

Today's Bulletin Sponsors is for:**The memory of:**

Recently departed **Ken** Walsh, brother-in-law of Andrew, offered by the Romanofsky family.

Readings: **I Corinthians 8:8-13;9:1-2** (*Meatfare, 2nd Sunday before lent*)
Matthew 25:31-46 (*Meatfare, 2nd Sunday before lent*)

Brethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall.

Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

The Lord said this parable, "When the Son of man comes in his glory and all the holy angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sunday service:**Hours - 9:40 AM****Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in person services in our parish have been cut back for now. Fr Matthew has sent out reader's services via email each week to follow at home. In addition, the diocesan web page nynjoca.org has online services for viewing.

Sunday services are celebrated with only the allowed number of people in attendance. Please contact Fr Matthew if you wish to attend as part of the restricted number. (No one else should attend in person.)

Church School

Church School is temporarily not meeting.

We are praying for all of our parishioners and their families. Let's keep praying for each other and remember to reach out and keep in touch.

Announcement:

- **The Sisterhood will be holding their annual Paschal basket raffle with a few changes due to the pandemic.** The basket will still include a variety of traditional foods and treats for your Pascha celebration. Raffle entries will be made without paper tickets. Each parishioner is asked to sell or purchase 10 entries at \$1.00 each. To purchase your entries, please mail a check, made out to the Sisterhood, for the desired number of entries. Enclose a list of entry names for individual entries. Checks can be mailed to Maribeth Romanofsky, 8 Willowbrook Lane, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234. Cash payments can be left at the candle stand in church, in an envelope marked "Sisterhood raffle" with your name on the outside of the envelope. Also enclose a list of entry names if desired. Purchases received without a list of names will be assumed to all be made in the name of the seller. **The raffle will be held on Palm Sunday Weekend, April 24-25. Thank you for support!**
- As we are asked to refrain from public gatherings, **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. **(Our monthly revenue has recently dropped below our monthly expenditures.)**
 Thank you to everyone who has been sending in their donations.

Reminders:

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org (there is no longer a sign up sheet at the candle stand).
- We still need sponsors for the bulletin each week as they go out via e-mail to many people. Send your donation to the treasurer.
- 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.

Sunday of Meatfare of the Last Judgment:

This Sunday is called **Meatfare Sunday** since it is officially the last day before Easter for eating meat. It commemorates Christ's parable of the **Last Judgment** (Mt 25:31-46). We are reminded today that it is not enough for us to see Jesus [as we learned on the Sunday of Zacchaeus], to see ourselves as we are [as we learned on the Publican and the Pharisee], and to come home to God as his prodigal sons. We must also be his sons by following Christ, his only-begotten divine Son, and by seeing Christ in every man and by serving Christ through them. *Our salvation and final judgment will depend upon our deeds*, not merely on our intentions or even on the mercies of God devoid of our own personal cooperation and obedience.

... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you took me in, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and in prison and you visited me. For truly I say to you, if you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me (Mt 25).

We are saved not merely by prayer and fasting, not by *“religious exercises”* alone. We are saved by serving Christ through his people, the goal toward which all piety and prayer is ultimately directed.

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/03/07>

Remember that Daylight Saving Time starts next Sunday, March 14th.

Please check the website of our Diocese:

<https://nynjoca.org/>

and the website of the Orthodox Church in America:

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

and our website:

<https://churchmotherofgod.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"

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The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

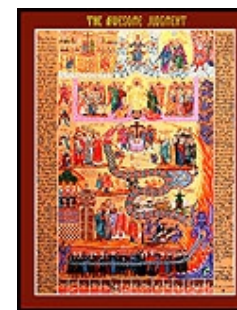
Temporary Rector

Email: docandrnl@verizon.net

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Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



**Glory to Jesus
Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

Sunday of Meatfare of the Last Judgment

*When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory,
all things shall tremble
and the river of fire shall flow before Your judgment seat;
the books shall be opened and the hidden things disclosed!
Then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,
and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, Most Righteous Judge!*
Troparion – Tone 1

Today the Church remembers:

SUNDAY OF MEATFARE • Sunday of the Last Judgment • The Holy Hieromartyrs of Cherson: Basil, Ephraim, Capito, Eugene, Aetherius, Elpidius, and Agathodorus (4th c.) • Ven. Paul the Simple, disciple of Ven. Anthony the Great (4th c.) • St. Paul the Confessor, Bishop of Plousias in Bithynia (9th c.) • St. Emilian of Rome • Icon of the Mother of God, “SURETY OF SINNERS” in Odrina (Orlovsk—1843) and Moscow (1848).

March 7, 2021

39th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Triodion week 3

Tone 6 [of the Octoechos](#)