

Bulletin sponsors this week are for the:**Memory of:**

Uncle **George**, offered by Linda and Richard,

Readings: **II Corinthians 9:6-11** (*18th Sunday after Pentecost*)
Luke 8:26-39 (*6th Sunday of Luke*)

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.” He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

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.

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 3 rd 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:**

- The the **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will have a **meeting** today, **October 27th** after coffee hour.
- Our parish’s **anniversary dinner** will be held on **Sunday, November 10th**. The **cost** of the dinner will be **\$5** per adult (over 12). The dinner will be a potluck. Anyone wishing to contribute a food item, should sign-up on the sheet located downstairs.
- Upcoming Retreat In Medford, NJ - “Theology – What it is and Why it Matters”, Saturday, November 9, 2024, See https://nynjoca.org/news_241019_2.html
- **The next meeting of the parish council** was changed to Sunday, November 17th, after coffee hour.

Reminders:

- The **Sisterhood’s food drive** is ongoing. Donation bins are located both downstairs and in the back of the church. Please be generous. Thank you!
- 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.

Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica:

The holy Martyr Nestor was very young in age, handsome in appearance, and he was known to the holy Great Martyr Demetrios (October 26), for he had instructed Nestor in the faith.

The Emperor was visiting Thessaloniki, and he built a high platform in the midst of the city so that a gigantic barbarian named Lyaios could wrestle there and be seen by everyone. Beneath the platform many spears and other sharp weapons were placed pointing upward. When Lyaios defeated his opponents, he threw them down onto the spears and they died. Many Christians were forced to fight Lyaios, and were killed. When Nestor saw how Emperor Maximian rejoiced over the victories of his champion, he disdained his pride. Seeing the miracles of Saint Demetrios, however, he took courage and went to the prison where the holy Martyr was confined, and fell at his feet.

“Pray for me, O Servant of God Demetrios,” he said, “that by your prayers, God may help me to beat Lyaios, and put an end to him who brings reproach upon the Christians.”

The Saint, after sealing Nestor with the Sign of the Cross, told him that he would prevail over Lyaios, and then suffer for Christ. Nestor mounted the platform without fear and exclaimed: “Help me, O God of Demetrios.” After he defeated Lyaios, he hurled him down onto the spears, where he gave up his wretched soul.

Maximian became enraged and ordered that both Nestor and Demetrios should be put to death. Saint Demetrios was stabbed with spears, and Saint Nestor was beheaded. Thus, by his example Saint Nestor teaches us that in every human challenge we must say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do to me.” (Psalm 117/118:6, Hebrews 13:6).

*You contested well, therefore you obtained immortal renown, O wise Nestor,
and you became an excellent soldier of the Master Christ,
by the prayers of the Martyr Demetrios.
Therefore, with him, pray unceasingly for all of us.*

Kontakion – Tone 2

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/10/27>

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

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

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

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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,

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Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
forever**

Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica

*As a friend and companion of Saint Demetrios,
you were an invincible athlete of godliness and contended bravely, O blessed Nestor.
By divine help, you defeated Lyaios,
and by being slain you became a holy sacrifice to our God.*

Tone 5 – Troparion

October 27, 2024

Today the Church remembers:

- Martyr Nestor of Thessalonica (ca. 306) • Ven. Nestor the Chronicler of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—ca. 1114) • Uncovering of the Relics of St. Andrew, Prince of Smolensk (1540) • Martyrs Capitolina and Eroteis of Cappadocia (304) • Saint Claudia Procula (1st c.) • Martyrs Mark, Soterikhos, and Valentine (304)

18th Sunday after Pentecost
6th Sunday of Luke

Tone 1 of the Octoechos