

(There are no bulletin sponsors this week.)

Readings: **Hebrews 4:14-16;5:1-6** (*3rd Sunday of Great Lent, Adoration of the Cross*)
Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 (*3rd Sunday of Great Lent, Adoration of the Cross*)

Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee”; as he says also in another place, “Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

The Lord said: “If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” And he said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”

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
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 classes meet every Sunday.

Please see your child’s teacher for meeting times.

Announcements:

- Each **Wednesday** during Great Lent, we celebrate **Pre-Sanctified Liturgy** at 6:30 pm, except on March 25th, when we will celebrate the **Annunciation** of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary with a **Divine Liturgy**, also at 6:30 pm.
- There will be a **Pysanky Class** (wax resistant egg decorating) today, **March 15th after Coffee Hour**. See Mat. Holly for details.
- For the upcoming weeks, there will be a **special collection can** earmarked for the **repair of the heater flue pipe**. The church’s cost was **\$5700**. Please be generous.
- **Sisterhood dues** are now being collected for 2026. **Annual dues are \$15**. Please see Linda Dantine to make your payment.
- The Sisterhood’s **annual Paschal basket raffle** will be **held on Palm Sunday, April 5th** at coffee hour. The Sisterhood is asking **each parishioner to sell or buy 10 raffle tickets at the cost of \$1 each**. Please see Maribeth Romanofsky for your tickets. There is a sign-up sheet posted in the community room for anyone wishing to donate an item for the basket.

Reminders:

- **The Sisterhood’s food drive is ongoing**. Please be generous with your donations. Collection bins are located both downstairs and in the back of the church. Thank you!
- We now have a dedicated fund for a **parish rectory**. Please **mark** any **donations** for this important fund with the designation “**Rectory**”.
- **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**
- 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.

3rd Sunday of Great Lent: Veneration of the Cross:

The Third Sunday of Lent is that of the Veneration of the Cross. The cross stands in the midst of the church in the middle of the Lenten season not merely to remind men of Christ’s redemption and to keep before them the goal of their efforts, but also to be venerated as that reality by which man must live to be saved. **“He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me”** (Mt.10:38). **For in the Cross of Christ Crucified lies both “the power of God and the wisdom of God” for those being saved** (1Cor.1:24).

*Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden;
it has mysteriously been quenched by the wood of the Cross!
The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished;
for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell:
“Enter again into paradise.”*

Kontakion – Tone 7

Instead of the Trisagion hymn, we sing:

*Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,
and Your holy Resurrection we glorify.*

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2026/03/15>

Deanery Lenten Mission Vespers:

Each **Sunday afternoon (5:00 PM)**, around the New Jersey Deanery, different parishes invite everyone to a Sunday Lenten Vespers Service. This year the remaining dates and locations are:

March 15– Sunday of the Holy Cross - Saint Vladimir Church, 812 Grand Street, **Trenton, NJ** 08610

March 22 – Sunday of Saint John of the Ladder - Assumption of the Holy Virgin Church, 29 Huron Ave, **Clifton, NJ** 07013

March 29 – Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt - Saints Peter and Paul Church, 76 Whitehead Ave, **South River, NJ**

All Sunday Lenten Vespers services will be followed by refreshments and fellowship.

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynjoca.org/.

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.org/

See our Website at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org

See our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog

Email us at: 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**

3rd Sunday of Great Lent: Veneration of the Cross

*O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance.
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians,
over their adversaries.
And by virtue of Your Cross
preserve Your habitation!*

Tone 4 – Troparion

March 15, 2026

Today the Church remembers:

Veneration of the Cross • Martyrs Agapius, Publius (Pausis), Timolaus, Romulus, two named Dionysius, and two named Alexander, at Cæsarea in Palestine (303) • Hieromartyr Alexander of Sidē, in Pamphylia (270-275) • Martyr Nicander of Egypt (ca. 302)

Triodion week 7

Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross

3rd Sunday of Great Lent

Tone 7 of the [Octoechos](#)