

Bulletin sponsors for this week are for the:

Health of:

Fr. Matthew with hopes of a speedy recovery, offered with love by his parish family

Nicholas Zimmerman on his 26th birthday, offered with love by his family.

Cecelia on her 10th birthday, offered by her family with love.

Hebrews 11:24-26,32-40 (*1st Sunday of Great Lent, Sunday of*

Readings: *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 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:

- **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** will be served every **Wednesday during Great Lent at 6:30 PM**
- **Tickets** are now available for the Sisterhood’s annual **Pascha basket raffle**. Tickets cost \$1.00 each, and the Sisterhood would like each parishioners to buy or sell 10 tickets. Included in the basket will be a variety of delicious traditional ethnic foods. The raffle will be held on **April 28th**. **To purchase tickets please see Maribeth Romanofsky.**

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.

1st Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy:

The First Sunday, Triumph of Orthodoxy, commemorates the victory of the Church over the last major heresy: Icorioclasm.

*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

Forefeast of the Annunciation:

The Feast of the Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos is celebrated tomorrow, March 25, exactly nine months before the Nativity of Christ. There is one day of Forefeast, today, March 24.

On March 26, we celebrate the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel.

Because the Feast of the Annunciation falls during Great Lent, there is no Afterfeast of the Feast.

*Today the beginning of universal joy moves us to sing the prefestal hymn;
for Gabriel is coming and will cry to her:
"Rejoice, O Virgin full of grace, the Lord is with you.*

Troparion – Tone 4

*O Virgin Theotokos, you are the beginning of salvation for all of us on earth; / for
God's servant, the great Archangel Gabriel, was sent from Heaven to stand before you
bringing you joy. / Therefore we all cry to you: "Rejoice, unwedded Bride."*

Kontakion – Tone 8

To read about The Annunciation of our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/03/25/100884>

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/03/24>

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynjoca.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



Sunday of Orthodoxy

**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
forever**

*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—Troparion

March 24, 2024

Today the Church remembers:

Sunday of Orthodoxy • Forefeast of the Annunciation • Ven. Zachariah the Recluse • St. Artemius (Artemon), Bishop of Seleucia (1st-2nd c.) • Ven. Zachariah, Ascetic, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.) • Martyrs Stephen and Peter of Kazan' (1552)

1st Sunday of Great Lent
Triodion week 5

Tone 1
Great Lent