

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

**Richard Dantine, Sr.** on his birthday, offered by his family with love

**Colossians 3:4-11**

**Readings:** **Romans 8:28-39** (*New Martyrs*)

**Matthew 22:35-46**

Luke 21:8-19 (*New Martyrs*)

**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, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

**At that time**, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets.” Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, “What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, till I put thy enemies under thy feet’? If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?” And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.

**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  
**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:**

- There will be a **meeting of the parish council** today, **January 28<sup>th</sup>** after coffee hour.
- 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!
- Our **Annual Parish Meeting of the Parishioners** will be held on **Sunday February 25<sup>th</sup>**.

**Reminders:**

- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.
- Please pray for peace in the Middle East.
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- 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.)
- Our treasurer, Hala Dawson, set up a **Venmo account** that 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.

**New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia:**

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

*Today the Church of Russia joyfully forms a chorus,  
praising her New Martyrs and Confessors;*

*hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses,  
venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians.*

*Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution,  
they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.*

*By their protection, O long-suffering Lord,  
preserve our land in Orthodoxy until the end of the age.*

Troparion – Tone 4

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/01/28>

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/bulletin](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin)

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

Email: [searbks1@verizon.net](mailto:searbks1@verizon.net) Phone: 856-227-6915

**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

**Glory to  
Jesus Christ**

**Glory  
forever**

**January 28, 2024**

*Today the New Martyrs of Russia stand in white robes before the Lamb of God,  
and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory:  
"Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor,  
and power, and strength be to our God  
unto the ages of ages. Amen."*

Tone 3—Kontakion

**Today the Church remembers:**

**New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia** • Ven. Ephraim the Syrian (373-379) • Ven. Theodosius, Abbot, of Tot'ma (Vologdá—1568) • Ven. Efrem (Ephraim) the Wonderworker, Abbot of Novotórzhs'k (1053) • St. Efrem, Bishop of Pereyaslav' (Kiev Caves—ca. 1098) • Ven. Palladius the Hermit, of Antioch (4<sup>th</sup> c.) • St. Isaac the Syrian, Bishop of Nineveh (7<sup>th</sup> c.)

34<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 1 of the Octoechos.