

**Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:****For the health, of:**

**Paula** Dever on her birthday, offered by her mother Liz and children Maddi and Mya

**Mark** Dantinne on his birthday, offered with love by Godmother Tammy, Nicholas, and Elizabeth.

**For the eternal memory of:**

**Carol**, sister-in-law of Linda and Richard Dantinne

**Leon**, Uncle of Liz Pastore

**Readings:**

- 1 Corinthians 3:9-17
- Matthew 14:22-34

**BRETHREN**, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder. I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

**At that time**, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

**Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM****Sunday service:**

**Hours – 9:40 AM**

**Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**

**Private Confession – Half hour before any service.**

See Fr Matthew for other times.

**General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month**

**Pannikidas – after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month**

**Coffee hour – after Liturgy, downstairs in the Community Room  
(Church School has ended for the school year.)**

**We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy for Coffee hour.**

**Vespertal Liturgy**

- **The Feast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary** is on August 15<sup>th</sup>. We will have a Vespertal Liturgy for the Dormition on **Thursday evening, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM** with the traditional blessing of flowers.

**Announcements:**

- The next meeting of the Parish Council will be August 31<sup>st</sup> after coffee hour.

**Special Announcements:**

- **Any Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to:** [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)
- Volunteers are needed to clean the church. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, downstairs, to indicate when you can help.
- Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the sign-up sheet at the candle stand.

**St. Maximus says:** Do not lend your ear to the slanderer's tongue, nor your tongue to the fault-finder's ear by readily speaking or listening to anything against your neighbor. Otherwise you will fall away from Divine Love, and be found excluded from eternal life.

**Dormition of the Theotokos:** (Service will be on Thursday at 6:30 pm)

The feast of the **Dormition or Falling-asleep of the Theotokos** is celebrated on the **15<sup>th</sup> of August**, preceded by a two-week fast. This feast, which is also sometimes called the **Assumption**, commemorates the death, resurrection and glorification of Christ's mother. It proclaims that Mary has been "*assumed*" by God into the heavenly kingdom of Christ in the fullness of her spiritual and bodily existence.

As with the nativity of the Virgin and the feast of her entrance to the temple, there are no biblical or historical sources for this feast. The Tradition of the Church is that Mary died as all people die, not "*voluntarily*" as her Son, but by the necessity of her mortal human nature which is indivisibly bound up with the corruption of this world.

The Orthodox Church teaches that Mary is without personal sins. In the Gospel of the feast, however, in the liturgical services and in the Dormition icon, the Church proclaims as well that Mary truly needed to be saved by Christ as all human persons are saved from the trials, sufferings and death of this world; and that having truly died, she was raised up by her Son as the Mother of Life and participates already in the eternal life of paradise which is prepared and promised to all who "*hear the word of God and keep it.*"

*In giving birth, you preserved your virginity.*

*In failing 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.* (Troparion - Dormition)

At the Divine Liturgy we hear the letter to the Philippians where St. Paul speaks of the self-emptying of Christ who condescends to human servitude and ignoble death in order to be "*highly exalted*" by God his Father And in the Gospel that Mary's blessedness belongs to all who "*hear the word of God and keep it.*"

Thus, the feast of the **Dormition of the Theotokos** is the celebration of the fact that all men are "*highly exalted*" in the blessedness of the victorious Christ, and that this high exaltation has already been accomplished in Mary the Theotokos. The feast of the Dormition is the sign, the guarantee, and the celebration that Mary's fate is, the destiny of all those of "*low estate*" whose souls magnify the Lord, whose spirits rejoice in God the Saviour, whose lives are totally dedicated to hearing and keeping the Word of God which is given to men in Mary's child, the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

What happens to Mary happens to all who imitate her holy life of humility, obedience, and love. With her all people will be "*blessed*" to be "*more honorable than the cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim*" if they follow her example. In this sense everything that is praised and glorified in Mary is a sign of what is offered to all persons in the life of the Church. It is for this reason that Mary, with the divine child Jesus within her, is called in the Orthodox Tradition the **Image of the Church**. For the assembly of the saved is those in whom Christ dwells.

(The Orthodox Faith - V. Rev. Thomas Hopko)

See us on the web at: [ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin)

E-Mail us at: [Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org](mailto:Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org)

## Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

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Afterfeast of the  
Transfiguration

Glory to  
Jesus Christ

Glory  
Forever

*On the Mountain You were Transfigured, O Christ God,  
And Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they could see it;  
So that when they would behold You crucified,  
They would understand that Your suffering was voluntary,  
And would proclaim to the world,  
That You are truly the Radiance of the Father!*

Kontakion — Tone 7

**Today the Church remembers:**

**Afterfeast of the Transfiguration**

- Holy Martyr and Archdeacon Lawrence of Rome
- Hieromartyr Sixtus, Bishop of Rome
- Martyrs Felicissimus and Agapitus, Deacons (258)
- Blessed Lawrence, Fool-for-Christ, at Kaluga (1515).

**August 10, 2014**

**9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**Tone 8 of the Octoechos**

**(Dormition Fast)**