

**The bulletin is sponsored this week for:****The health of:**

**Adam** Romanofsky on his birthday, offered by Maribeth and Andrew

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**Readings:** **II Corinthians 6:16-7:1** (*17th Sunday after Pentecost*)  
**Luke 8:5-15** (*4th Sunday of Luke*)

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**Brethren**, what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.” Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain.

**The Lord said this parable:** “A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said this, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.

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

We will no longer be taking temperatures when you enter the Church and signing up for services is no longer necessary. Services are open to all.

**Those that are not fully vaccinated are still requested to wear a mask.**

**Church School**

The meeting schedule for October Sunday school is as follows: Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 31<sup>st</sup>.

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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.

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**Announcement:**

- We will continue the special collections for “Hurricane Ida Relief”. The proceeds will be distributed to those in need across the Diocese.
- **Archbishop Michael** will be with us on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, November 7, 2021. He did not visit us last year due to Covid restrictions. It will be wonderful to have him visit with us this year!
- Donations are being accepted for an outdoor chairlift to be used on our steps.
- If you are unable to attend church, 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.

**Reminders:**

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by email to: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto: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 email to many people. Send your donation to the treasurer in time to get it into the bulletin.
- 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.

**Prophet Hosea:**

The Holy Prophet Hosea the first of the minor prophets, belonged to the tribe of Issachar. He lived during the ninth Century before Christ, in the kingdom of Israel. He was a contemporary of the holy Prophets Isaiah, Micah and Amos. During this time, many of his fellow Israelites had forgotten the true God, and worshiped idols. The holy Prophet Hosea attempted to turn them again to the faith of their Fathers by his wise counsels. Denouncing the iniquities of the people of Israel (i.e. the northern kingdom Israel), the prophet proclaimed to them great misfortunes from a foreign people and their removal into captivity by Assyria.

Almost a thousand years before the coming of the Savior, and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the prophet foretold the end of sacrificial offerings and of the priesthood of Aaron <sup>(Hos. 3:4-5)</sup>, and that the knowledge of the True God would spread through all the earth <sup>(Hos. 2:20-23)</sup>. Hosea spoke also about Christ, how He would return from out of Egypt <sup>(Hos. 11:1; compare Mt. 2:15)</sup>, that He would be resurrected on the third day <sup>(Hos. 6 and especially Hos.6:2; compare with 1 Cor.15:4)</sup>, and that He would conquer death <sup>(Hos.13-14. Compare 1 Cor.15:54-55)</sup>.

The prophesies of Saint Hosea are included in the book that bears his name. The prophetic service of Saint Hosea continued for more than sixty years. The God-inspired prophet died in deep old age, having devoted all his life to fulfilling the Will of God.

*Enlightened by the Spirit,  
your pure heart became the dwelling place of most splendid prophecy;  
for you saw things far off as if they were near.  
Therefore, we honor you, blessed and glorious Prophet Hosea.*

Kontakion – Tone 4

**To read more about the saints remembered today, see:**

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/10/17>

**Please check the website of our Diocese:**

<https://nynjoca.org/>

**and the website of the Orthodox Church in America:**

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

**See us on the web at:** ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin

**See us on Facebook at:** [www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog](http://www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog)

**Email us at:** [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto: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,**

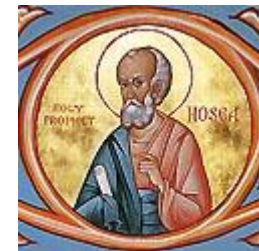
Temporary Rector

Email: docandrnl@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



Prophet Hosea

**Glory to Jesus  
Christ**

**Glory  
Forever**

*We celebrate the memory  
of Your prophet Hosea, O Lord;  
through him we entreat You,  
save our souls.*

Troparion – Tone 2

**Today the Church remembers:**

Martyr Susanna, Princess of Georgia (5th c.). Prophet Hosea (820 B.C.). Monastic Martyr Andrew of Crete (767). Ven. Anthony, Abbot of Leokhnovsk (Novgorod—1611). Martyrs and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian in Cilicia, and their brothers, Leontius, Anthimus, and Eutropius (287 or 303). Translation of the Relics of St. Lazarus “of the four days” (in the tomb), Bishop of Kition on Cyprus (898).

**October 17, 2021**

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke

Tone 8 of the Octoechos