

Bulletin sponsors this week are for:**The Memory of:**

Newly departed **Lore Stefy**.

Grigorie (Gregory), from granddaughter Ana and great granddaughters Cecelia and Joanna.

Readings: **Acts 2:1-11** (*Sunday of Holy Pentecost*)
John 7:37-52; 8:12 (*Holy Pentecost*)

WHEN THE DAY of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

The officers then went back to the chief priest and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nikodemos, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

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 3 rd 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.

Church School is now meeting every week after Communion.**Announcements:**

- **Our sister in Christ, Lore Stefy, has passed away this past week.** On Tuesday, June 6th, from 9-10 am, there will be a viewing at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Church 2211 W. Landis Ave., Vineland, NJ . Services will be held at 10:00 am, Fr. Ljubo will be the celebrant. Burial will be at the Buena Cemetery at the Hermitage of the Holy Protection, 333 Weymouth Rd., Buena, NJ
- The **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will be meeting today, **June 4th** after coffee hour.
- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.

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.
- Proshpora (bread) is again available at the candle stand for a donation of \$2. The faithful can have the bread sent into the altar with a list of names for prayers of health and salvation for the living and for the repose of the departed servants of God. (Proshpora should be purchased at least a week in advance of the Sunday Liturgy.)

Holy Pentecost:

In the Church's annual liturgical cycle, Pentecost is **"the last and great day."** It is the celebration by the Church of the coming of the Holy Spirit as the end—the achievement and fulfillment—of the entire history of salvation. For the same reason, however, it is also the celebration of the beginning: it is the **"birthday"** of the Church as the presence among us of the Holy Spirit, of the new life in Christ, of grace, knowledge, adoption to God and holiness.

This double meaning and double joy is revealed to us, first of all, in the very name of the feast. Pentecost in Greek means fifty, and in the sacred biblical symbolism of numbers, the number fifty symbolizes both the fullness of time and that which is beyond time: the Kingdom of God itself. It symbolizes the **fullness of time** by its first component: 49, which is the fullness of seven (7 x 7): the number of time. And, it symbolizes that which is beyond time by its second component: 49 + 1, this one being the new day, the **"day without evening"** of God's eternal Kingdom. With the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples, the time of salvation, the Divine work of redemption has been completed, the fullness revealed, all gifts bestowed: it belongs to us now to "appropriate" these gifts, to be that which we have become in Christ: participants and citizens of His Kingdom.

*When the most High came down and confused the tongues,
He divided the nations;
but when he distributed the tongues of fire
He called all to unity.
Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All-holy Spirit!*

Kontakion – Tone 8

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/06/04>

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"*

115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

The Most Reverend Michael

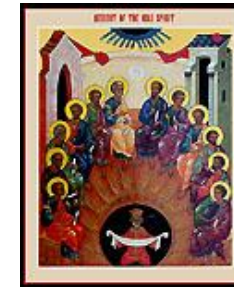
Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

Temporary Rector

Email: searbks1@verizon.net Phone: 856-227-6915**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



Holy Pentecost

*Blessed are You O Christ Our God
You have revealed the fishermen as most wise
by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit
through them You drew the world into Your net
O Lover of Man, Glory to You!*

Glory
forever

Glory to
Jesus Christ

Troparion – Tone 8

June 4, 2023**Today the Church remembers:**

Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Holy Trinity • St. Metrophanes, first Patriarch of Constantinople (325-326) • Righteous Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus (1st c.) • Ven. Methodius "Peshnosh", disciple of Ven. Sergius of Rádonezh (1392) • Martyrs Frontasius, Severinus, Severian, and Silanus, of Gaul (1st c.) • Martyr Concordius of Spoleto (ca. 175) • Hieromartyr Astius, Bishop of Dyrrachium in Macedonia (ca. 110) • Venerable Father Zosima the Bishop of Babylon (6th c.)

8th Sunday of Pascha:
Feast of the Holy Trinity

Tone 7 - Holy Pentecost.
(Fast free week)