

Sunday, August 15
Dormition of the Mother of God
12th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday Tropar, tone 3: Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice, * for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm. * He trampled death by death; He became the first born of the dead; * He saved us from the abyss of Hades * and granted great mercy to the world.

Feastday Tropar, tone 1: O Mother of God, in giving birth you still preserved virginity; * and in your falling asleep you did not forsake the world. * You are the Mother of Life and have been transferred to life, * and through your prayers have delivered our souls from death.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen!

Feastday Kondak, tone 2: The grave and death did not detain the Mother of God. * She prays perpetually and is our unfailing hope of intercession; * for He who dwelt in the womb of the ever-Virgin, * transferred to life the Mother of Life.

Prokimen, tone 3: Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

Verse: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy.

Epistle: 1st Corinthians 15: 1-11

Brothers and Sisters! I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and in which you stand firm. You are being saved by it at this very moment if you hold fast to it as I preached it to you. Otherwise you have believed in vain. I handed on to you first of all what I myself received that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried and, in accordance with the Scriptures, rose on the third day; that he was seen by Cephas, then by the Twelve. After that he was seen by five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still alive, although some have fallen asleep. Next he was seen by James; then by all the apostles. Last of all he was seen by me, as one born out of the normal course. I am the least of the apostles; in fact, because I persecuted the church of God, I do not even deserve the name. But by God's favor I am what I am. This favor of his to me has not proved fruitless. Indeed, I have worked harder than all the others, not on my own but through the favor of God. In any case, whether it be I or they, this what we preach and this what you believed.

Alleluia Verses: In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame for ever.

Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me.

Gospel: Matthew 19: 16-26

At that time a young man came up to him and said, "Teacher, what good must I do to possess everlasting life?" He answered, "Why do you question me about what is good? There is One who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." "Which ones?" he asked. Jesus replied, "'You shall not kill'; 'You shall not commit adultery'; 'You shall not steal'; 'You shall not bear false witness'; 'Honor your father and your mother'; and 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'" The young man said to him, "I have kept all these; what do I need to do further?" Jesus told him, "If you seek perfection, go, sell your possessions, and give to the poor. You will then have treasure in heaven. Afterward, come back and follow me." Hearing these words, the young man went away sad, for his possessions were many. Jesus said to his disciples, "I assure you, only with difficulty will a rich man enter into the kingdom of God. I repeat what I said: it is easier for a camel to pass through a needle's eye than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this they were completely overwhelmed, and exclaimed, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For man it is impossible; but for God all things are possible."

Instead of 'It is truly right...': Seeing the Dormition of the Most Pure One, * the angels were filled with awe at how the Virgin went from earth to heaven. * In you, O pure Virgin, * the laws of nature were overcome: * in giving birth you remained a virgin, * and in your death, heralded life. * You remained a virgin after giving birth * and remained alive after death, * always saving your descendants, * O Mother of God.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest.

I will take the chalice of salvation; and I will call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!