

Bulletin sponsors this week are for the:

Memory of:

Ken Walsh, brother-in-law of Andrew and Maribeth

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:

<p>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</p>

Mask wearing in church is now optional. Please be respectful of your fellow parishioners.

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.

Church School is now meeting every week after Communion.

Announcements:

- We celebrate the **Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts** every Wednesday during Great Lent at 6:30 pm.
- The Sisterhood's annual **Paschal basket raffle** will be held on Sunday April, 2nd. Tickets for the raffle cost one dollar, and each parishioner is asked to sell or buy 10 tickets. Please see Maribeth Romanofsky for tickets. If you wish to contribute an item to the basket, there is a sign-up sheet downstairs.
- Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- Prospora (bread) will again be available at the candle stand for a donation of \$2. The faithful can have the bread sent into the altar with a list of names for prayers of health and salvation for the living and for the repose of the departed servants of God. (Prospora should be purchased at least a week in advance of the Sunday Liturgy.)

Reminders:

- 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.
- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, should be **submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org** (there is no longer a sign up sheet at the candle stand).
- 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 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 Theophilos, 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 more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2023/03/05>

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
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"

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 Deacon



**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
forever**

1st Sunday of Great Lent:
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.*

Kontakion – Tone 2

March 5, 2023

Today the Church remembers:

Sunday of Orthodoxy • Martyr Conon of Isauria (1st c.) • Finding of the Relics of Rt. Blv. Theodore, Prince of Smolensk and Yaroslavl', and his children Ss. David and Constantine, Wonderworkers of Yaroslavl' (1463) • Monastic Martyr Adrian of Poshekhónsk (Yaroslavl'—1550) • Martyr Onesimus of Isauria (1st c.) • Martyr Conon the Gardener, of Pamphylia (3rd c.) • Virgin Martyr Irais (Raíssa) of Antinoë in Egypt (ca. 308) • Martyr Eulogius, of Palestine • Martyr Eulampius, of Palestine • St. Mark the Faster, of Egypt (5thc.) • St. Hesychius the Faster, of Bithynia (ca. 790)

1st Sunday of Great Lent
Lenten Triodion week 5

Tone 5 of the Octoechos.
[Great Lent](#)