

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

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

OCA – Diocese of New York-New Jersey

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searfoorce, Rector

Sub-Deacon Edward Dawson

Sub-Deacon Vlashi

Parish Council President: Andrew Romanofsky

Parish Council Vice President: Holly Dawson



Sunday, October 9, 2016

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

Gospel, St. Tikhon: John 10:9-16

Tone 7(3rd of Luke)

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Epistle, St. Tikhon: Hebrews 7:26-8:2

16th Sunday After Pentecost — Tone 7.

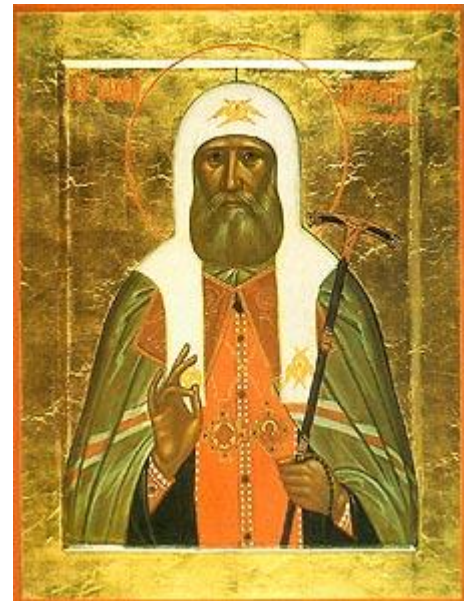
Glorification of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America (1989—Sept 26th O.S.). **Holy Apostle James (Jacob), Son of Alphæus** (1st c.). Ven. Andronicus, and his wife Athanasia, of Egypt (5th c.). Righteous forefather Abraham, and his nephew, Lot (ca. 2000 B.C.). Martyrs Juventius and Maximus at Antioch (363). St. Publia the Confessor, Deaconess, of Antioch (4th c.). Ven. Peter of Galatia (9th c.). Hieromartyr Dionysius (Denis, Denys) of Paris, Bishop (ca. 258). The “CHERSON” and “ASSUAGE MY SORROW” Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos.

Troparion – Tone 1

Chosen by God in a turbulent time, / You glorified God in complete holiness; / And attained greatness through humility / You showed forth the power of God through simplicity and piety; / You laid down your life for the Church and her people, / O Holy Confessor and Patriarch, Father Tikhon, / Pray to Christ God to Whom you were also crucified / That He may save our souls.

Troparion – Tone 2

A gentle manner adorned You / You showed kindness and compassion to those who repented / You were firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith / And zealous in loving the Lord / O Holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon / Pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God / Which is of Christ Jesus, our King and Lord.



Glorification of St Tikhon, the Apostle to America

Prayer Requests

For Health of:

Sub-Deacon Edward, on his birthday, offered by his family.

In Memory of:

Peter Taran, brother of Holly Dawson who fell asleep in the Lord on Oct. 4, offered by Sub-Deacon Vlashi, Parish Council, the Sisterhood and all the parishioners of the Mother of God Church.

Semion Pinchuk, offered by Tatsiana Markevich DaGrosa.

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, October 9th

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: Divine Liturgy

Saturday, October 15th

6:30 pm: Vespers

Sunday, October 16th

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: Divine Liturgy
Panikhida – Leonid Stefy

Saturday, October 22nd

6:30 pm: Vespers

Sunday, October 23rd

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: Divine Liturgy

Saturday, October 29th

6:30 pm: Vespers

Sunday, October 30th

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: Divine Liturgy

Bulletin Sponsors:

*The Dawson Family;
Tatsiana Markevich
DaGrosa*

Readings:

The Prokeimenon in the 7th Tone:

The Lord shall give strength to His people! / The Lord shall bless His people with
peace! (*Psalm 28:11*)

vs. Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!
(*Psalm 28:1*)

Another, Tone 1 (St. Tikhon):

My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
(*Psalm 48:4*)

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

St. Tikhon: Hebrews 7:26-8:2

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a High Priest, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Alleluia in the 7th Tone:

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High!
(*Psalm 91:2*)

vs. To declare Thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night!
(*Psalm 91:3*)

Another, Tone 2 (St. Tikhon):

The mouth of the righteous shall proclaim wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment. (*Psalm 36:30*)

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16 (3rd Sunday of Luke)

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

St. Tikhon: John 10:9-16

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.



Glorification of St Tikhon, the Apostle to America

St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and Apostle to America was born as Vasily Ivanovich Belavin on January 19, 1865 into the family of Ioann Belavin, a rural priest of the Toropetz district of the Pskov diocese. His childhood and adolescence were spent in the village in direct contact with peasants and their labor. From his early years he displayed a particular religious disposition, love for the Church as well as rare meekness and humility.

When Vasily was still a boy, his father had a revelation about each of his children. One night, when he and his three sons slept in the hayloft, he suddenly woke up and roused them. He had seen his dead mother in a dream, who foretold to him his imminent death, and the fate of his three sons. She said that one would be unfortunate throughout his entire life, another would die young, while the third, Vasily, would be a great man. The prophecy of the dead woman proved to be entirely accurate in regard to all three brothers.



Bulletin Sponsor: Use the sign-up sheet at the candle stand for the health of, eternal memory of or a Pannikhida for a loved one or friend, for a donation of \$10. Sponsors will be remembered during Divine Liturgy for the day/week that you signed up for.

Memorial Candles: Candles be purchased at the candle stand, suggested donation of \$10 for a large one.

Private Confessions: Can be heard a half hour before any service. See Father Matthew for other times.

General Confession: Will be at 9:45 am on the first Sunday of the month.

Pannikhida Service: The third Sunday of each month there will be a Pannikhida after Divine Liturgy. If you would like your loved ones to be remembered please give a list of names to Father Matthew before that Sunday for those to be remembered in the month.

Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail:

OrthodoxChurchMotherOfGod@outlook.com

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.

“Orthodox Church of the Mother of God: Joy of all the Sorrowful” founded in 1966



Orthodox Church of the Mother of God: Parish News

There will be a **Panikhida Service** next week for Leonid Stefy, offered by wife Lore Stefy, children and grandchildren.

Anniversary Booklet - Well Wishes

FOR the donation amount of your choice (\$5, \$10, \$20, \$25 or other amount) a message of congratulations, many years, or prayers can be included in the back of the Anniversary Booklet that is being written. The message can be given in memory of or for the health of someone. Or no specific dedication is necessary. You can just write a message. The message is limited to 120 characters (punctuation, spaces included in count). Forms are available at the candle desk. Firm deadline: Sunday, October 15. No submissions will be accepted following that date due to printing deadline. Submit the form and payment IN AN ENVELOPE and place it in the CANDLE MONEY BOX on the candle desk. Donation will go towards deferring printing costs.

Questions: Speak to Trudy Ellmore.

CWS

Cwsglobal.org

September 27, 2016

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

Trudy R Ellmore

115 Hudson St Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your donation of Hygiene Kits to Church World Service. They have helped individuals and families touched by disaster feel a little more "normal" - and a lot less alone - by providing some of the basic essentials for everyday living.

Disasters can strike anywhere, anytime. And they can take many forms: tornadoes, earthquakes, civil conflict, drought, hurricanes and more. That's why CWS puts a high priority on being prepared. Here at home or overseas, when tragedy comes calling, your donations ensure that help is never far behind.

Learn more about the power of your compassion at cwskits.org.

Please know that your gifts are helping people when they need it the most.

With deepest gratitude,

Rev. John L. McCollough

Rev. John L. McCollough

President and CEO



NY/NJ Diocese News

From the Office of the Bishop

Upcoming Events:

- November 1-2: Diocesan Assembly, Holy Trinity Church, Yonkers, NY
- November 11-13: Diocesan Girls Retreat, Saint Basil Academy, Garrison, NY
- November 18-19: Diocesan Matushki Retreat, Warwick Retreat Center, Warwick, NY



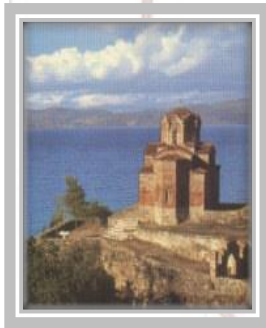
Orthodox Church in America (OCA) News

In Memoriam: Hieromonk Alexander [Mayba]

Hieromonk Alexander [Mayba], 84, for many years a beloved member of the Brotherhood of Saint Tikhon's Monastery, fell asleep in the Lord at Wayne Memorial Hospice on Wednesday, October 5, 2016.

Born in Troy, NY on May 10, 1932, Father Alexander received monastic tonsure on April 7, 1995. On February 18 of the following year, he was ordained to the diaconate, while his ordination to the priesthood occurred on May 20, 1999. In addition to his duties at the monastery, he served the faithful of Saints Peter and Paul Church, Uniondale, PA. In 2004, he was awarded the gold cross by the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America.

A Panikhida will be celebrated in the Monastery Church of Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 7. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon will preside at the Hours, Divine Liturgy and Funeral Service for a Priest at 7:40 a.m. on Saturday, October 8, with interment in Saint Tikhon's Monastery Cemetery. A luncheon will follow in the monastery dining hall. May Father Alexander's memory be eternal!



Prayers by the Laker, St. Velimirovich, LXXVII:

At noon the children gather at the lake, to bathe in the sun and the water.

O Lord, how the whole of nature marvels at innocence! Strained and pained laborers in the presence of sinners -- the lake and the sun are transfigured in the presence of children. What a magnificent temple of the Lord the lake becomes, when children are in it, and what an inspired high priest the sun becomes, when its rays cross the rays of children's souls.

"Let the children come to me," whispers the whole of nature, "and you will understand that I myself am also a child. To the soulless I seem to be soulless, to saints I am an altar. Whoever seeks the beast in me, will be sent a beast; whoever seeks God in me, will be shown God. Sinners call me a slaughterhouse, the righteous call me a sacrificial altar. Only to innocence do I manifest myself as innocence, and only to children of God do I reveal myself as a child of God."

"Let the children come to Me," exclaims the Son of the Virgin, and only children come to Him. Those who prevent children from coming to the Son of God, will be liable to the fires of hell. For neither do they themselves come to Him nor do they allow others to come to Him.

"Why children, O Lord, why do You seek children?" those who are made and not born ask the One who was begotten and not made. Such people are made and not born, like statues of stone, and they are moved by the winds of the world. But the One who is begotten and not made moves with life within, and the winds of the world flee from Him.

"Because I Myself am also a child, for this reason I seek children. Impostors see an impostor in Me, atheists see an atheist, and those in authority see in Me one who usurps authority. The Pharisees ask 'Who is this man?' and they cannot resolve the question, while the wise of this world pursue Me into their own worldly wisdom.

"Only children recognize Me, for I too am a child. As a child I am not My own, and as a child I do not seek glory for Myself. As a child I do not think anything on My own, I do not speak anything on My own, and I do not do anything on My own. Instead, like a child, I think what My Father taught

Me, and I speak what I hear, and I do what I see.

"Children cease to be children, but I never cease being a child. Children cease to be children because of their wicked guides, who prevent them from continuing to sojourn with Me and teach them the time-worn wisdom of the world. But I do not cease to be a child, because I nourish Myself with the eternally youthful wisdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who in old age rid themselves of their wicked guides and the wisdom of those guides, which makes one old, sick, and dead. Whoever turns to Me, even if he has been made old by the world, I shall make him a child and as an eternal child he will reign in My kingdom, to which the elders of the world have no access.

"I tell you that My kingdom is a kingdom of children.

"Truly, those who are made will not see the light of the Kingdom of God, but only those who are begotten. Whatever is Mine, whatever is as I am, this will be with Me.

"The statues of stone, which the winds of the world move, will be smashed, and their dust will be the sport of winds. But the children, who move with life within, will enter into eternal life."

O Resplendent Lord, Eternal Child of the Holy Triad, help me with Your innocence, the greatest strength in all realms, to be born of the Holy Spirit.

May I not be like a stone statue, made by this world, to be smashed and scattered into the wind.

May I rather be like a born youth, inseparable from You in eternity, O Prince of Innocence and of all innocents.

Sayings of the Ascetics of the Orthodox Church, LXXVII:

**II. The Realities of the Spiritual World
The Spiritual Father**

The Lord loves us so much that He suffered for us on the Cross; and His suffering was so great that we can't comprehend it. In the same way our spiritual pastors suffer for us, although we often don't see their suffering. The greater the love of the pastor, the greater his suffering; and we, the sheep, should understand this, and love and honor our pastors.

+ St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, XIII.2

The Morning Offering – Daily Inspiration by Abbott Tryphon



Arrogance

When clergy become arrogant

There are some clergy who hide their insecurities and flaws by acting in an arrogant and condescending manner toward those who are under their spiritual care. Being domineering, and thinking themselves privileged, they become condescending toward those they consider lesser than themselves. Rather than serving in the role of a loving father to their parishioners, they act as though they are entitled to special honor and privilege. Thinking themselves above others, they use the vulnerability and pain of those in their charge, as building blocks for their own egos. Wanting to avoid their own vulnerability and low self-esteem, they hide behind their role as priest or bishop, and “bigging themselves up” in order to hide their fear of being ordinary. This often involves knocking others down, while building up their personal pride, rank, and dignity. Their central goal becomes focused on their arrogant self-image, leading them to display a proud contempt of others. Their emphasis on personal dignity and rank requires them to view others as somehow beneath them.

As they act out in an overbearing manner, their pride consists in exorbitant claims of rank, dignity, estimation, or power, and an exalted sense of worth and importance. This arrogance is centered in egotism, conceit, grandiosity, and a sinful inflation of self-importance. Ancient Greek literature refers to hubris, a form of arrogance in which a person thinks himself to be higher in status than other ordinary mortals, and they think themselves as a sort of god. Their arrogance becomes a way of manipulating others’ perceptions of themselves in order to avoid taking a “hit” to their own self-esteem. Their basic strategy is to get others to see them as special, perfect, flawless, and thus diverting attention from their ordinary imperfections, weaknesses and failings, thereby keeping their self-esteem artificially inflated.

The truth is that to be effective in ministry, clergy need to see themselves as least of the brethren, and a servant to others. In being open about their failings and culpability, their own humanness allows them to be true pastors and fathers to their flock. Their own imperfections become the stepping stones for bringing about the healing of those who come to them. Their gentle guidance, and their willingness to be vulnerable as Christ’s agents of healing, make them true icons of the Co-Suffering Saviour, who came in the flesh as a simple servant.

With love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon



Daily Reflection

Seeing Things as They Are

*“Glory to You, Who has shown us the light!”
(Byzantine Matins, Great Doxology)*



Indeed, God shows me “the light,” specifically His light, to see things as they are, rather than how I might imagine them to be, when left to my own “lights.” On my own, without a God-centered focus, I tend to slip into a distorted vision of things; I begin to see “more” or “less” than there is, in the various realities of my life. For example, I might “see” my financial situation as “less” than it is, when I’m not embracing gratitude. Conversely, I might see “more” than I actually have, and spend unwisely. I can also distort my relationships with people, including myself, burdening them with unrealistic expectations or even demands.

Today let me let God show me His light, setting aside both fear and denial. Because His is a gentle light, which liberates me from confusing and ultimately-hurtful distortions. Let me open up to His grace, re-connecting with Him in some heartfelt prayer and re-focusing (metanoia), which brings me humble acceptance of, and gratitude for, things as they are. “Glory to You, Who has shown us the light!”

Holy Orthodox Quotes

“A Christian is not his own master, since all his time belongs to God.”

+St. Ignatius of Antioch

James 4:13-16

Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”;† whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.” But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

Ephesians 5:15-17

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,† redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?† For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

The Philokalia: Daily Readings

Stillness and prayer are the greatest weapons of virtue, for they purify the intellect and confer on it spiritual insight.

+ *St Thalassios the Libyan, 400 Texts on Love and Self-Control*

Daily Readings with Early Church Fathers and Mothers

"Hopelessness" by St. Isaac the Syrian

Do not fall into despair because of stumbling. I do not mean that you should not feel contrition for them, but that you should not think them incurable. For it is more expedient to be bruised than dead. There is, indeed, a Healer for the man who has stumbled, even He Who on the Cross asked that mercy be shown to His crucifiers, He Who pardoned His murders while He hung on the Cross. ‘All manner of sin,’ He said, ‘and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men,’ that is, through repentance.

Through the Grace of God – Orthodox Christianity

Mother Gavrilia: Humility of Christ

“If the humility of Christ becomes the way of our life, any place may, and will, become a place of Resurrection”

Ancient Christian Wisdom

Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly, the angel who guards you will honor your patience.

+ **St. John of the Ladder**

In Memoriam: Peter Taran



Peter Taran, 63, of Mays Landing passed away peacefully, after a long illness. He was born June 24, 1953 in Edgewater/Fort Lee, NJ. Peter was a family member of the Orthodox Church of the Mother of God in Mays Landing. He worked for many years as a mechanic at Phillips 66 in Cardiff and later at Dave Carmen's Auto. He was a master mechanic by trade and loved working on small engine repair. He had a great love for motorcycles and was an avid NASCAR fan.

Pete will be greatly missed by his sister Holly Dawson (Edward), his daughter Jami Hulse (Scott), his granddaughter Kylie, many nieces, nephews, family, extended family - Dave, Steve, Dennis, Tommy and David and his many other friends.

A graveside service and burial will take place at Union Cemetery in Mays Landing on Tuesday, October 11 at 1pm.

Contributions may be made in Peter's memory to the Dawson Family c/o Boakes Funeral Home

I know I've gotten a lot of messages in the past few hrs ... I'm praying for my family especially my mother Holly... the Lord above has decided to call my mom's little brother.. my Uncle Pete... home ... there have been so many times that I've wonder how he did his magic tricks or how he always managed to survive some horrible accidents in his life ... my uncle had his ups and downs like everyone else God has tried calling him home many times before but this time you have accepted to be one of his angels I love you uncle Pete and I always will ... RIP till we meet again....**Tara Dawson Golden**

Messages to the Family:

- Uncle Pete you will not be forgotten till we meet again we will miss you. From Johnathan & Melissa Dawson
- Holly, Dee, Jenna, Leah and all....our sympathies, love and prayers on the loss of this kind man. We love you. From Pete, Shirley, Dawn and Julie and families
- Message to the Family: God has received a great man into his kingdom. May you rest in peace Pete. You will definitely be missed. From: Felicia