

Bulletin sponsors for this week are for the:

Health of:

Elizabeth Zimmerman on becoming a Registered Nurse, offered by her proud family.

Anthony, Brianna, Isabel, and newborn **Emily** Douglas, offered by Fr. Matthew and Mat. Barbara.

Readings:

I Corinthians 8:8-13;9:1-2 (*Meatfare, 2nd Sunday before lent*)

Matthew 25:31-46 (*Meatfare, 2nd Sunday before lent*)

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

The Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal 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 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 meets every Sunday after Communion.

Announcement:

- The **Sisterhood** is holding its annual **pre-Lenten Meatfare luncheon** today, **March 10th**. (The last day for eating meat before Great Lent begins.) The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00 per person, payable at the door. (Children 12 and under are free.)
- Next **Sunday, March 17th**, the Sisterhood will hold its annual **Cheesefare luncheon**. (The last day for consumption of dairy products and eggs before Great Lent.) Cost of this luncheon will also be \$5.00 per person 13 and up. There is still time to volunteer to bring in a dairy item for the luncheon. See the sign-up sheet in the community room.

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.

Sunday of Meat fare of the Last Judgment:

Today is called Meatfare Sunday since it is officially the last day before Easter for eating meat. It commemorates Christ’s parable of the Last Judgment (Mt 25.31–46). We are reminded this day that it is not enough for us to see Jesus, to see ourselves as we are, and to come home to God as his prodigal sons. We must also be his sons by following Christ, his only-begotten divine Son, and by seeing Christ in every man and by serving Christ through them. Our salvation and final judgment will depend upon our deeds, not merely on our intentions or even on the mercies of God devoid of our own personal cooperation and obedience.

... for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you took Me in, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and in prison and you visited Me. For truly I say to you, if you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to Me (Mt 25).

We are saved not merely by prayer and fasting, not by “religious exercises” alone. We are saved by serving Christ through his people, the goal toward which all piety and prayer is ultimately directed.

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/03/10>

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynioca.org/.
 and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.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

"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

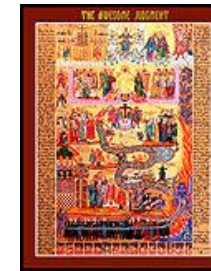
V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

Temporary Rector

Email: searbks1@verizon.net Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



Glory to
Jesus Christ

Glory
forever

Sunday of Meatfare of the Last Judgment

*When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory,
 all things shall tremble
 and the river of fire shall flow before Your judgment seat;
 the books shall be opened and the hidden things disclosed!
 Then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,
 and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, Most Righteous Judge!*
 Tone 1 – Kontakion

March 10, 2024

Today the Church remembers:

Sunday of the Last Judgment • Martyr Quadratus and those with him: Cyprian, Dionysius, Anectus, Paul, Crescens, Dionysius (another), Victorinus, Victor, Nikēphoros, Claudius, Diodorus, Serapion, Papias, Leonidas, Chariessa, Nunechia, Basilissa, Nice (Nika, Victoria), Galla, Galina, Theodora, and many others, at Corinth (258, 267-268) • Martyrs Quadratus, Saturninus, Rufinus, and the rest, of Nicomedia (3rd c.) • St. Anastasia the Patrician of Alexandria (567-568)

40th Sunday after Pentecost
Triodion week 3

Tone 7 of the Octoechos.