**Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:** 

For the Eternal Memory of:

Margaret, Barbara, and Dorothy, mother, aunt, and mother-in-law of Trudy Ellmore

Readings:• Galatians 2:16-20• Luke 8:26-39

**BRETHREN**, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but he sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

#### <u>Saturday service:</u> Vespers – 6:30 PM Sunday service:

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

**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)

#### We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy for Coffee hour.

# **Announcements:**

- There will be a meeting of the of the Sisterhood of the Protection of the Theotokos today after coffee hour.
- The 48<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our parish will be celebrated next Sunday November 9th. After the Liturgy there will be a dinner in our community room, sponsored by the Sisterhood. The dinner will feature ethnic foods. The cost of the dinner will be \$10 per person. Please sign-up on the sheet downstairs to contribute a food item for the dinner. The Sisterhood needs to know how many people will be attending the dinner, so please indicate on the sheet downstairs or call Lore Stefy at (609) 625-1184.

## **Special Announcements:**

- Any Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the signup sheet at the candle stand.

**St. Maximus says:** "Just as night follows day, and winter follows summer, so does sorrow and pain follow vainglory and pleasure whether in the present of in the future". How often have we spoken about how pride is the foundation block of all human sin. Every sin imaginable is somehow rooted in pride. Each of us needs to look at how pride affects our outlook on life, and the things we do in this world, especially to one another

## St. Marcian of Cyprus:

Today the Church remembers Saint Marcian the Hermit and Confessor of Cyrus (or Cyrrhus) in Syria. He lived in the fourth century.

As the child of a wealthy father who held several important government posts, Marcian lived the sumptuous life of the royal court from his earliest years. This gave him the benefit of an excellent education, but it also impressed on him the shallowness of court life. It seemed to Marcian that the more worldly possessions and successes people had, the unhappier they were. Why else would those in high positions constantly be seeking some novel pastime to fill their days? Why else would so many seem almost desperate in their quest for some kind of contentment?

Marcian didn't want a life full of ceremony and constant interaction with other people. What he did want was to be alone with God, and so he decided to "forget and be forgotten by" the world. Telling none of his friends, he left his old life behind and went to a secluded part of the Syrian desert, near the border of Arabia. There he built a small, narrow cell to live in.

We often read of desert monks who fasted for days at a time. Marcian chose a different way. He ate just enough every day to be sure he would have strength to carry on his simple life of prayer, reading, singing psalms and making small items to trade for bread.

Marcian's strongest desire was always to live with only God for company, but his life changed after some years of solitude. His holiness had become known, and two disciples approached him and begged to join him. Marcian, giving up his own preference, humbly accepted them, though he continued to live alone in his cell. The two disciples, Eusebius and Agapetus, built a cell near his. They sang psalms with him, and gratefully listened to his answers to their spiritual questions. They said later that even when reading at night, Marcian never had to use a candle—there was a supernatural light providing illumination of his cell, just as his prayerful communication with God illuminated his soul.

Growing numbers of men wanted to become Marcian's disciples. He was finally persuaded to let a monastery be built near his cell, and appointed Eusebius abbot. Monks could then come to speak with him. But when some Syrian bishops suggested he be ordained a priest, he was so distressed, protesting his unworthiness, that they abandoned the idea.

As Marcian's life neared its end, his distress increased. His reputation for miracle-working holiness had encouraged some people to build chapels near his cell, hoping to be given his body to bury in them when he died. Fearing such "fame," he ordered his disciples to bury him secretly in a remote place.

Marcian didn't see fame as a measure of success. He was so close to Christ that he could say, in words we read on this day, that "it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (Galatians 2: 20a).

- Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America

# **Orthodox Church of the Mother of God**

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful" Founded 1966 115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

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Glory Forever

Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenaries

Today we praise the blessed choirof the holy unmercenary physicians: the Apostle and Evangelist Luke, the excellent healer of the infirm; Antipas, Charalampos and Blaise, the most honored hieromartyrs;

Spyridon and Modescus, the all-splendid luminaries of the Church; the three pairs of divinely wise saints Cosmas and Damian, who shared the same names and the same ways;

Cyrus and the glorious John; the divine Pantelelmon and Hermolaus; Diomedes and Sampson; together with Mocius, Photius and Anicetas, Artemius, Thalalxus and Tryphon.

#### **Today the Church remembers:**

Synaxis of the Holy Unmercenaries ● Martyrs Acindynus, Pegasius, Aphthonius, Elpidephorus and Anempodistus, of Persia (ca. 341-345)
● St. Marcian of Cyprus (381-391).

November 2, 2014

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Glorv to

Jesus Christ

Tone 4 of the Octoechos