

Bulletin sponsors this week are for:**The health of:**

Archbishop Michael, on the 50th anniversary of his ordination, requested by Fr Matthew, Fr Dn Edward and our parish family

Andrea Prendergast on her birthday, offered with love by her sisters Julie and M. Barbara

Claudia Searfoorce on her 13th birthday, offered with love by her family.

Nicole Zimmerman on her birthday, offered with love by Godmother Aunt Tammy, Nicholas, and Elizabeth.

The memory of:

Joseph Sheehan and **Walter** Romanofsky, offered by Maribeth and Andrew.

II Timothy 3:10-15 (*Publican and Pharisee, 4th Sunday before*

Readings: *lent*)

Luke 18:10-14 (*Publican and Pharisee, 4th Sunday before lent*)

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

The Lord said this parable, “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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:**

- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- The **Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God** will have a meeting today, February 5th after Liturgy.
- Our **Annual Parish Meeting of the Parishioners will be held February 19th**. The annual meeting of the parishioners is for the election of the Parish Council and its officers, reports by the Rector and Council members, and for other business. Please email Andrew Romanofsky, the Council President, if you have an item that you want included on the agenda **or if you plan to nominate someone** for a Parish Council position.
- **Dues and assessments** are now being collected for the year 2023. Total Parish Membership is \$200. Partial payments are gladly accepted. Please indicate on the check that it is to be applied to Membership.

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 the Publican and the Pharisee:

Last Sunday was about **the desire and effort to see Jesus**. This begins the entire movement through lent towards Easter. It is the first movement of salvation. This Sunday, the start of pre-lent, is that of the Publican and the Pharisee. The focus here is on the two men who went to the Temple to pray—one a pharisee who was a very decent and righteous man of religion, the other a publican who was a truly sinful tax-collector who was cheating the people. The first, although genuinely righteous, boasted before God and was condemned, according to Christ. The second, although genuinely sinful, begged for mercy, received it, and was justified by God (Lk 18:10-14). The meditation here is that we have neither the religious piety of the pharisee nor the repentance of the publican by which alone we can be saved. **We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, and to beg for mercy.**

Afterfeast of the Meeting of our Lord 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 – Tone 1

*By Your nativity, You did sanctify the Virgin's womb,
and did bless 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 – Tone 1

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/02/05>

Please check the website of our Diocese: nyjoca.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



Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

**Glory to
Jesus Christ****Glory
forever**

*Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee!
And learn humility from the Publican's tears!
Let us cry to our Savior, have mercy on us,
only merciful One!*

Kontakion – Tone 4

February 5, 2023**Today the Church remembers:**

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee •

Afterfeast of the Meeting • Repose of St. Theodosius of Chernigov (1696) • Holy Martyr Agatha of Palermo in Sicily (251) • Martyr Theodula of Anazarbus in Cilicia, and with her Martyrs Helladius, Macarius and Evagrius (ca. 304) • Icon of the Mother of God "Seeker of the Perishing".

34th Sunday after Pentecost.
Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

Tone 1 of the Octoechos.
Fast free week