

**Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**

**For the health of:**

- Joshua** on his 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, offered by his family.
- Nicholas Zimmerman** on his birthday, offered with love by his family.
- Christopher** on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, offered by his grandparents and family.

**In memory of:**

**Olga**, mother of Andrew Romanofsky.

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| <b>Readings:</b> | <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hebrews 9:11-14</b></li> <li>• <b>Mark 10:32-45</b></li> </ul> | St. Mary of Egypt<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Galatians 3:23-29</li> <li>• Luke 7:36-50</li> </ul> |
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**Brethen**, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

**At that time**, Jesus taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

**Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM**

**Sunday service:**

- Hours** – 9:40 AM
- Divine Liturgy** – 10:00 AM
- Private Confession:** Half hour before any service. See Fr Matthew for other times.
- General Confession:** 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month
- Pannikhidas:** after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month

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- Coffee hour:** after Liturgy, downstairs in the Community Room
  - Church School:** Sunday 9:30 AM (no classes 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month)
  - Pre-school class:** meets immediately after the Liturgy every Sunday.
  - We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy for Coffee hour.**

**Announcements:**

- **The Sisterhood will be raffling off a traditional Pascha basket including delicious holiday items.** Tickets are \$1.00 and each person is asked to sell 10 tickets. The raffle will be held today March 29. See Lore Stefy for tickets.
- **The next Parish Council meeting** is today, after coffee hour.
- **This week's services of Great Lent:**
  - March 29 (Today) Deanery Lenten Vespers, St. Mary of Egypt Sunday, 4:00 PM Sts. Peter and Paul Church, South River, NJ
  - April 1 (Wednesday) 6:30PM Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts Holy Day of the Annunciation with potluck to follow
- **This week's services of Holy Week:**
  - April 5 (Sunday) Divine Liturgy 10AM Entry of the Lord into Jerusalem
- **Reader Charles** has accepted the call to once again serve with an **OCMC Youth Outreach Mission Team** going to Albania June 15 to July 1, 2015 and to go on a pilgrimage to **Mt. Athos** (the Holy Mountain) in Greece July 1 to July 9, 2015. Please remember him in your prayers in his many preparations. If your heart is moved to support him financially, please speak to him for information on how to do so. Every dollar donated over the cost of the trip will be given to the orphanage (Children's Home of Hope on the grounds of the Shen Vlash Monastery and Resurrection of Christ Theological Academy in Durres, Albania).

**Special Announcements:**

- **Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to:** Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- **Volunteers are needed to clean the church.** Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, downstairs, to indicate when you can help.

### Patristic Wisdom for Daily Living with the Church Fathers:

#### See God everywhere

*St. John Cassian remembers how the wise old abbot Moses told him to see God everywhere. If you approach with a pure heart, the world around you will show you His face.*

We certainly do discover God by admiring his incomprehensible essence, which still lies hidden in the hope of the promise. But we also see him through the greatness of his creation, and the consideration of his justice, and the help of his daily providence. We see him when with pure minds we contemplate what he has done with his saints in every generation, when with trembling heart we admire his power, with which he governs, directs, and rules all things, or the vastness of his knowledge, and that eye of his from which no secrets of the heart can lie hidden.

We see him when we consider the sand of the sea, and the number of the waves measured by him and known to him, when in our wonder we think that the drops of rain, the days and hours of the ages, and all things past and future are present to his knowledge; when we gaze in unbounded admiration on that ineffable mercy of his, which with unwearied patience endures countless sins that are every moment being committed under his very eyes. We see God in the numberless opportunities of salvation he grants to those whom he is going to adopt. We see him in the way he made us be born so that from our very cradles his grace and the knowledge of his law might be given to us.

Finally, we see him in the way he undertook the dispensation of his Incarnation for our salvation, and extended the marcel of his sacraments to all nations.

But there are numberless other considerations of this sort, which arise in our minds according to the character of our life and the purity of our heart, by which God is either seen by pure eyes or embraced.

—St. John Cassian, *Conferences*, 1.15

#### In God's Presence, consider....

Are earthly affections keeping me from a real contemplation of God?

#### Closing Prayer:

*Father, I give thanks and praise to you who made the heavens, the earth, the sea, fountains, rivers, lakes, and mankind after your own image; and above all that you did not forsake us when we erred, but drew us back to your heavenly mystery.*

See us on the web at: [ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin)

E-Mail us at: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

## Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

*Founded 1966*

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St. Mary of Egypt

Glory to  
Jesus Christ

Glory  
Forever

*Having been a sinful woman,  
you became through repentance a Bride of Christ.  
Having attained angelic life,  
you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross.  
Therefore, most glorious Mary,  
you are a Bride of the Kingdom!*

#### Today the Church remembers:

**Fifth Sunday of Great Lent • St. Mary of Egypt •** Hieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa (361-363) • Martyr Cyril the Deacon of Heliopolis • Venerable John the Anchorite of Egypt • Saint Eustathius the Confessor, Bishop of Bithynia • Venerable Mark of the Pskov Caves • Venerable Jonah of the Pskov Caves • Martyrs who suffered under Julian the Apostate.

March 29, 2015

Tone 1 of the Octoechos

Triodion week 9  
Fourth Sunday of Lent