

Vespers sung on Saturday 17th August for Sunday 18th August 2024
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Afterfeast of the Dormition ♦ The Holy Martyrs Florus and Laurus of Illyria

“LORD, I CALL ...”

Tone 7

Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!
Hear me, O Lord!
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me!
Receive the voice of my prayer,
when I call upon Thee!//
Hear me, O Lord

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

Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy Name.

Tone 7 (For the Resurrection)

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord,
Who destroyed the dominion of death!
Let us sing to Him with the bodiless hosts,
for He enlightened the race of man!//
O our Maker and Savior, glory to Thee!

The righteous will surround me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.

Thou didst endure the Cross and burial for our sake.
By Thy death, Thou didst destroy death as God.
We fall down before Thy Resurrection on the third day,//
O Savior, glory to Thee!

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

When the Apostles beheld the Resurrection of the Maker,
they were amazed and sang the angelic praise.
This is the glory of the Church.
This is the richness of the Kingdom.//
O Lord, crucified for our sake, glory to Thee!

Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

Thou wast held by lawless men, O Christ,
but to me, Thou art God, and I am not ashamed.
Thou wast smitten on the cheek, but I do not deny Thee.
Thou wast nailed to the Cross and I do not conceal it,
for I glory in Thy Resurrection: Thy death is my life.//
O almighty Lord and Lover of man, glory to Thee!

If Thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.

Tone 2 *(For the Dormition)*

With what unworthy lips shall we bless the Theotokos?
She is more honored than the creation,
and more holy than the Cherubim and all the Angels.
She is the immovable Throne of the King,
the Abode in which the Most High has dwelt.
She is the salvation of the world, the Holy Place of God, //
Who richly grants unto the faithful great mercy on this her holy feast.

For Thy Name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word; my soul has hoped on the Lord.

What songs filled with awe
did all the Apostles of the Word offer thee, O Virgin,
as they stood round thy deathbed and cried aloud in wonder:
"The Palace of the King withdraws;
the Ark of Holiness is raised on high.
Let the gates be opened wide,
that the Gate of God may enter into abundant joy, //
she who without ceasing asks great mercy for the world!"

From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord!

What spiritual songs shall we now offer thee, O most holy one?
For by thy deathless Dormition thou hast sanctified the whole world,
and hast been translated to the places above the world,
there to perceive the beauty of the Almighty,
and, as His Mother, to rejoice in it exceedingly.
Thou art attended by ranks of Angels and by the souls of the just, O pure Virgin. //
Join them to ask for us peace and great mercy!

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

Tone 4 *(For the Martyrs)*

Revealed as perfect stones cut by martyrdom
and quarried by torments, O holy ones,
you fashioned yourselves into a church of the Lord,
casting the temples and worship of the idols down to the ground.
Therefore, we call you blessed as inhabitants of Paradise //
and offerings of the temple of heaven.

Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!

Touching the relics of the holy martyrs Florus and Laurus,
we draw grace and receive enlightenment, gladness and mercy,
for the divine work of healing richly flows from them.
Let us bless them as favorites of the Lord, //
and earnestly cry out: "Glory to Thee, our God!"

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

You were imprisoned in a pit and buried in the earth
at the command of the tyrant.
By divine speech and the revelation of the Holy Spirit
you have been revealed to us
as stars shining with portents, wonders and gifts of healing, //
O brother athletes and fellow citizens with the Angels.

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

Tone 4 (For the Dormition)

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 art thou among women, and blessed is the womb that contained Christ!
Having delivered thy soul into His holy hands, O most pure one, //
entreat Him to save our souls!”

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 7 (Theotokion – Dogmatikon)

No tongue can speak of thy wonderful childbearing,
for the order of nature was overruled by God.
Thou wast revealed to be a Mother above nature,
for thou didst remain a Virgin beyond reason and understanding.
Thy conception was most glorious, O Theotokos!
The manner of thy giving birth was ineffable, O Virgin!
Knowing thee to be the Mother of God,
devoutly we pray to thee: //
“Beseech Him to save our souls!”

APOSTICHA

Tone 7 (For the Resurrection)

As the Savior of the world Thou didst arise from the tomb.
As God Thou didst resurrect the race of man with Thy flesh. //
O Lord, glory to Thee!

V. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!

Come, let us worship the One Who rose from the dead,
and enlightened all creation!
By His death, He saved us from the torments of hell. //
By His Resurrection He has granted us eternal life and great mercy.

V. For He has established the world, so that it shall never be moved.

Thou didst descend into hell, capturing death, O Christ.
In three days Thou didst rise again,
resurrecting us who glorify Thy Resurrection, //
O Lord and Lover of man.

V. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!

When Thou wast placed in the tomb as one asleep,
the sight was great and awesome.
But when Thou didst rise on the third day as almighty God,
Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself. //
Glory to Thy Resurrection, only Lover of man!

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

Tone 4 *(For the Dormition)*

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 thee to be the Theotokos!"

TROPARIA**Troparion of the Resurrection in Tone 7**

[Music on website / Green Book page 14]

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.

To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.

For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,

and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,

to proclaim that Thou art risen, //

granting the world great mercy.

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

Troparion of the Holy Martyrs in Tone 4

[Music on website / Sheet]

Let us praise as is meet, O faithful,

the most comely, radiant and divinely wise martyrs:

Most blessed Florus and all-venerable Laurus,

who proclaimed to all the uncreated Trinity.

Suffering unto bloodshed,

they were adorned with brilliant crowns. //

Entreat Christ our God to save our souls!

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Troparion of the Dormition in Tone 1

[Music on website / Sheet]

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity.

In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos.

Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life, //

and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.