

The bulletin is sponsored this week for:**For the memory of:**

Mary Kuzemchak, mother of Bill, offered by her family.

Readings: **I Corinthians 1:18-24** (*Exaltation of the Precious Cross – 9/14*)
I Corinthians 16:13-24 (*13th Sunday after Pentecost*)
Galatians 2:16-20 (*Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross*)
John 19:6-11; 13-20; 25-28; 30-35 (*Exaltation of the Precious Cross – 9/14*)
Matthew 21:33-42 (*13th Sunday after Pentecost*)
Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 (*Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross*)

Brethren, the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart.” Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

At that time, the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, “Crucify him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no crime in him.” The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God.” When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to him, “You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?” Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore he who delivered me to you has the greater sin.”

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Pavement, and in Hebrew, Gab’batha. Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” They cried out, “Away with him, away with him, crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew Gol’gotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read, “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.” Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

So the soldiers did this. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Mag’dalene. When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother!” And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home. After this Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfil the scripture), “I thirst.”

When Jesus had received the vinegar, he said, “It is finished”; and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the sabbath (for that sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth—that you also may believe.

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

Church School will begin on October 3rd. Parents who responded yes to the questionnaire should check their email for information on when their children’s classes will meet.

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.

Announcement:

- **The Holy Day of the Elevation of the Precious Cross (9/14), will be celebrated today, 9/19.** All music, Epistle and Gospel readings will be for the Elevation of the Precious Cross. We will also have the blessing of children at the beginning of their school year today.
- **Archbishop Michael** will be with us on Saturday, November 6th 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 (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.

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.

*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 more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/09/19>

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

Email us at: 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,

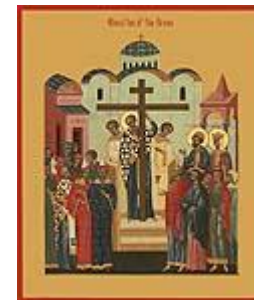
Temporary Rector

Email: docandrnl@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon



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.*

Troparion – Tone 1

Today the Church remembers:

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross • Sunday after Elevation • Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedon of Synnada (276) • Rt. Blv. Theodore, Prince of Smolensk and Yaroslavl’ (1299), and his children, Ss. David and Constantine. Martyr Zosimas, Hermit, of Cilicia (4th c.) • St. Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury (ca. 690)

September 19, 2021

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 4 of the Octoechos