

Bulletin sponsors this week are for:**The health of:**

Aris, Svetlana, Elizabet and Svetlana, requested with love by Svetlana. **Marisa** Corigliano on her birthday, offered by her parents, Maribeth and Andrew

The memory of:

Kathleen Sheehan, mother of Maribeth, offered by the Romanofsky's **Lioubov**, requested with love by her daughter, Svetlana.

Readings:

[Galatians 6:11-18](#) (22nd Sunday after Pentecost)

[Hebrews 9:1-7](#) (Entry of the Most-Holy Theotokos)*

[Luke 13:10-17](#) (10th Sunday of Luke)

[Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28](#) (Most-Holy Theotokos)*

Brethren, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman called Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve you alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As he said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

*Readings from Thursday, November 21, 2024

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:**

- Upcoming Nativity related events:

Sunday December 1st - Tree decorating for parish children and guests

Sunday December 8th - St Nicholas Day celebration with visit from St. Nicholas.

- We will be celebrating the **Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ** in the Flesh with a Liturgy on **Wednesday, December 25th at 10:00 am.**

Reminders:

- The **Sisterhood** would like to **thank** everyone who **donated food** items to their food drive.
- 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.

Afterfeast of the Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple:

When the Virgin Mary reached the age of three years, Her pious parents prepared to fulfill their promise. They called together their relatives, invited friends the same age as their daughter, dressed Her in Her finest clothes, and accompanied by the people singing hymns, they brought Her to the Temple in Jerusalem to be consecrated to God. Her friends and Mary Herself walked with burning candles in their hands. Led by the chief priest, the priests, while singing hymns, came out of the Temple to meet them.

Joachim and Anna with reverent prayers set Mary on the first step of the flight of stairs leading to the Temple. This staircase had fifteen high steps, according to the number of the psalms which the priests chanted upon entering the Temple.

There, three-year-old Mary Herself climbed the high steps without any assistance. At the top, the chief priest met and blessed Her as he always did with all who came to be consecrated to God. Then, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, he led Her into the Holy of Holies. This was the most sacred place in the Temple. No one had the right to enter there except him, and he did only once a year. The Holy Spirit enlightened the chief priest with the knowledge that Mary, the chosen young girl, was worthy to enter the most sacred place. She was destined by God to become the Mother of the Son of God, Who would open the way for all people into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Fulfilling their promise, Joachim and Anna returned home, and Mary remained to live at the Temple. There She with other girls studied the Law of God and handiwork. She prayed a great deal, read the Holy Scriptures, and strictly observed the fasts. Mary lived at the Temple of God about eleven years, grew deeply devout in everything was submissive to God, and was extraordinarily meek and industrious.

The Most-holy Mary decided to consecrate Her entire life to the one God alone. For this, She vowed that She would never marry; that is She would remain a virgin forever. The Holy Spirit and holy angels protected the godly young girl.

The Entry into the Temple of the Most-holy Virgin Mary is celebrated in the Holy Orthodox Church on the 21st of November. This day is considered a great holy day, which in the hymns of the Church is called the harbinger of God's good-will toward man. Starting with this holy day, we begin to sing "Christ is born..." during Matins.

*The most pure Temple of the Savior;
the precious Chamber and Virgin;
the sacred Treasure of the glory of God,
is presented today to the house of the Lord.
She brings with her the grace of the Spirit,
therefore, the angels of God praise her:
"Truly this woman is the abode of heaven."*

Kontakion – Tone 4

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/11/24>

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

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

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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

**Glory to
Jesus Christ****Glory
forever**

Afterfeast of the Entry of the Most Holy
Mother of God into the Temple

*Today is the prelude of the good will of God,
of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.*

*The Virgin appears in the temple of God,
in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all.*

Let us rejoice and sing to her:

"Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation."

Tone 4 – Troparion

November 24, 2024**Today the Church remembers:**

Afterfeast of the Entry Into the Temple • Great Martyr Catherine of Alexandria (305-313) • Great Martyr Mercurius of Cæsarea in Cappadocia (3rd c.) • Martyr Merkúry of Smolensk (1238) • Ven. Mercurius, Faster, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—14th c.) • Empress Augusta, Porphyrius the General, the 50 philosophers and the 200 Soldiers martyred with the Great Martyr Catherine (305-313) • Virgin Mastridia of Alexandria • Ven. Simon, Abbot of Soiga Monastery (Vologdá—1562)

22nd Sunday after Pentecost10th Sunday of LukeTone 5 of the [Octoechos](#)**Nativity Fast**