

Bulletin sponsors this week are for the:**Health of:**

Recently baptized **Nikolas**, offered by our parish family.

Memory of:

Olga Romanofsky, offered by Andrew and Maribeth

Readings:

Ephesians 4:7-13 (*Sunday After the Theophany*)

Matthew 4:12-17 (*Sunday After the Theophany*)

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

At that time, Jesus heard that John had been arrested, He withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth He went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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 3rd 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 Great Blessing of Water was celebrated this last week. Remember to bring a container for holy water.
- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.
- We are taking Collections for the Diocese of Alaska as we did last Sunday. Read more about it at: <https://www.oca.org/news/headline-news/oca-parishes-to-take-collection-for-the-diocese-of-alaska>
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- There will be a meeting of the **parish council** on Sunday, January 29th after coffee hour.
- The **Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God** will have a meeting on Sunday, February 5th after Liturgy.
- Our **Annual Parish Meeting of the Parishioners** will be held February 12th after coffee hour. 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 Fee 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.

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

Theophany is the Feast which reveals the Most Holy Trinity to the world through the Baptism of the Lord (Mt.3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22). God the Father spoke from Heaven about the Son, the Son was baptized by Saint John the Forerunner, and the Holy Spirit descended upon the Son in the form of a dove. From ancient times this Feast was called the Day of Illumination and the Feast of Lights, since God is Light and has appeared to illumine “those who sat in darkness,” and “in the region of the shadow of death” (Mt.4:16), and to save the fallen race of mankind by grace.

*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.*

Kontakion – Tone 4

Venerable George the Chozebite, Abbot:

Saint George the Chozebite was born on the island of Cyprus toward the end of the sixth century. After the death of his parents, he went to Palestine to worship at the holy places. Here he entered into the monastic community of Chozeba between the River Jordan and Jerusalem, and he later became head of this monastery. Saint George presented the monks example in fasting, vigil and physical efforts. Having lived as an angel upon the earth, he died in peace.

*You have appeared as a brilliant light
and have illumined with divine rays those who cry to you, O George.
Pray for us to Christ the Master,
Who appeared in the waters
to illumine those born on earth!*

Kontakion - Tone 4

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/01/08>

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
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Email us at: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

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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

*Christ is
baptized!**In the
Jordan!*

Afterfeast of the Theophany of our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ

*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!*

Troparion – Tone 1

January 8, 2023**Today the Church remembers:**

Afterfeast of the Theophany • Sunday after Theophany • Ven. George the Chozebite, Abbot (6th c.) • Ven. Domnica of Constantinople (474) • St. Emilian the Confessor, Bishop of Cyzicus (9th c.) • Ven. Gregory, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves (Near Caves—1093) • Ven. Gregory the Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.) • Hieromartyr Isidore and 72 others at Yuriev (Estonia—1472) • St. Paisius of Uglich (1504) • Hieromartyr Carterius of Caesarea in Cappadocia (304) • Martyrs Theophilus the Deacon, and Helladius, in Libya (4th c.) • Martyrs Julian and his wife, Basilissa, and with them Marcionilla, her son Celsus, Anthony, Anastasius, 7 children and 20 soldiers, at Antinoë in Egypt (313) • Ven. Elias the Hermit, of Egypt (4th c.) • Martyr Abo the Perfumer, of Tiflis (Georgia—790)

30th Sunday after Pentecost.

Tone 5 of the Octoechos.

Sunday After the Theophany