

(No Sponsors today)

Readings:

- 1 Corinthians 9:2-12 (today)
- Matthew 18:23-35 (today)
- **Philippians 2:5-11 (Theotokos)**
- **Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Theotokos)**

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.

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman called 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, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve you 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 you, and the breasts that you sucked!" But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!" (*For Theotokos*)

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to everyone of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." (*11th Sunday*)

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

Hours - 9:40 AM **Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**
 (Private Confession – Half hour before any service. Please don't delay the service.)
 (General Confession – 9 50 AM on the first Sunday of each month)
 (Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School – (will resume in the fall)**Coffee hour** - after Liturgy

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

Announcements:

- The feast day “**The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary**” was last Wednesday, August 15th.
- **The next meeting of the Parish Council will be August 26th**, after coffee hour.
- **The meeting of the Sisterhood** of the Protection of the Theotokos was postponed to **September 9th**.

Reminder:

- **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.
Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
- The **2012 Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors** program is underway. This is a way to: Support our diocesan seminarians, establish more mission parishes in our Diocese, and support existing parishes that need help. We ask that you help out by contributing directly by mail with a "**Vision for Our Future ~ DDB**" flyer, or online at the website: http://nynjoca.org/vision_for_future_2012.html

Dormition of the Theotokos:

The feast of the **Dormition or Falling-asleep of the Theotokos** is celebrated on the **15th 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

E-Mail us at: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

Sunday Bulletin

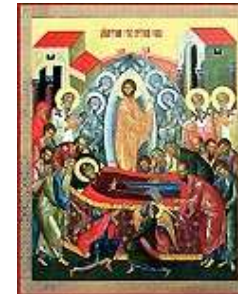
Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

115 Hudson St.

Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

**Very Reverend Daniel Hubiak,
Temporary Rector**



**Glory to
Jesus Christ**

**Glory
Forever**

Afterfeast of the Dormition

*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.*

Kontakion

On this day the Church remembers:

Afterfeast of the Dormition • Martyr Andrew Stratelates and those with him (2593 soldiers) in Cilicia (4th c.) • St. Pitirim, Bishop of Perm (1456) • Martyrs Timothy, Agapius, and Thecla, of Palestine (304-306) • Ven. Theophanes of Dochiariou (Mt. Athos—16th c.) • The "DONSKAYA" Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos (in commemoration of the deliverance of Moscow from the Tatars in 1591).

August 19, 2012 - Bulletin

Tone 2 of the Octoechos

11th Sunday After Pentecost