

**Bulletin sponsor this week is for the:****Eternal memory of:**

**Adele** Taran and **Peter** Taran, mother and brother of Mat. Holly.

**Readings:**

**Romans 5:1-10** (*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*)

[II Corinthians 11:21-12:9](#) (*Apostles*)

**Matthew 6:22-33** (*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*)

[Matthew 16:13-19](#) (*Apostles*)

**Brethren**, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man — though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

**The Lord said**, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is not sound, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows you need them all. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

**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 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 is now on hiatus for the summer.****Announcements:**

- **Archbishop Michael** will be visiting our parish on Sunday, **July 27<sup>th</sup>**. The Sisiterhood will provide a **luncheon** for the Archbishop after Divine Liturgy that day. **Tickets** for the luncheon will cost **\$10 for adults** 13 and up. Because of space limitations in our community room, tickets to the luncheon will **need to be purchased in advance, by July 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please see Linda Dantinne, Tammy Zimmerman or Maribeth Romanofsky for ticket information.
- A **sign-up sheet for food items** for the Archbishop's visit has been posted downstairs. The luncheon will be a **set menu**, so **specific food items** are being requested. Please see Maribeth Romanofsky if you have questions about the menu.

**Reminders:**

- **Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.** And please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East.
- Bulletin sponsors, prayer requests, or announcements for the bulletin, should be **submitted by email to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)**
- Thank you to everyone who has been donating to our parish. There is a donation basket at the candle stand. Also, a **Venmo account** can be used for donations. 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.

**A special announcement:**

- St. Olga of Kwethluk, Wonderworker and Matushka of Alaska, has been glorified (canonized) by the Orthodox Church in America. Services were held this past week in Kwethluk, Alaska. Archbishop Michael concelebrated at the services. St. Olga is the first woman from this continent to be canonized by the Church. A web page for St. Olga exists at <https://www.oca.org/fs/canonization-matushka-olga-alaska> .

**The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul:**

**St. Peter** was a brother of St. Andrew, and, together with him, was a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee. Called by the Lord to become a fisher of men <sup>(Matt. 4:19)</sup>, he was originally named Simon, but later his name was changed to Peter (in Aramaic Cephas, meaning rock) by the Lord. This was in response to Peter's declaration: You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God <sup>(Matt. 16:16)</sup>, for the Lord then said to him, You are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it <sup>(Matt. 16:18)</sup>. Holy Scripture amply witnesses to the fact that Peter occupied a primary place among the Apostles, although not to the extreme claimed by the Roman Catholic Church. His activities after the Resurrection are witnessed to in the Acts and, according to Church tradition, he was later martyred in Rome, being crucified upside down at his own request, since he felt himself not worthy to die in the same manner as the Lord Himself. The two Epistles of St. Peter are ascribed to him.

**St. Paul** was a strict Pharisee, having studied under the respected Rabbi Gamaliel at Jerusalem <sup>(Acts 22:3)</sup>. At a young age he had learned the trade of a tent-maker <sup>(Acts 18:1-3)</sup> and had inherited Roman citizenship from his father <sup>(Acts 22:28)</sup>. The young Saul (as he was known before his conversion to Christianity) was zealous for Judaism and consented to the stoning of St. Stephen, later actively joining in the persecution of the Christians <sup>(Acts 8:3)</sup>. While on the way to Damascus, to persecute the Christians there, he had a sudden vision of the Lord, Who rebuked him for his persecution, and later he converted to the Christian Faith <sup>(Acts 9:1-22)</sup>. After this conversion experience, St. Paul went on to become one of the greatest of the Apostles, zealously bringing the Light of Christ to the Gentiles, eventually going to Rome where he received martyrdom by beheading. During his missionary journeys, amply attested to in the Acts, he wrote letters of encouragement to various congregations and individuals along the way, and thirteen of them (fourteen, if the Epistle to the Hebrews is accepted as of Pauline origin) have been accepted as part of the New Testament.

*You received the steadfast and divinely-inspired Heralds, O Lord, the Foremost Apostles,  
for the enjoyment of Your blessings and repose.  
For You recognized their labors and death as greater than any burnt offering,  
for You alone know what is in the hearts of men.*

Kontakion — Tone 2

*Today Christ the Rock glorifies the rock of Faith  
and leader of the Apostles with highest honor.  
Together with Paul and the company of the Twelve,  
whose memory we celebrate with eagerness of faith,  
giving glory to Him Who glorified them*

Kontakion — Tone 2

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2025/06/29>

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](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

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"*

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*Glory to  
Jesus Christ*

*Glory  
Forever*

The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of  
the Apostles, Peter and Paul

*O foremost of the Apostles and teachers of the inhabited earth,  
intercede with the Master of all  
to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.*

Tone 4 — Troparion

**June 29, 2025**

**Today the Church remembers:**

**The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles,  
Peter and Paul (1<sup>st</sup> c.).**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Apostles, Peter and Paul

Tone 2