

**Bulletin sponsors this week are for:****The health of:**

**Kira and Daniel** Dangle on their anniversary offered with love by their family.

**Readings:**

[Galatians 2:16-20](#) (Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross)

**I Corinthians 15:1-11** (12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

[Mark 8:34-38; 9:1](#) (Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross)

**Matthew 19:16-26** (12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

**Brethren,** I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**At that time,** a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, “Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?” And he said to him, “Why do you call me good? One there is who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” He said to him, “Which?” And Jesus said, “You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” The young man said to him, “All these I have observed; what do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions.

And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

**Sunday Services:**

<b>Hours - 9:40 AM</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM</b>
<b>General Confession – 9:45 AM</b> on the first Sunday of each month	
<b>Private Confession -</b> by appointment, contact Fr Matthew	
<b>Pannikhidas –</b> after Divine Liturgy 3rd 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 classes will begin today, September 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Father will be blessing the children as they begin their school year.

New student registration forms for Sunday school are available at the candle stand.  
(For new students only)

**Announcements:**

- The Elevation of the Cross will be celebrated today, September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The next meeting of the parish council will be Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, after coffee hour.
- The **Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Mother of God will be celebrating their **feast day** on Sunday **October 6<sup>th</sup>** with a luncheon at a neighborhood restaurant, after the Liturgy. All sisters are invited to attend. Please notify Maribeth Romanofsky or Mat. Holly Dawson if you would like to attend.

**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](mailto: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.

**Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross:**

The Elevation of the Cross, (or Exaltation of the Life-Giving Cross), celebrated on the fourteenth of September, commemorates the finding of Christ's Cross by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine in the fourth century; and, after it was taken by the Persians, of its recovery by the Emperor Heraclius in the seventh century at which time it was "elevated" in the Church of the Resurrection in Jerusalem. From this latter event the "universal elevation" of the Cross was celebrated annually in all of the churches of the Christian Empire.

At the Elevation of the Cross the Christians make their official rededication to the crucified Lord and pledge their undivided allegiance to him by the adoration of his holy feet nailed to the life creating Cross. This is the meaning of this holy day of fasting and repentance in the Church today.

*Before the Cross,  
we bow down in worship, O Master,  
and Thy holy resurrection, we glorify*  
(Hymn of Veneration before the Cross).

*As You were voluntarily raised upon the cross for our sake,  
grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God;  
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power,  
granting them victories over their adversaries,  
by bestowing on them the Invincible trophy, Your weapon of Peace.*  
Kontakion – Tone 4

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

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2024/09/15>

**Please check the website of our Diocese: [nynjoca.org/](http://nynjoca.org/).**  
**and the website of the Orthodox Church in America: [www.oca.org/](http://www.oca.org/)**  
**See us on the web at: [ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin](http://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: [searbks1@verizon.net](mailto:searbks1@verizon.net)

Phone: 856-227-6915

**Dn. Edward Dawson**

Attached Deacon



**Glory to  
Jesus Christ**

**Glory  
forever**

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross

*O Lord, save Your people,  
and bless Your inheritance.  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries.  
And by virtue of Your Cross,  
preserve Your habitation.*

Tone 1 – Troparion

**September 15, 2024**

**Today the Church remembers:**

**Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross • Sunday after Elevation •** Greatmartyr Niketas (Nikita) the Goth (ca. 372) • Uncovering of the Relics of St. Acacius, Bishop of Melitene (3<sup>rd</sup> c.) • Martyrs Theodotus, Asclepiodotus, and Maximus, of Adrianopolis (305-311) • Martyr Porphyrius the Actor (361) • Uncovering of the Relics of the Holy Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen (415) • St. Philotheus the Presbyter, in Asia Minor (10<sup>th</sup> c.) • Ven. Joseph, Abbot, of Alaverdsk in Georgia (570) • St. Joseph the New of Partos, Metropolitan of Timisoara (1656)

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 3 of the Octoechos