

Sunday, August 22
13th Sunday after Pentecost
Post-feast of Dormition of the Mother of God

Sunday Tropar, tone 4: When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the glorious news of the resurrection * and cast off the ancestral condemnation, * they proudly told the apostles: * "Death has been plundered! Christ our God is risen * granting to the world great mercy."

Feast day 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 forever and ever. Amen!

Sunday Kondak, tone 4: My Saviour and Deliverer * from the grave as God has raised out of bondage the children of earth * and shattered the gates of Hades; * and as Master, He rose on the third day.

Prokimen, tone 4: How great are Your works, O Lord: You have made all things in wisdom.

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great.

Epistle: 1st Corinthians 16: 13-24

Brothers and Sisters! Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, and act like men. In a word, be strong. Do everything with love. You know that the household of Stephanas is the first fruits of Achaia and is devoted to the service of the saints. I urge you to serve under such men and under everyone who cooperates and toils with them. I was very happy at the arrival of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, because they made up for your absence. They have refreshed my spirit as they did yours. You should recognize the worth of such men. The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the assembly that meets in their house, send you cordial greetings in the Lord. All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. It is I, Paul, who send you this greeting in my own hand. If anyone does not love the Lord, let a curse be upon him. O Lord, Come! The favour of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia Verses: Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice.

You have loved justice and hated iniquity.

Gospel: Matthew 21: 33 - 42

At that time the Lord told this parable: "There was a property owner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug out a vat, and erected a tower. Then he leased it out to tenant farmers and went on a journey. When vintage time arrived he dispatched his slaves to the tenants to obtain his share of the grapes. The tenants responded by seizing the slaves. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. A second time he dispatched even more slaves than before, but they treated them the same way. Finally he sent his son to them thinking, 'They will respect my son.' When they saw the son, the tenants said to one another, 'Here is the one who will inherit everything. Let us kill him and then we shall have his inheritance!' With that they seized him, dragged him outside the vineyard, and killed him. What do you suppose the owner of the vineyard will do to those tenants when he comes?" They replied, "He will bring the wicked crowd to a bad end and lease his vineyard out to others who will see to it that he has grapes at vintage time." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'The stone which the builders rejected has become the keystone of the structure. It was the Lord who did this and we find it marvelous to behold?'"

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!