

Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**For the health of:**

Natalie Morris on her birthday, offered by her mother Lore Stefy.

Readings:

- 2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9
- Luke 8:5-15

BRETHREN, the God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Ar'etas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me

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.

Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM**Sunday service:**

Hours – 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

Private Confession – Half hour before any service.

See Fr Matthew for other times.

General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month

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 1st 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:

- **The 48th anniversary of the founding of our parish** will be celebrated on **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. There is a sign-up sheet downstairs for anyone who wishes to contribute an item for the dinner. If you are planning on attending the dinner, please indicate how many will attend on the sheet downstairs or call Lore Stefy at (609) 625-1184.
- **The next meeting of the Parish Council will be October 26th** after coffee hour.

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: “Blessed is the man who has learned to love all men equally.”

Prophet Joel:

Today the church remembers the Prophet Joel (800 B.C.) who predicted the desolation of Jerusalem. He also prophesied that the Holy Spirit would be poured out upon all people, through the Savior of the world (Joel 2:28-32).

The hymnographer Anatolius links Joel's prophecy to the Nativity of the Lord. In the Praises at Matins on the Sunday following the Nativity, he refers to Joel 2:30, saying that the blood refers to the Incarnation, the fire to the Divinity, and the pillars of smoke to the Holy Spirit.

Thus says the Lord: You shall know that I the Lord your God am in the midst of Israel, and there is none beside me, and my people shall no longer be ashamed for ever. And it shall be after these things that I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy and your elders will dream dreams and your youths see visions. And upon my servants and my maid servants I shall pour out of my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy; and I shall show wonders in the heaven above and signs in the earth beneath, blood and fire and the vapour of smoke; the sun will be transformed to darkness and the moon to blood, before the great and manifest day of the Lord comes; and it shall be that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. ^{Joel 2:28-32}

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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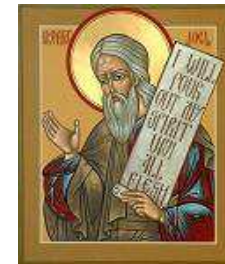
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Glory to
Jesus Christ

Glory
Forever

Prophet Joel

*"Today You have shown forth..."
Illumined by the Spirit, your heart was a vessel of illustrious prophecy,
seeing far-off things as though they were present.
Therefore, we venerate you, glorious prophet Joel.*

Kontakion — Tone 6

Today the Church remembers:

Prophet Joel (ca. 800 B.C.)

- Martyr Varus, and with him six Monk Martyrs (ca. 307)
- Translation of the Relics of Ven. John, Abbot of Rila in Bulgaria (1238)
- Bl. Cleopatra and her son John, in Egypt (327)
- Hieromartyr Sadoc (Sadoth), Bishop of Persia, and 128 Martyrs with him (342)

October 19, 2014

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 2 of the Octoechos