

Today's Bulletin Sponsor are:**For the Health of:**

Jonathan Guedes on his 9th birthday, offered by his family
Vincent Turpin on his birthday, offered by his family

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 anyone 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 service:**Hours - 9:40 AM****Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in person services in our parish have been cut back for now. Fr Matthew has sent out reader's services via email each week to follow at home. In addition, the diocesan web page nynjoca.org has online services for viewing.

Sunday services are celebrated with only the allowed number of people in attendance. Please contact Fr Matthew if you wish to attend as part of the restricted number. (No one else should attend in person.)

Church School

Church School has ended for the school year.

We are praying for all of our parishioners and their families. Let's keep praying for each other and remember to reach out and keep in touch.

Announcement:

- The Sisterhood's paschal basket raffle has been canceled. Anyone who has purchased tickets to the raffle and would like a refund should call Maribeth 609-204-1007.

Thank you for your support.

- As we are asked to refrain from public gatherings, **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**

The parish still needs to pay its bills.

Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their donations.

Reminders:

- Because of the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) pandemic, SERVICE and EVENT info, here and on our web site's calendar, may change.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- We still need sponsors for the bulletin each week as they go out via e-mail to many people. Send your donation to the treasurer two weeks in advance so that we can get it into the bulletin.

Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Holy Trinity:

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/2020/06/07>

Please check the website of our Diocese:

<https://nynjoca.org/>

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America:

<https://www.oca.org/>

and our website:

<https://churchmotherofgod.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

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Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



Holy Pentecost

Glory to
Jesus Christ

Glory
Forever

*Blessed art 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!*

Troparion – Tone 8

Today the Church remembers:

8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA • Holy Pentecost: Feast of the Holy Trinity •
Venerable Daniel of Sketis (6th c.) • Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of Ancyra (303)
• Hieromartyr Marcellinus, Pope of Rome, and with him Claudius, Cyrenus, and Antonina (304) • Martyrs Cyriaca, Caleria, and Mary, of Caesarea in Palestine (284-305)

June 7, 2020

8th SUNDAY OF PASCHA

Holy Pentecost

Tone 7 of the Octoechos