

Bulletin sponsors this week are for the:

Health of:

Arnulfo Urquia, requested with love by his son Daniel, Carmen and family.
Svetlana, requested by Fr.Dn. Edward and Mat. Holly

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 meets every Sunday after Communion.

Announcements:

- Today, a **Cheesefare** luncheon will be held after Divine Liturgy. Cost of the luncheon is \$10 per adult. Many delicious meat-free dishes will be served!
- Great Lent begins tomorrow, Monday, March 3rd. **Our first PreSanctified Liturgy is on Wednesday, March 5th at 6:30 PM.** A calendar of Lenten services was emailed, please let M. Barbara know if you did not receive the email.
- On Sunday, March 9, **Orthodoxy Sunday Vespers will take place at Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, 285 French Hill Rd., Wayne, NJ,** beginning at 4PM. A Lenten supper will follow the service. His Eminence Archbishop Michael along with clergy from our Diocese and various other Orthodox jurisdictions will concelebrate the Vespers.
- The **Sisterhood’s** annual Pascha **basket raffle** is coming up soon. The basket will contain many traditional ethnic foods for the holiday. Each parishioner is asked to sell or buy 10 tickets at \$1 each. The raffle will be held on **April 13th**. A sign-up sheet for basket items is posted downstairs. (You do not need to be a Sisterhood member to donate an item for the basket.) For more information, see Maribeth Romanofsky or Tamara Zimmerman.
- A special **thank you** to the generous **angel** who **donated** many needed **supplies** for the Church kitchen. May God bless you!
- A **Pysanky** (egg decorating) **class** is planned for Sunday **March 23rd** after coffee hour. Please see Mat. Holly Dawson for more information.

Reminders:

- **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**
- 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

Readings:

Romans 13:11-14;14:1-4 (*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.”

Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their donations. (There is also a donation basket at the candle stand. A Venmo account can also be used for donations to our parish. 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 Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam from Paradise:

Today is the last day before Lent. Its liturgy develops three themes:

- **“the expulsion of Adam from the paradise of bliss.”** Man was created for paradise-for knowledge of God and communion with Him. His sins have deprived him of this blessed life and his existence on earth is an exile. Christ, the God-man, opens the doors of Paradise to every one who follows Him and the Church is our guide to the heavenly fatherland.

- Our fast must not be hypocritical, a show off. We must **“appear not unto men to fast, but unto our Father who is in secret”** (cf. Sunday lesson from Matthew: 6:14-21)

- The condition for such real fasting is that we **forgive each other** as God forgives us -“If you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you ...”

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.** 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 the end of today’s service, the faithful ask forgiveness from one another and the Church begins her pilgrimage towards the joyful and glorious day of Easter.

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2025/03/02>

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynioca.org/.

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.org/

See us on the web at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org

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

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V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

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Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



*Glory to
Jesus Christ*

*Glory
forever*

Sunday of Cheesefare:
Expulsion of Adam from Paradise

*O Master, Guide to wisdom,
Bestower of prudence,*

*Instructor of the foolish, and Defender of the poor:
make firm my heart and grant it understanding.*

O Word of the Father,

*give me speech, for behold, I shall not restrain my lips from crying out to Thee:
"Have mercy, have mercy on me who have fallen."*

Tone 6 –Kontakion

March 2, 2025

Today the Church remembers:

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE • The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise • Hieromartyr Theodotus, Bishop of Cyrenia (ca. 320) • St. Arsenius, Bishop of Tver (1409) • Virgin Martyr Euthalia of Sicily (257) • Martyr Troadius of Neo-Cæsarea (3rd c.) • Ven. Agathon of Egypt (5th c.) • 400 Martyrs slain by the Lombards in Sicily (579)

Lenten Triodion Week 4
36th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 3 of the [Octoechos](#)
Forgiveness Sunday