

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

Nicholas on his 22nd Birthday, offered by his family.

Readings:

Hebrews 4:14-16;5:1-6 (*Adoration of the Cross*)

Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 (*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 forever, 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."

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:

- Because of the **Coronavirus Pandemic**, we will not have **Coffee Hour**, **Council meetings**, or **Sunday School** until this emergency has subsided.
- Fr. Matthew has emailed the **schedule of Lenten services**. Please make every effort to attend these services. **This Wednesday at 6:30 pm, we will celebrate a Liturgy for the Annunciation.**
- As we are asked to refrain from public gatherings, we know that some parishioners will be unable to attend Sunday liturgy. If this applies to you, **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.
- The **annual Paschal basket raffle is scheduled for 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. Questions about the raffle can be addressed to Maribeth at 609-204-1007.
- **Two Paschal baskets for children** will be raffled off on April 12th. All Sunday School students will be entered into the raffle.

Reminders:

- 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.

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 (1 Cor.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 – (Veneration of the Cross) - Tone 7

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:
<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2020/03/22>

To read more about Annunciation, this Wednesday, see:
<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2020/03/25>

Please check the website of our Diocese:

<https://nynjoca.org/>

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America:

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

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

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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!*

Troparion – Tone 4

Today the Church remembers:

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT • Veneration of the Cross • Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra (362-363). • Martyr Drosida, daughter of Emperor Trajan (1st-2nd c.) • Ven. Isaac, Founder of the Dalmatian Monastery at Constantinople (4th c.) • Monastic Martyr Euthymius of Prodromou (Mt. Athos—1814).

March 22, 2020

**3rd Sunday of Great Lent
Triodion week 7**

Tone 7 of the Octoechos