

Bulletin sponsors this week are for:

The health of:

M. Barbara on her birthday offered with love by her family.
Anna Romanofsky on her birthday, offered by her family with love.
Andrew and Maribeth on their anniversary

The memory of:

Our mother **Ann**, offered by Linda and Richard.

Readings: **Romans 10:1-10** (*5th Sunday after Pentecost*)
Matthew 8:28-34; 9:1 (*5th Sunday after Pentecost*)

Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?” (that is, to bring Christ down) or “Who will descend into the abyss?” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, “What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine.” And he said to them, “Go.” So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

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

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 has ended for the summer.

Announcements:

- **Archbishop Michael will be visiting our parish today, July 28.**
Schedule: Greeting the Archbishop at 9:30 AM, reading of the hours 9:40 AM, Divine Liturgy approximately 10:00 AM.
 Luncheon to follow the service, sponsored by the Sisterhood. Tickets to the luncheon are sold out. Only those who have purchased tickets (or RSVP’d previously) will be accommodated.
- The **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will be **meeting next Sunday, August 4th.**

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.
- 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. Or a **Venmo account** 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**
- **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.

Holy Apostles of the Seventy and Deacons: Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, and Parmenas:

Saints Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon and Parmenas, Apostles of the Seventy were among the first deacons in the Church of Christ.

In the Acts of the Holy Apostles (6:1-6) it is said that the twelve Apostles chose seven men: Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicholas, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, and appointed them to serve as deacons.

They are commemorated together on July 28, although they died at various times and in various places.

At first, Saint Prochorus accompanied the holy Apostle Peter, who made him bishop in the city of Nicomedia. After the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos, Prochorus was a companion and coworker of the holy Apostle John the Theologian and was banished with him to the island of Patmos. There he wrote down the Book of Revelation concerning the final fate of the world. Upon returning to Nicomedia, Saint Prochorus converted pagans to Christ in the city of Antioch, where he suffered martyrdom.

Although Saint Nicanor suffered on the same day that the holy Protomartyr Stephen (December 27) and many other Christians were killed by stoning, he is also commemorated on December 28.

Saint Timon was later appointed by the Apostles as bishop of the city of Bostra in Arabia and suffered from the Jews and pagans for preaching the Gospel. He was thrown into a furnace, but by the power of God he came out of it unharmed. The tradition of the Roman Church says that Saint Timon died by crucifixion. Saint Timon is also commemorated on December 30.

Saint Parmenas zealously preached Christ in Macedonia. He died after being afflicted with an illness. Some say that Saint Parmenas suffered martyrdom under Trajan (98-117) in the final year of his reign.

*You were holy deacons and eye-witnesses of the Word,
and chosen vessel of the faith,
O glorious Nicanor, Prochorus, Parmenas and Timon.
Therefore today we celebrate your sacred memory,
blessing you in gladness of heart.*

Kontakion – Tone 1

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/07/28>

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynjoca.org/.

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.org/

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Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

Temporary Rector

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Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
forever**

Holy Apostles of the Seventy and Deacons:
Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, and Parmenas

*O holy apostle Prochorus,
entreat the merciful God,
to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions.*

Tone 3—Troparion

July 28, 2024

Today the Church remembers:

Holy Apostles of the Seventy and Deacons: Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, and Parmenas (1st c.) • St. Pitirím, Bishop of Tambov (1698) • Ven. Moses, Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.) • Martyr Julian of Dalmatia (2nd c.) • Martyr Eustathius (Eustace—ca. 321), of Apamea • Ven. Paul of Xeropotamou, founder of the Monastery of St. Paul on Mt. Athos (10th c.) • The Smolensk “Hodēgētria” (“THE GUIDE”) Icon of the Mother of God (brought from Constantinople in 1046) • Seraphim-Diveyevo Tenderness Icon of the Mother of God (1885)

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 4 of the Octoechos