

Bulletin sponsors this week are:**For the health of:**

Aris, offered by Svetlana

Newly baptized handmaiden of God, **Olivia** Turpin.

Readings:

[I Corinthians 10:1-4](#) (*Great Blessing of Water*)

[II Timothy 4:5-8](#) (*Sunday before Theophany*)

Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7 (*Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ*) *

[Mark 1:9-11](#) (*Blessing of Water*)

[Mark 1:1-8](#) (*Sunday before Theophany*)

Matthew 3:13-17 (*Theophany of Our Lord Jesus Christ*) *

TITUS, my son, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

* (*January 6th readings*)

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

Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd 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:**

- The **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will meet **today, January 5th**, after coffee hour.
- We will celebrate **Theophany with the Blessing of Water today**. Bring a container to take holy water home with you.
- **The long awaited chairlift is now installed and working on the side steps of our church**. Thanks to all who have helped make this happen.
- The next **meeting** of the **parish council** will be on **Sunday, January 19th**, after coffee hour.
- **Sunday February 2nd**, we will celebrate the **Holy Day of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple**.
- **On Sunday February 9th**, we will have our **annual parish meeting after Divine Liturgy**. 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.
- Our **Orthodox Church Calendar for 2025 is available at the candle stand**. It contains the readings for the year along with feast and fast days.

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.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, should be **submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org**
- 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. A **Venmo account** can also be used for donations to our parish. It is at <https://venmo.com/u/Hala-Dawson>)
- **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.

Feast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:

The feast is Monday, January 6, but our parish is celebrating today.

The First Antiphon: When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, **Refrain:** *Through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!*

Judah became His sanctuary, Israel His dominion. *(Refrain)*

The sea looked and fled; Jordan turned back. *(Refrain)*

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back? *(Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

The Second Antiphon: I love the Lord because He has heard my voice and my supplication. **Refrain:** *O Son of God, baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to You: Alleluia! Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live (Refrain)*

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish, then I called on the Name of the Lord. *(Refrain)*

Gracious and righteous is the Lord; our God is merciful. *(Refrain)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. *(Refrain)*

("Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God...")

The Third Antiphon: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever. *(Refrain - Troparion - front page of bulletin)*

Let the house of Israel now confess that the Lord is good; for His mercy endures forever. *(Troparion)*

Aaron now confess that the Lord is good; for His mercy endures forever. *(Troparion)*

Let those who fear the Lord now confess that the Lord is good; for His mercy endures forever *(Troparion)*

Entrance Verse: Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord; God is the Lord and He has revealed Himself to us. *(Troparion)*

*Today You have shown forth to the world, O Lord,
and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us.*

Knowing You, we sing Your praises.

You have come and revealed Yourself, / O unapproachable Light.

(Feast of Theophany) Kontakion – Tone 3

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2025/01/05>

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

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 Searforce,

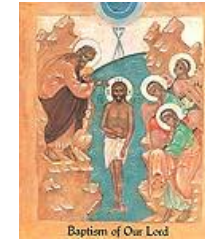
Temporary Rector

Email: searbsk1@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



Baptism of Our Lord
Eve of Theophany

*Christ is in our
Midst!*

*He is and
Always
Shall Be!*

*When You, O Lord were baptized in the Jordan
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest
for the voice of the Father bore witness to You
and called You His beloved Son.*

*And the Spirit, in the form of a dove,
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.*

*O Christ, our God, You have revealed Yourself
and have enlightened the world, glory to You!*

(Feast of Theophany) Tone 1 – Troparion

January 5, 2025**Today the Church remembers:**

Eve of Theophany • Sunday before Theophany • Hieromartyr Theopemptus, Bishop of Nicomedia, and Martyr Theonas (303) • Venerable Synkletika of Alexandria (ca. 350) • Prophet Micah (9th c. BC) • Saint Apollinaria of Egypt (ca. 470) • Ven. Phosterius the Hermit (9th c.) • Ven. Menas of Sinai (6th c.) • Ven. Gregory of Crete (ca. 820) • Ven. Romanos, Martyr (1694)

28th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday before Theophany

Tone 3 of the [Octoechos](#)