

Bulletin sponsor this week is for:

The health of:

Matthew, offered by Iana.

Readings:

Hebrews 11:24-26,32-40 (*1st Sunday of Great Lent, Sunday of Orthodoxy*)
John 1:43-51 (*1st Sunday of Great Lent, Sunday of Orthodoxy*)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets — who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign enemies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated — of whom the world was not worthy — wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and he said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!” Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.”

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
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 classes meet every Sunday.
Please see your child’s teacher for meeting times.

Announcements:

- Each **Wednesday** during Great Lent, we will 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.
- The **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will have a **meeting today, March 1st** after coffee hour.
- 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:

- We now have a dedicated fund for a **parish rectory**. Please **mark any donations** for this important fund with the designation “**Rectory**”.
- **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!
- **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.

Sunday of Orthodoxy:

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith against the terrible heresy of the Iconoclasts, i.e. those heretics who refused to honor the Holy Icons. For more than a hundred years the Church was disturbed by the evil doctrine of iconoclasm.

The first Emperor to persecute the Church was Leo the Isaurian, and the last was Theophilus, the spouse of Saint Theodora (February 11), who reigned after her husband's death and re-established Orthodoxy in the time of Patriarch Methodios (June 14). Empress Theodora proclaimed publicly that we do not kiss the Icons as a sign of worship, nor do we honor them as "gods," but as images of their prototypes.

In the year 843, on the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora and her son, Emperor Michael, venerated the Holy Icons together with the clergy and the people. Since that time this event has been commemorated every year, because it was definitively determined that we do not worship the Icons, but we honor and glorify all the Saints who are depicted on them. We worship only the Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and no one else, neither a Saint, nor an Angel.

Originally, the Holy Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.

*No one could describe the Word of the Father;
but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described,
and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty.
We confess and proclaim our salvation in word and images.*

Kontakion – Tone 8

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2026/03/01>

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"

115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searfoorce

Temporary Rector

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

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deaconm

Email: njdawsons@comcast.net Phone: 609-335-6130



**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

Sunday of Orthodoxy

*We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God.
Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh
to deliver Your creatures from bondage to the enemy.
Therefore with thanksgiving we cry aloud to You:
You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,
by coming to save the world.*

Tone 2—Kontakion

March 1, 2026

Today the Church remembers:

Sunday of Orthodoxy • Martyr Eudokia of Heliopolis (ca. 160-170) • Ven. Martyrii (Martyrius) of Zelenétsk (Pskov—1603) • Martyrs Nestor, Tribimius, and those with them (3rd c.) • Martyr Antonina of Nicæa in Bithynia (3rd-4th c.) • Martyrs Marcellus and Anthony • Saint Domnina the Younger of Syria (ca. 450-460) • Ven. Agapius of Vatopedi (Mt. Athos)

Triodion week 5
Sunday of Orthodoxy

1st Sunday of Great Lent
Tone 5 of the [Octoechos](#)