

places that were significant in the earthly life of Christ. Sacred tradition tells us that she spent much time praying on the Mount of Olives and in the Garden of Gethsemane, asking God to take her from this world and reunite her with her beloved Son.

One day, her prayers were answered. The Archangel Gabriel appeared to her, telling her that in three days, her earthly existence would come to an end. She received this news joyfully, and returned to John's home in Jerusalem, fervently hoping to see all of the apostles one final time.

God was to fulfill her desire. All of Christ's faithful followers, with the exception of Thomas, managed to be with her when she peacefully commended her soul into God's hands. She was buried in the Garden of Gethsemane near the tombs of her parents, Joachim and Anna.

Three days later, the Apostle Thomas arrived, wanting to pay his respects to the Theotokos. When the Virgin's tomb was opened, only the winding sheet was found. Her body was not there! Later that evening, the apostles had a vision of the Mother of God, surrounded by a multitude of angelic hosts. She left them with these words: "REJOICE, I WILL BE WITH YOU ALWAYS." This is why we continue to pray to her and ask her to intercede on our behalf.

The exact age of the Theotokos at the time of her falling asleep cannot be stated definitively. The popular belief, however, is she was at least 60 years of age.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

FEAST OF THE DORMITION



"REJOICE, I WILL BE WITH YOU ALWAYS"

One may wonder what became of the Theotokos after her Son ascended into heaven? We know that she was entrusted to the care of the Apostle John. The Book of Acts mentions her being with the apostles on the first Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of tongues of fire. Other than that, it is thought that she spent most of her time in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas, visiting the meaningful

ST. HARALAMBOS SUNDAY BULLETIN

August 15, 2021

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Orthros 9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy immediately following the Orthros.

*Father Basil Shaheen

Icon Flowers given in memory of Peter and Nikolitsa Pappakostas and Panayota Gallamis by Stacey Pappakostas.

The flower arrangements are in loving memory of our departed ones—
The Kellamis family

AUGUST SCHEDULE:

SUN Aug 15	Dormition of the Theotokos	9:00 am
*SUN Aug 22	9th Sunday of Matthew	9:00 am
*SUN Aug 29	Beheading of St. John the Baptist	9:00 am

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE:

WED Sept 1	Ecclesiastical Year	9:00 am
SUN Sept 5	11th Sunday of Matthew	9:00 am
WED Sept 8	Nativity of the Theotokos	9:00 am
SUN Sept 12	Sunday Before Holy Cross	9:00 am
TUE Sept 14	Holy Cross	9:00 am
SUN Sept 19	Sunday After Holy Cross	9:00 am
SUN Sept 26	Falling Asleep of St. John the Theologian	9:00 am

To all those who donated of their time, talent, and treasure, **THANK YOU** for making this first church community picnic a success! May God continue to bless our St. Haralambos family.

The Icon of the Theotokos depicted upon her funeral bier (the stand on which her body was placed)..

Christ

Standing behind the Theotokos is her Son, who has come to receive His Mother's soul into heaven. He holds in His left arm an infant in white, symbolizing the soul of the Theotokos. Christ also is robed in white and appears in an aureole depicting the Light of His divinity.

The Apostles

On either side of the bier stand the Apostles. The group on the left is led by Saint Peter who stands at the head of the bier. The group on the right is led by Saint Paul who stands at the foot of the bier.



And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

Luke 1:46,47



Time to volunteer for the 3rd Greekfest of the Summer. There are many opportunities to be helpful and we sure could use your help!

Call Linda at 330-495-8427

And don't forget to order your meals and pastries. The tent will still be up so feel free to pickup your meal and eat under the tent!

Order on-line:
cantongreekfest.com/drivethru

Or phone in your order at 330-454-7278

Philoptochos News

Membership meeting: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:00 pm, in the St. Haralambos Tri-Room.
The Board will meet at 5:30 pm.

*Please enter through the Courtyard Door from back parking lot.

We have not had a meeting since March 2020.... so let's get together and celebrate fellowship with our members. New members welcome too!
Refreshments will be served.

Looking forward to seeing you there and remember:

TOGETHER WE CAN DO GREAT THINGS!

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

PRAYER OF SINGLE PERSONS

Blessed Lord, you who have given us an example of ideal purity, strengthen me, I pray, when temptation assails me, and when strong passions seek to overwhelm me, that I may remain constant in virtue and innocent in thought, word, and deed, doing only those things that are pleasing to you. Grant me growth in wisdom and understanding, that I may serve you in holiness all the days of my life. Through the prayers of your all-pure Mother and of all your Saints. Amen.

PRAYER OF MARRIED PERSONS

Merciful God, remind us always that the married state is holy, and that we must keep it so. Grant us your grace, that we may continue in faithfulness and love. Increase in us the spirit of mutual understanding and trust, that no quarrel or strife may come between us. Grant us your blessings, that we may stand before our fellowmen and in your sight as an ideal family; and finally, by your mercy, account us worthy of everlasting life, for you are our sanctification, and to you we offer glory, to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy spirit, now and ever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

PRAYER OF A CHILD

Our Father in heaven, bless my father and mother, and my grandparents for their love and tender care for me, and the benefits I receive at their hands. Help me, I pray, to be respectful and obedient to them in all things according to your will; and give me your grace to perform all my duties carefully and faithfully, to avoid undesirable company and influence, that I may live an honorable, righteous and godly life, ever praising you, and glorifying your Holy Name. Amen.

August 15, 2021: Koimisis (Repose) of our most holy, glorious Lady and blessed Theotokos, and ever-Virgin Mary.

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Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον. Τῆς Ὀκτωήχου ᾠχος βαρύς

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον, ἠνέωξας τῷ Ληστῇ τὸν Παράδεισον,
τῶν Μυροφόρων τὸν θρῆνον μετέβαλες, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις κηρύττειν
ἐπέταξας· ὅτι ἀνέστης Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Τῆς Ἑορτῆς Τοῦ Μηναίου ᾠχος α΄

Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας. Ἐν τῇ Κοιμήσει, τὸν κόσμον οὐ
κατέλιπες Θεοτόκε. Μετέστης πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν, Μήτηρ ὑπάρχουσα τῆς ζωῆς,
καὶ ταῖς πρεσβείαις ταῖς σαῖς λυτρουμένη, ἐκ θανάτου τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Κοντάκιον Αὐτόμελον ᾠχος πλ. β΄

Τὴν ἐν πρεσβείαις ἀκοίμητον Θεοτόκον, καὶ προστασίαις ἀμετάθετον ἐλπίδα,
τάφος καὶ νέκρωσις οὐκ ἐκράτησεν· ὥς γὰρ ζωῆς Μητέρα, πρὸς τὴν ζωὴν
μετέστησεν, ὁ μήτραν οἰκήσας ἀειπάρθενον.

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Resurrectional Apolytikion From Octoechos Grave Mode

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. To the robber You
opened Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearing women You trans-
formed, and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all that You
had risen, O Christ our God, and granted the world Your great mercy.

For the Feast From Menaion Mode 1

You gave birth yet preserved your virginity. You fell asleep in death yet did
not desert the world, O Theotokos. You were transported to life, as you are
Mother of Life and, by virtue of your intercessions, deliver our souls from
death.

Kontakion Automelon Mode 2

The Theotokos is undying in intercession. Immovable is our hope in her for
protection. Neither death nor burial prevailed over her. As she is Mother of
Life, she was removed to life by Him, the Lord who lived in her ever-virgin
womb.

August 15, 2021 Domition of the Theotokos
Phil 2:5-11

Epistle

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

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.

August 15, 2021 Dormition of the Theotokos
The Gospel According Luke 10: 38-42, 11: 27-28

Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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!"