

Today's Bulletin Sponsor are:

For the health of:

Joseph Hartzel on his birthday, offered by his wife.

Readings:

Romans 13:11-14:4 (*Sunday of Cheesefare, Sunday before lent*)

Matthew 6:14-21 (*Sunday of Cheesefare, Sunday before lent*)

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

"And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Saturday service:

Vespers – 6:30 PM

(Private Confession – After Vespers by appointment.)

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM **Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**
(General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)
(Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School

All classes will meet every Sunday.

Grades 5-8 – 9:30 am

Preschool and Grades K through 4 – immediately after communion.

We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy, downstairs, for Coffee hour.

Announcement:

- The Sisterhood is sponsoring a **pre-Lenten luncheon for Cheesefare** Sunday, today, March 1st. The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00 per adult, payable at the door. Children 12 and under are free.
- Fr. Matthew has emailed the **schedule of Lenten services**. Please try to attend as many as you can. **This Wednesday at 6:30 pm, we will celebrate the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts** (St. Gregory).
- The **annual Paschal basket raffle will be held on April 5th**. Tickets for the raffle are \$1.00 each and can be obtained from Maribeth Romanofsky. Each parishioner is asked to sell ten tickets. If you'd like to contribute an item for the basket, there is a sign-up sheet on the community bulletin board.
- **Two Paschal baskets for children** will be raffled off on April 12th. Children can earn tickets for this raffle by attendance at church and Sunday School during Lent.

Reminders:

- **Dues and assessments** are now being collected for the year 2020. Total Parish Membership Fee is \$200. Partial payments are gladly accepted. Please indicate on the check that it is to be applied to Membership.
- We offer **general confession** the first Sunday of each month, and **Private Confession** after Vespers by appointment on Saturday evenings. It is important that every Orthodox Christian go to confession.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- The Living Clean Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday from 8-9:15 pm downstairs in the community room.
- The Grey Book Step Meeting Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Tuesday from 7-8:00 pm downstairs in the community room.

Sunday of Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam from Paradise - Forgiveness Sunday

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam’s expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendants became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: “Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit....”

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:
<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2020/03/01>

See us on the web at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin
See us on Facebook 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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The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searfoorce,

Temporary Rector

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**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

**Sunday of Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam
from Paradise**

*Master, Teacher of wisdom,
Bestower of virtue,*

*you teach the thoughtless and protect the poor:
Strengthen and enlighten my heart.*

*Word of the Father,
let me not restrain my mouth from crying to you:
Have mercy on me, a transgressor,
O merciful Lord!*

Kontakion – Tone 6

Today the Church remembers:

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE • The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise •
Martyr Eudoxia of Heliopolis (ca. 160-170) • Ven. Martyrii (Martyrius) of Zelenétsk (Pskov—1603) • Martyrs Nestor and Tribimius (3rd c.) • Martyr Antonina of Nicæa in Bithynia (3rd-4th c.) • Martyrs Marcellus and Anthony. Virgin Domnina of Syria (ca. 450-460) • Ven. Agapius of Vatopedi (Mt. Athos)

March 1, 2020

37th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Triodion week 4

Tone 4 of the Octoechos
Forgiveness Sunday