to donate items for use in the kitchen, can check the blackboard in the kitchen for what is needed.
- Please sign up for a **Coffee Hour date**. You do not need to be a Sisterhood member to sign up.
- **Please note** – If you are bringing food for coffee hour because you had a Pannikhida, or other special event, please notify Lore Stefy at 609 625-1184 in advance.

**Reminders:**

- **Announcements or Prayer Requests** for the bulletin, can be submitted by E-Mail to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org) **Upcoming bulletins can also be sponsored** by using the signup sheet at the candle stand. If using the signup sheet, **please give two weeks' notice**.
- **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.

The lives of the saints membered today can be read at:  
<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2019/02/03>

**Yesterday, the Church commemorated an important event in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ** (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the God-Infant was taken to the Jerusalem Temple, the center of the nation's religious life. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple of God for forty days. At the end of this time the mother came to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb or pigeon to the Lord as a purification sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin, the Mother of God, had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity without defilement. However, she humbly fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

At this time the righteous Elder Simeon (February 3) was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he should behold the promised Messiah. By inspiration from above, Saint Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and Saint Joseph had brought the Infant Jesus to fulfill the Law.

The God-Receiver Simeon took the divine Child in his arms, and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). Saint Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

At the Temple was the 84-year-old widow Anna the Prophetess, daughter of Phanuel (February 3), "who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day. She arrived just when Saint Simeon met the divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem" (Luke 2:37-38). In the icon of the Feast she holds a scroll which reads: "This Child has established Heaven and earth."

Before Christ was born, righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous people of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet the Savior in the Temple.

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

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

E-Mail 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

856-227-6915



**Glory to  
Jesus  
Christ**

**Glory  
Forever**

*Afterfeast of the Meeting of our  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the  
Temple*

*Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace!  
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God.  
Enlightening those who sat in darkness!  
Rejoice, and be glad, O righteous elder;  
You accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls,  
Who grants us the Resurrection.*

Troparion (Meeting of our Lord) – Tone 1

**On this day the Church remembers:**

**Afterfeast of the Meeting** • Holy and Righteous Simeon the God-receiver and Anna the Prophetess • Rt. Blv. Prince Roman of Uglich (1285) • Prophet Azariah (2 Chronicles 15th-10th c. B.C.) • Martyrs Papias, Diodorus and Claudianus, at Perge in Pamphylia (250) • Martyrs Adrian and Eubulus, at Cæsarea in Cappadocia (ca. 308-309) • Martyr Blaise of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (ca. 308-309)

**February 3, 2019**

**Tone 3** of the Octoechos

36<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost