

AUGUST 15

The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

"Lord I Call..." Tone 1

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Hear me, O Lord!

Lord, I call upon You, hear me!

Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon You!//

Hear me, O Lord!

Let my prayer arise
in Your sight as incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands
be an evening sacrifice!//
Hear me, O Lord!

v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your Name!

v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for You will deal bountifully with me.

v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to You, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

v. (7) Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

v. (6) If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You.

v. (5) For Your Name's sake I wait for You, O Lord. My soul has waited for Your word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

v. (4) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

v. (3) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is plenteous redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.

Tone 1* *Automelon*

Oh, the marvelous wonder!

The source of Life is laid in a grave,

and the tomb becomes a ladder to heaven.

Rejoice, Gethsemane, holy shrine of the Theotokos!

Let us, the faithful, cry out with Gabriel as our captain:

"Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you,//

He that grants the world great mercy through you!"

v. (2) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

* Music for the Feast of Dormition from the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations can be downloaded at www.oca.org.

Oh, the wonder of your mysteries, pure Lady:
you were made the throne of the Most High,
and today you have passed from earth to heaven.
Your glory is full of splendor, shining with grace in divine brightness.
Virgins, be raised to the heights with the Mother of the King!
Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!

v. (1) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

The Dominions and Thrones, the Rulers, Principalities and Powers,
the Cherubim and fearsome Seraphim, glorify your falling asleep.
All those born of earth rejoice,
adorned with honor by your divine glory.
Kings fall down and sing with the Archangels and Angels:
“Rejoice, O full of grace, the Lord is with you, //
He that grants the world great mercy through you!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 1*

By the divine command the God-bearing Apostles
were caught up by clouds from every place.
When they came to your all-pure body, the source of Life,
they kissed it most reverently.
The highest Powers of heaven were also present with their Master,
and seized with awe they escorted the inviolate body,
the body that had received God in the flesh.
In a manner beyond this world they went before it and invisibly cried out to the
ranks above them:
“Behold, the Queen of all,
the Child of God, has come!
Lift up your gates, and in a manner beyond this world
receive the Mother of the everlasting Light,
for through her was accomplished the salvation of all the mortal race!
We cannot gaze upon her,
nor is it possible to render honor worthy of her,
for her excellence surpasses all understanding.”
Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos,
who live forever with your Son, the life-bearing King,
pray ceaselessly to Him to preserve the new people of God,

and to save them from every hostile assault,
for we have acquired your intercession,//
and to the ages, in manifest splendor, we call you blessed.

Old Testament Readings

Genesis 28:10-17

Ezekiel 43:27-44:4

Proverbs 9:1-11

** In traditional Orthodox chant, the sticheron sung at "Glory...now and ever..." on "Lord, I call" is separated into eight phrases so that the text can be sung using melodic patterns from all eight tones.*

(Tone 1)

By the divine command
the God-bearing Apostles were caught up by clouds from every place.

(Tone 5)

When they came to your all-pure body, the source of Life, they kissed it most reverently.

(Tone 2)

The highest Powers of heaven were also present with their Master,

(Tone 6)

and, seized with awe, they escorted the inviolate body,
the body that had received God in the flesh.

In a manner beyond this world they went before it and invisibly cried out to the ranks above them:

"Behold, the Queen of all and Child of God has come!

(Tone 3)

Lift up your gates, and in a manner beyond this world receive the Mother of the everlasting Light,

(Tone 7)

for through her was accomplished the salvation of all the mortal race!

We cannot gaze upon her,

nor is it possible to render honor worthy of her,

(Tone 4)

for her excellence surpasses all understanding."

(Tone 8)

Therefore, O immaculate Theotokos, who live forever with your Son, the life-bearing King,

pray ceaselessly to Him to preserve the new people of God,

and to save them from every hostile assault,

for we have acquired your intercession,//

(Tone 1)

and to the ages, in manifest splendor, we call you blessed.

Litya

Tone 1 *Idiomela*

It was right that the eye-witnesses and ministers of the Word should see the Dormition of His Mother according to the flesh: the final mystery concerning her; so that they might be witnesses not only to the Ascension of the Savior, but also to the translation of her who gave Him birth. Assembled from all parts of the earth by divine power, they came to Zion, and sent forth to heaven the Virgin, who is higher than the Cherubim.// We also venerate her, for she prays for our souls.

Tone 2 *(by Anatolius)*

She who is higher than the heavens and more glorious than the Cherubim, she who is held in greater honor than all creation, she who by reason of her surpassing purity became the vessel of the everlasting Essence, today commends her most pure soul into the hands of her Son.// With her all things are filled with joy, and she bestows great mercy on us.

Tone 2 *(by John)*

The spotless Bride, the Mother of Him in Whom the Father was well pleased, she who was preordained by God to be the dwelling place of His union of two natures without confusion, today delivers her blameless soul to her Creator and her God. The spiritual powers receive her with the honors due to God, and she who is truly the Mother of Life departs to life, the lamp of the unapproachable Light// the salvation of the faithful and hope of our souls.

Tone 3 *(by Germanus)*

Come, all you ends of the earth, let us praise the most holy translation of the Mother of God; for she has placed her spotless soul into the hands of her Son! Therefore the world, restored to life by her holy Dormition, in radiant joy celebrates this feast with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs// together with the Angels and the Apostles.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 5 *(by Theophanes)*

Come, all who love to keep the feasts,
come, let us form a choir!
Come, let us crown the Church with songs, as the Ark of God goes to her rest!
For today heaven is opened wide,
as it receives the Mother of Him Who cannot be contained.
The earth, as it yields up the source of Life, is robed in blessing and majesty.
The hosts of Angels, present with the fellowship of the Apostles,
gaze in great fear at her who bore the Author of life,
now that she is translated from life to life.
Let us all venerate and implore her:
O Lady, forget not your ties of kinship//
with those who keep in faith the feast of your all-holy Dormition!

now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 5

Sing, O people! Sing the praises of the Mother of our God;
for today she delivers her soul, full of light,
into the hands of Him Who became incarnate of her without seed.
And she entreats Him without ceasing//
to grant the earth peace and great mercy.

Aposticha

Tone 4

Come, O people,
let us sing the praises of the pure and most holy Virgin,
from whom the Word of the Father ineffably came forth in the flesh!
Let us cry aloud and say:
"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the womb that contained Christ!
Having delivered your soul into His holy hands,//
O most pure one, entreat Him to save our souls!"

V. Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the Ark of Your sanctification! (Ps. 131:8)

O pure and most holy Virgin,
the multitude of Angels in heaven and mankind on earth
extol your venerable falling asleep and call it blessed,
for you have become the Mother of Christ, our God and Creator of all.
Never cease to intercede with Him on our behalf, we pray,
for next to God we have put our hope in you,//
O greatly-honored, unwedded Theotokos!

*V. The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back.
(Ps. 131:11a)*

Come, O peoples,
let us sing today to Christ our God a song of David!
As he says, “Virgins behind her shall be brought to the King.
They shall be brought with joy and gladness.”
For she, through whom we have been made godlike, is of the seed of David,
and gloriously and ineffably commends herself into the hands of her own Son
and Master.

Praising her as the Mother of God,
we cry out to her and say:
“Save us from all distress and deliver our souls from dangers,//
for we confess you to be the Theotokos!”

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Tone 4

At your departing, O Virgin Theotokos,
to Him Who was ineffably born of you,
James, the first bishop and brother of the Lord, was there,
and so was Peter, the most honored pinnacle of the theologians,
and the whole sacred choir of the Apostles.
In words of theology that showed forth heavenly things
they sang the praises of the divine and amazing mystery of the dispensation of
Christ,
and they rejoiced, O all-praised Virgin, as they buried your body,
the source of Life, which had received God.
On high, the all-holy and most venerable angelic Powers,
in amazement at the wonder, bowed and said to one another:
“Lift up your gates, and receive her who bore the Creator of heaven and earth!”
So we too celebrate your memory
and cry out to you, all-praised Lady://
“Raise up the horn of Christians, and save our souls!”

Tone 1 Troparion *(Feast)*

In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,//
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death. *(sung 3x)*

(at the Divine Liturgy)

Tone 1 Troparion

In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life, //
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

Tone 2 Kontakion

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.
For being the Mother of Life, //
she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Song of the Theotokos)*

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. *(Lk. 1:46-47)*

V. For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden, for behold, all generations will call me blessed. (Lk. 1:48)

Epistle
(240) Philippians 2:5-11

Tone 8
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the Ark of Your sanctification! (Ps. 131:8)

V. The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which He will not turn back. (Ps. 131:11a)

Gospel
(54) Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin,
were struck with wonder,
seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

The limits of nature are overcome in you, O Pure Virgin:
for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death;
a virgin after childbearing and alive after death,
you ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymn

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Hymns for the Dormition © 2008 The Orthodox Church in America. Permission is granted to duplicate for liturgical use only. All other rights reserved.