Bulletin sponsors this week are for the:

Health of:

Michael, on his 28th birthday, offered with love from his wife Olivia.

Readings:	**II Corinthians 6:1-10** *(16th Sunday after Pentecost)* Galatians 2:16-20 *(Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross)* **Matthew 25:14-30** *(16th Sunday after Pentecost)* Mark 8:34-38; 9:1 *(Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross)*

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.

The Lord said this parable: "For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So

take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'

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

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, 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 meet after Communion each Sunday.

Announcements:

- **Tickets** for the **60th anniversary luncheon** at Villa Fazzolari restaurant are now on sale! The cost for a ticket is **$45** per person (age 12 and up). **Children**'s tickets are **$20**. (Eleven and under, ordering off the children's menu.) Please see **Tammy** Zimmerman **for tickets**.
- The **Sisterhood** will be celebrating their **feast day** on **Sunday October 4th** with a **luncheon** at the Mays Landing diner after Divine Liturgy. **All women** of the parish **are invited to attend**. You do not need to be a Sisterhood member to attend the luncheon. Please **notify Maribeth** Romanofsky **today, September 20th** if you would like to attend.
- There will be a **meeting of the Parish Council** today, September 20th, right after the Liturgy.

Reminders:

- We celebrate **Great Vespers every Saturday evening at 6:30 PM.**
- The Sisterhood's **food drive is ongoing.** Please be generous with your donations. Collection bins are located both downstairs and in the back of
- **Thank you to everyone who has been donating to our parish.** There is a basket at the candle stand to accept donations. Also, **a Venmo account** can be used for donations at https://venmo.com/u/Hala-Dawson.
- **Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin**, should be submitted by email to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org by the Friday before the date needed.
- **Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers**. And please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East.

- **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:

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

Greatmartyr Eustathius (Eustace) Placidas, his wife, Martyr Theopistes, and their children:

Your holy martyr Eustathius and his wife and sons, O Lord,
through their sufferings have received incorruptible crown from You,
our God.
For having Your strength, they laid low their adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.
Through their intercession, save our souls!

Tone 4 Troparion (St. Eustathius)

Having openly imitated the Passion of Christ,
and having eagerly drunk of His cup, O Eustathius,
you became a partaker and fellow-heir of His glory,
receiving divine forgiveness from on high from the God of all.

Tone 2 Kontakion (St. Eustathius)

To read about the saints remembered today, see:
https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2026/09/20

Please check the website of our Diocese: nynjoca.org/.
And the website of the Orthodox Church in America: www.oca.org/
See our Website at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org
See our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog
Email us at: bulletin@churchmotherofgod.org

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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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 20, 2026

Today the Church remembers:

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross • Greatmartyr Niketas (Nikita) the Goth (ca. 372) • Uncovering of the Relics of St. Acacius, Bishop of Melitene (3rd 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 (10th c.) • Ven. Joseph, Abbot, of Alaverdsk in Georgia (570) • St. Joseph the New of Partos, Metropolitan of Timisoara (1656)

16th Sunday after Pentecost Tone 7 of the Octoechos