

(There are no sponsors of today's bulletin.)

Readings:

- **Corinthians 6:16-7:1**
- **Luke 6:31-36**

BRETHREN, what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain.

The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

Saturday service: Vespers – 6:PM

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM **Divine Liturgy** – 10:00 AM
(Private Confession – Half hour before any service. Please don't delay the service.)
(General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)
(Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School – 9:30 AM

No Church School on the first Sunday of each month.

Coffee hour - after Liturgy

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

Announcements:

- **There will be a meeting of the Parish Council** today after coffee hour.
- **Church School has begun** for the school. Classes are for children from pre-K through Grade 8. If you have any questions please see Maribeth Romanofsky or Linda Dantine.
- **On Monday, October 1, 2012, His Grace, Bishop Michael will celebrate a special Service of Thanksgiving marking the 60th Anniversary of the priestly ordination of Fr. Daniel Hubiak.** The service will take place at 1:00 p.m. at Saints Peter and Paul Church, Jersey City, NJ. A reception in the church hall will follow. All clergy colleagues, former parishioners, family and friends of Father Daniel and Matushka Dunia are cordially invited to attend the celebration. Those planning to attend are invited to contact Archpriest Joseph Lickwar at jlickwar@verizon.net.
- **The Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God will celebrate their feast day on Sunday Oct. 7th with a potluck luncheon after the liturgy.** The cost of the luncheon will be \$5.00 each. Church school students and those under 12 are free. Sisterhood members should see the sign up sheet posted downstairs to let us know what they are planning to bring.
- **Our Parish Anniversary Dinner will be held on Sunday November 11th.** More information will be forthcoming.

Reminder:

- Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the signup sheet at the candle stand.
 Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary:

On **October 1st**, the Church celebrates *The Protection of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary*. This holiday was established in the 12th century by the Russian Church, although the historical basis for it was the defeat of their Russian forebears as they attacked the capital of Byzantium, Constantinople, which was saved through the intercession of the Theotokos. (Celebrated on October 28 in the Greek tradition.)

The Russian Church celebrates an event which occurred in ancient times and in a foreign land - the faraway Greek city of Constantinople, more than 1000 years ago. The event took place in the Vlakherna church, in the presence of a multitude of people, although it was seen only by two - the blessed fool-for-Christ Andrew and his disciple Epiphanius. Both of them saw the Queen of heaven and earth appear in the church, praying for the world and all the people, and blessing the faithful with her most-holy covering.

In the great city of Constantinople St. Andrew seemed to be poor and base-born. However, under the cover of oddity he concealed from everyone his shining spirit and his grace filled wisdom. St. Andrew was a Slav by birth and as a child was sold into slavery.

Beloved by his master, he received an excellent education and showed particular aptitude for reading and writing; as a result he was given the honorable position of scribe. However, his innate wisdom impelled him to shun earthly honors and immerse himself in spiritual contemplation. Following his inner impulse, he left the world under the guise of madness, concealing his great spiritual gifts under beggar's rags, and took upon himself the spiritual feat of foolishness-for-Christ, along with the labors of fasting, poverty, homelessness and constant prayer. It was this fool-for-Christ whom the Mother of God chose to witness Her coming to the Vlakherna church. She chose neither the patriarch, nor a bishop, nor a clergyman or monastic; She chose neither the king or his nobles, nor any of the wise and learned men for whom Byzantium was famous; nor did She choose any of the city's prominent citizens. Instead, the Holy Theotokos chose the fool-for-Christ Andrew, and granted him the grace of witnessing, together with his pious disciple Epiphanius, the great and awesome vision.

This happened at the end of blessed Andrew's life. While attending an all-night vigil at Vlakherna, in the early hours of the morning he saw the Mother of God enter the church through the royal doors, surrounded by a host of angels and a multitude of saints, supported by Saint John the Baptist and the holy apostle John the Theologian.

As the Theotokos approached the ambo, Saint Andrew asked Epiphanius: **"Do you see the Mistress and Queen of the world?"** To which the latter tremblingly replied: **"I see, father, and I am awed."** After praying for a while, the Most-pure took off Her head covering, which glittered like lightning, and spread it over the people.

In celebrating this feast, the Church commemorates the great and joyous revelation of the divine protection which is spread over the world, the Mother of God's great love for mankind. For not only in the Vlakherna church did the Theotokos tearfully pray a thousand years ago, but She prays for us always until the end of time. And Her venerable covering was spread not only over the faithful who were present in church at that time, but over the entire world, over all of mankind, and over all of us, sinners, shines the saving Protection of the Mother of God.

The world has not been abandoned in its sorrow; man is not alone in his grief: for us, and together with us, grieves the Holy Virgin. Yes, we know that we are great sinners, but we also know that we have not been forgotten by the Mother of God, to Whom each human soul is precious. Can there be any greater comfort? Throughout the ages the joy of the Holy Virgin's Protection shines in the hearts of the faithful, the joy of Her prayer for the world.

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

E-Mail us at: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

Sunday Bulletin

Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

Very Reverend Daniel Hubiak,
Temporary Rector



Glory to Jesus
Christ

Glory
Forever

Protection of the Most Holy
Theotokos

*Today the Virgin stands in the midst of the Church
and with choirs of saints she invisibly prays to God for us.
Angels and bishops worship,
apostles and prophets rejoice together,
since for our sake she prays to the pre-eternal God.*

Troparion -

Today the Church remembers:

Hieromartyr Gregory, Bishop of Greater Armenia (ca. 335) • Ven. Gregory, Abbot of Pelshme, Wonderworker of Vologdá (1442) • St. Michael, First Metropolitan of Kiev (992) • Martyrs Rhipsime, Gaiana and 35 holy virgins with them, of Armenia (4th c.)

September 30, 2012 - Bulletin

Tone 8 of the Octoechos

17th Sunday After Pentecost
2nd Sunday of Luke