

Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**For the health of:**

Julean on his 8th birthday, offered by his family.

Robert Hartzel, Joe's father, on his 86th birthday. Offered by the Hartzel family.

For the memory of:

Elena Wolff, offered by the Sisterhood of the Protection of the Mother of God

Readings:

Galatians 6:11-18 (*Sunday before the Elevation*)

Philippians 2:5-11 (*Most-Holy Theotokos*)

I Corinthians 15:1-11 (*12th Sunday after Pentecost*)

John 3:13-17 (*Sunday before the Elevation*)

Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (*Most-Holy Theotokos*)

Matthew 19:16-26 (*12th 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."

Saturday service:

Vespers – 6:30 PM

(**Private Confession** – After Vespers by appointment.)

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

(**General Confession** – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)

(**Pannikhidas** – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School

Church School will begin on October 6th. All classes will meet every Sunday.

New schedule:

Grades 4-8 – 9:30 am

Preschool and Grades K through 3 – immediately after communion.

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

Announcements:

- The parish is happy to announce that His Eminence, **Archbishop Michael will visit our parish Saturday, September 28th for Vespers at 6:30 pm and on Sunday September 29th for Divine Liturgy.** During the Sunday Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, Archbishop Michael will ordain Subdeacon Edward Dawson to the Holy Diaconate.
- **After Vespers on September 28th, a light supper will be served in our community room.** Everyone planning on attending the supper is asked to RSVP as soon as possible by signing up on the sheet at the candle stand.
- **On Sunday September 29th we will be celebrating after the Liturgy with a luncheon at Cousin Mario's restaurant in Mays Landing.** Tickets for the luncheon are \$25 per person, \$11 for children 6 through 9, children 5 and under are free. **All tickets need to be purchased by September 22nd.** **No tickets will be sold at the door.** Please see Tammy Zimmerman or Linda Dantine for tickets.

Reminders:

- 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.

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2019/9/8>

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born at a time when people had reached such a degree of moral decay that it seemed altogether impossible to restore them. People often said that God must come into the world to restore faith and not permit the ruin of mankind. The Son of God chose to take on human nature for the salvation of mankind, and chose as His Mother the All-Pure Virgin Mary, who alone was worthy to give birth to the Source of purity and holiness.

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary is celebrated by the Church as a day of universal joy. Within the context of the Old and the New Testaments, the Most Blessed Virgin Mary was born on this radiant day, having been chosen before the ages by Divine Providence to bring about the Mystery of the Incarnation of the Word of God. She is revealed as the Mother of the Savior of the World, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Most Holy Virgin Mary was born in the small city of Galilee, Nazareth. Her parents were Righteous Joachim of the tribe of the Prophet-King David, and Anna from the tribe of the First Priest Aaron. The couple was without child, since St Anna was barren.

Having reached old age, Joachim and Anna did not lose hope in God's mercy. They had strong faith that for God everything is possible, and that He would be able to overcome the barrenness of Anna even in her old age, as He had once overcome the barrenness of Sarah, spouse of the Patriarch Abraham. Sts Joachim and Anna vowed to dedicate the child which the Lord might give them, to the service of God in the Temple.

Childlessness was considered among the Hebrew nation as a Divine punishment for sin, and therefore the righteous Sts Joachim and Anna had to endure abuse from their own countrymen. On one of the feastdays at the Temple in Jerusalem the elderly Joachim brought his sacrifice to offer to God, but the High Priest would not accept it, considering him to be unworthy since he was childless.

St Joachim in deep grief went into the wilderness, and there he prayed with tears to the Lord for a child. St Anna wept bitterly when she learned what had happened at the Jerusalem Temple. Never once did she complain against the Lord, but rather she prayed to ask God's mercy on her family. The Lord fulfilled her petitions when the pious couple had attained to extreme old age and prepared themselves by virtuous life for a sublime calling: to be the parents of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, the future Mother of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Archangel Gabriel brought Joachim and Anna the joyous message that their prayers were heard by God, and of them would be born a most blessed daughter Mary, through Whom would come the Salvation of all the World The Most Holy Virgin Mary surpassed in purity and virtue not only all mankind, but also the angels. She was manifest as the living Temple of God, so the Church sings in its festal hymns: "the East Gate... bringing Christ into the world for the salvation of our souls" (2nd Stikhera on "Lord, I Have Cried", Tone 6)

The Nativity of the Theotokos marks the change of the times when the great and comforting promises of God for the salvation of the human race from slavery to the devil are about to be fulfilled. This event has brought to earth the grace of the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of Truth, piety, virtue and everlasting life. The Theotokos is revealed to all of us by grace as a merciful Intercessor and Mother, to Whom we have recourse with filial devotion.

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

See us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog

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Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

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Glory to Jesus
Christ

Glory
Forever

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

*Your Nativity, O Virgin,
Has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God,
Has shone from You, O Theotokos!
By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing.
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal Life.*

Troparion – Tone 4

Today the Church remembers:

The Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary • Sunday before Elevation • Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos: “KURSK-ROOT” Icon of the Sign (1259), “POCHAEV” (1559), “KHOLMSK”, and others.

September 8, 2019

12th SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

Tone 3 of the Octoechos