

Saintly Notes

Dormition of the Theotokos (August 15)

The Lord Who, on Mt. Sinai, commanded by His Fifth Commandment: "Honor your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:12), showed by His own example how one should respect one's parent. Hanging on the Cross in agony, He remembered His mother and indicating to the Apostle John, said to her: "Woman behold your son" (St. John 19:26). After that, He said to John: "Behold your mother" (St. John 19:27). And so providing for His mother, He breathed His last.

John had a home on Zion in Jerusalem in which the Theotokos settled and remained there to live out the end of her days on earth. By her prayers, gentle counsels, meekness and patience, she greatly assisted the apostles of her Son. Primarily, she spent her entire time in Jerusalem often visiting those places which reminded her of the great events and of the great works of her Son. She especially visited Golgotha, Bethlehem and the Mount of Olives. Of her distant journeys, her visit to St. Ignatius the Theophorus [God-bearer] in Antioch is mentioned, as well as her visit to Lazarus (whom our Lord resurrected on the fourth day), the Bishop of Cyprus, her visit to the Holy Mountain [Athos] which she blessed and her stay in Ephesus with St. John the Evangelist [The Theologian] during the time of the great persecution of Christians in Jerusalem.

In her old age, she often prayed to the Lord and her God on the Mount of Olives, the site of His Ascension, that He take her from this world as soon as possible. On one occasion, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her and revealed to her that within three days she will find repose. The angel gave her a palm-branch to be carried at the time of her funeral procession. 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. With great rejoicing, she saw the holy apostles, encouraged them, counseled them and comforted them. Following that, she 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 sepulchre of [her parents], Saints Joachim and Anna. By God's Providence, they were concealed from the evil Jews by a cloud. Anthony, a Jewish priest, grabbed the coffin with his hands with the intention of overturning it but, at that moment, an angel of God severed both his hands. He then cried out to the apostles for help and was healed since declaring his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

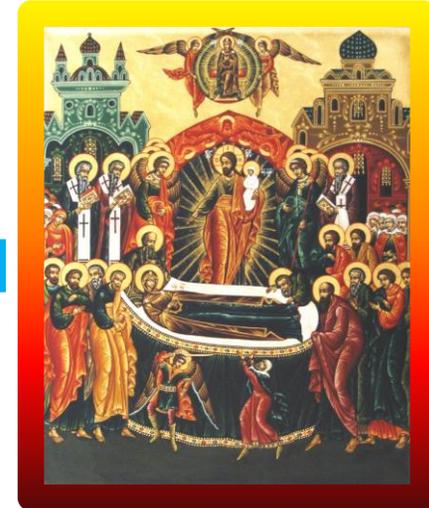
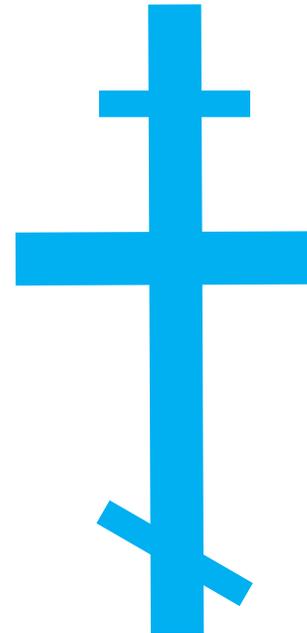
The Apostle Thomas was absent, again according to God's Providence, in order that a new and all-glorious mystery of the Holy Theotokos would again be revealed. On the third day, Thomas arrived and desired to venerate [kiss] the body of the Holy All-pure one. But when the apostles opened the sepulchre, 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". It is not exactly known how old the Theotokos was at the time of her Falling Asleep but the overwhelming opinion is that she was over sixty years of age.

(The Prologue from Ochrid)

Transfer of the Dormition of the Theotokos (9th Sunday after Pentecost)

August 14, 2011

Consecration of Our New Temple: Coming October 23, 2011



Transfer of The Dormition of the Theotokos

(9th Sunday after Pentecost)

All Saints Orthodox Church, Raleigh NC

(www.allsaintsnc.org)

919-859-1332

The V. Rev. Nicholas R. A. Sorensen, Archpriest

The Rev. David Keim, Deacon

August 14, 2011

This Week's Schedule

Today:	9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition
Mon:	Church Office Closed.
Tues:	7:00p Parish Council
Wed:	9:15a 3 rd Hour Prayers; 6:30p Vespers
Saturday:	1:00p Baptism Luke Wagoner; 5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday:	9:00a Orthros; 10:00a Divine Liturgy

First Antiphon

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Second Antiphon

Refrain: O Son of God, *Who art risen from the dead* save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Third Antiphon

(Tone 1)

Ready is my heart, O God, ready is my heart; I will sing and chant in my glory. What shall I render to the Lord for all that He hath given me? I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord.

Troparion of the Dormition (Tone 1): In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for living thou wast translated, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

Little Entrance

† *Entrance Hymn:* "Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ . . . Alleluia."

† *Resurrectional Troparion (Tone 8)*
From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

† *Troparion of the Dormition (Tone 1):*
(see above)

† *Kontakion for the Dormition (Tone 2):* 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.

The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty . . . Alleluia.

Scripture

for today and next Sunday

Today: (See insert)

Next Sunday:

Epistle: 1 Cor. 4:9-16

Gospel: Matt. 17:14-23

Agalynarion (Tone 1)

All generations bless thee, O thou only Theotokos.

In thee, O spotless Virgin, the laws of nature were suspended; for thy virginity was preserved in thy child-bearing, and Life is joined with death. Thou, O Theotokos, didst remain a Virgin after child-birth, and after death thou art still alive and dost ever deliver thy heritage.

Communion Hymn

(Tone 8)

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

Post-Communion

Hymn

We have seen the true light . . .

Parish Notes

Altar Servers Today

Matthew Wynne, Del Dillard, Noah Keim, Micah Keim, Roger Jones.

Special Attention

- **Vacations.** Please remember as you go on vacations and recreational outings this summer that worship of God is still possible and will make your vacation even more joyful. If you would like a list of Antiochian churches near your vacation spot please see Fr. Nicholas.
- **Summer Offerings.** It is sometimes true that our offerings go down during the summer months. The parish expenses however, remain the same. Please remember to faithfully send in your tithes and offerings for both the general fund and the building fund.

Pre-addressed envelopes are available in the narthex.

- **Consecration of Our Temple, Altar, and Iconostasis.** Plans for this very special and significant day in the life of our parish are currently being made. **Please mark the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd of October as an absolute "must attend."** We would like our entire membership and all our friends to be present.
- **We still have a need for donations to cover the last 6 Apostles and 6 of the Prophets (\$600 each). Once these are donated we will have the entire Iconostasis complete.**
- **Feast of the Dormition.** This year the Celebration of the Feast of the Dormition is transferred to this Sunday. There will be no services on the 15th.

Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

Prokeimenon:

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God
my Savior.

*He hath regarded the lowliness
of His servant.*

†Epistle: Phil. 2:5–11 (RSV)

Brethren, have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, Who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name which is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

†Gospel: Luke 10:38–42; 11:27–28 (RSV)

At that time, Jesus entered a certain village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His

teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Him and said, "Lord, dost Thou not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her." As He said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore Thee, and the breasts that Thou didst suck!" But He said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

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A Word
from Our Fathers

“JUST AS BIRDS fear the sight of
a hawk, those who practice
humility fear the sound
of an argument.”

“Because of our unwillingness to
humble ourselves, God has
arranged that no one can see his
own faults as clearly as his
neighbor does. Hence our
obligation to be grateful not to
ourselves but to our neighbor and
to God for our healing.”

“If pride turned some of the angels
into demons, then humility can
doubtless make angels out of
demons. So take heart,
all you sinners.”

(St. John Climacus)

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