

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

Naomi Searforce on her 7th birthday requested with love by her family

All fathers and Godfathers of our parish.

The memory of :

Our fathers, **Risley** and **David** on Father's Day, offered by Linda and Richard

All departed fathers and Godfathers of our parish.

Readings: **Acts 20:16-18,28-36** (7th Sunday after Pascha)
John 17:1-13 (7th Sunday after Pascha)

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made.

"I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me;

I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

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 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.

The Sunday school teachers wish our students a safe and happy summer!

Announcements:

- **Archbishop Michael will be visiting our parish on Sunday, July 28.** The Sisterhood will be sponsoring a luncheon following the Liturgy that day. The cost of the luncheon will be \$10 per adult (13 years and up). More information on tickets and donations for luncheon fare will be forthcoming.
- The next **meeting** of the **parish council** will be Sunday, **June 30th** after coffee hour.

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.

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council:

On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the 318 holy God-bearing Fathers who gathered in Nicaea in 325 at the request of the Emperor, Saint Constantine the Great, to address the heresy of Arianism together with other issues that concerned the unity of the Church.

The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, “I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious.

The icon of the feast depicts Saint Constantine together with the God-bearing Fathers and Saints of the Church who attended the Council and affirmed the unity of the Faith through the Nicene Creed. The Fathers are shown holding the text of the Creed, also referred to as the Symbol of Faith.

The Apostles’ preaching and the Fathers’ doctrines have established one faith for the Church.

*Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology,
it defines and glorifies the great mystery of Orthodoxy!*

Kontakion – Tone 8

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/06/16>

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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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The Most Reverend Michael

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**

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of
the First Ecumenical Council

*You are most glorious, O Christ our God!
You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth!
Through them you have guided us to the true faith!
O greatly Compassionate One, glory to You!*

Tone 8—Troparion

June 16, 2024

Today the Church remembers:

Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council • Afterfeast of Ascension • St. Tychon (Tikhon, Tycho), Bishop of Amathus in Cyprus (4th-5th c.) • Ven Tikhon of Kaluga (or Medin—1492) • Ven. Tikhon of Lukhovsk (Kostromá—1503) • Martyrs Tigrisus the Presbyter and Eutropius the Reader, of Constantinople (5th c.)

7th Sunday of Pascha

Tone 6
Pentecostarion