

Bulletin sponsors this week are for the:**Health of:**

Sandra on her birthday, offered by Linda Dantinne

Maribeth Romanofsky, on her birthday, offered with love by her family.

Memory of:

Aunt **Jean**, offered by Linda Dantinne

Readings:

Colossians 3:4-11 (*2 Sundays before the Nativity, Sunday of the Holy Ancestors of Christ*)

Luke 14:16-24 (*Sunday of the Holy Ancestors of Christ*)

BRETHREN, when Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away; anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

The Lord said this parable: “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time of the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I must go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and there is still room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet. For many are called, but few are chosen.’”

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, 3 rd 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 every Sunday.

Please see your child's teacher for meeting times.

Announcements:

- A special thank you to **Tammy Zimmerman, Nicholas Zimmerman, Linda Dantinne, and Mat. Barbara Searfoorce** for putting together a wonderful **St. Nicolas Day program!** The children thoroughly enjoyed it, as did the rest of the parish!
- Service for the **Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Flesh** will be celebrated on **Thursday, December 25th at 10 AM.**
- The next meeting of the **parish council** will be on **Sunday, January 11th**, after coffee hour.
- **On Sunday February 8th, we will have our annual parish meeting after Divine Liturgy.** The annual meeting of the parishioners is for the election of the Parish Council and its officers, reports by the Rector and Council members, and for other business.

Reminders:

- While thinking about **Christmas gifts this year, please consider religious and imported items from our parish store.** Items available for purchase can be viewed in the case downstairs. If you are interested in purchasing an item, please see Mat. Holly Dawson or Linda Dantinne.
- The **Parish Council** has created a special fund for a **parish rectory.** Please **mark any donations** for this important fund with the designation “**Rectory**”.
- **The Sisterhood's food drive is ongoing.** Please be generous with your donations as many people experience food insecurity at this time of year. Collection bins are located both downstairs and in the back of the church. Thank you for your donations!
- **Please remember the citizens of Ukraine in your prayers.** And please continue to pray for peace in the Middle East.
- Bulletin sponsors, prayer requests, or announcements for the bulletin should be **submitted by email to:** bulletin@churchmotherofgod.org
- Thank you to everyone who has been donating to our parish. There is a donation basket at the candle stand. Also, a **Venmo account** can be used for donations. It is at <https://venmo.com/u/Hala-Dawson> .

- **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.

Sunday of the Forefathers:

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).

*You did not worship the graven image,
O thrice-blessed youths,
but shielded by the ineffable Essence,
you were glorified in your trial by fire.
In the midst of the unbearable fire you called upon God, crying:
"Hasten, O compassionate One.
and in Your mercy, come to our aid,
for You can do so if You will."*

Kontakion — Tone 6

To read about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2025/12/14>

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"

115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searfoorce

Temporary Rector

Email: searbks1@verizon.net

Phone: 856-227-6915

Dn. Edward Dawson

Attached Deacon

Email: njdawsons@comcast.net

Phone: 609-335-6130



Sunday of the Forefathers

*Glory to
Jesus Christ*

*Glory
Forever*

*By faith You justified the Forefathers,
when through them You betrothed Yourself beforehand to the Church of the Gentiles.
The saints boast in glory,
that from their seed there is a glorious fruit:
she who bore You without seed.
By their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.*

Tone 2 — Troparion

December 14, 2025

Today the Church remembers:

Sunday of the Forefathers • Martyrs Thyrsos, Leukios, and Kallinikos (249-51) •
Martyrs Philemon, Apollonios, Arrian, and Theonas of Alexandria (286-287)

27th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of the Forefathers

Tone 2 of the [Octoechos](#)
Nativity Fast