

The Dormition of the Theotokos

August 15

Services:

At St Philip Church

Monday, August 14, 2017

6:00 pm - Vespers & Artoklasia

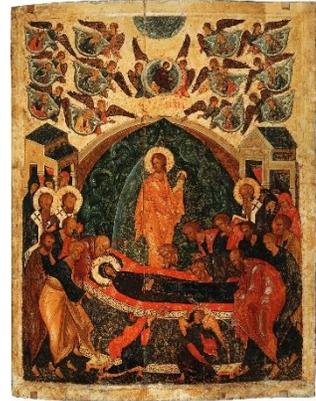
7:00 pm - Orthros

8:00 pm - Blessing of Herbs & Flowers

Tuesday, August 15, 2017

10:00 am - Divine Liturgy

11:30 am - Blessing of Herbs & Flowers



Scripture readings:

Lk 1:39-46, 56; Phil 2:5-11;

Lk 10:38-42, 11:27-28

The Synaxarion:

On August 15 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the venerable Dormition and Translation of our supremely glorious Lady the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary.

Verses:

That the world-saving Maiden died is no marvel,
Since, after the flesh, the world's Maker died also.
God's Mother liveth forever, though she died on the fifteenth.

The Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and revealed to her that within three days she will find repose. She returned to her home with great joy, desiring in her heart once more to see in this life, all of the Apostles of Christ. The Lord fulfilled her wish and all of the Apostles, borne by angels in the clouds, gathered at the same time at the home of John on Zion. After seeing them, the Theotokos peacefully gave up her soul to God without any pain or physical illness. The Apostles took the coffin with her body from which an aromatic fragrance emitted and, in the company of many Christians, bore it to the Garden of Gethsemane to the sepulcher of her parents, Saints Joachim and Anna. Only the Apostle Thomas was absent, according to God's Providence, in order that a new and all-glorious mystery of the Holy Theotokos would again be revealed. On the third day, Thomas arrived and desired to venerate the body of the Holy All-pure one. But when the Apostles opened the sepulcher, they found only the winding sheet and the body was not in the tomb. That evening, the Theotokos appeared to the apostles surrounded by a myriad of angels and said to them: "Rejoice, I will be with you always." By the intercessions of the Theotokos, O God, have mercy on us and save us, since Thou art good and the Lover of mankind. Amen.

Apolytikion of the Dormition (Tone One)

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Kontakion (Tone Two)

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, who is never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But being the Mother of Life, He Who dwelt in her ever-Virgin womb did translate her to life.

Doxasticon (Tone Six)

Verily, the clouds, O Theotokos, Mother of Life, at thy death-free falling-asleep, caught up the Apostles into the sky; and after they were all dispersed throughout the world gathered them into one rank beside thy pure body, which, when they had reverently laid it away, they sang with the tone of Gabriel, saying: Rejoice, O full of grace, the groomless virgin Mother, the Lord is with thee. With them, therefore, beseech thou Him, for He is thy Son and our God, to save our souls.

More Resources:

<http://antiochian.org/dormition> (includes links to more resources)

<https://www.goarch.org/dormition>

How to Celebrate the Feast:

Invite a friend to church.

A festal meal.

Sing the festal Troparion: "In thy birthgiving, O Theotokos"

Give Alms. Help someone. Be bold in generosity!

Use the appropriate Feast Day Greeting (or response) when meeting others

Visit relatives, friends and neighbors (especially those in assisted living, who are homebound, or in the hospital)

Bring flowers, herbs, candles, etc. for blessing when appointed and distribute to your family and those you visit.

Listen to an AncientFaith.com podcast on the Dormition.

Have an extended amount of prayerful silence with the Jesus Prayer.