

AUGUST 14
THE SERVICE OF THE LITIA AND ARTOKLASIA
FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

DOXASTICON & THEOTOKION AT THE LITIA PROCESSION IN TONE FIVE

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

Come, ye feast-lovers; come, let us form one rank; come, let us crown the Church with songs on the falling asleep of the ark of God; for today doth heaven open its bosom to receive her who gave birth to the One Whom all cannot contain. And earth doth adorn itself in blessing and splendor, restoring the fount of life. And the angels fall into line with the Apostles, gazing in awe on her who gave birth to the Element of life, moving from life to life. Let us all adore her entreating, and saying, Forget not, O Lady, those who share thy humanity, who celebrate in faith thy most holy falling-asleep.

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

Sing, O ye people, sing ye the praises of the Mother of our God; for today she delivers her soul, full of light, into the immaculate hands of Him Who was made incarnate of her without seed. And she entreats Him without ceasing to grant the inhabited earth peace and Great Mercy.

- *After the Litia hymns are chanted stichirarically (slowly), and the procession of clergy and altar servers has finished at the solea, the clergy now begin the Service of Litia & Artoklasia.*

THE LITIA

Deacon: Have mercy upon us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan N., (and for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.) and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for every Christian soul, afflicted and weary, in need of God's mercies and help; for the protection of this holy house and those who sing therein and the people here present; for the peace and stability of the whole world; for the good estate of the holy churches of God; for the salvation and help of our fathers and brethren who with diligence and fear of God labor and serve; for those who are gone away and those who are abroad; for those who travel by sea, land and air; for the healing of those who lie in infirmity; for the deliverance of captives; for those imprisoned and in danger; for our brethren who are serving and who are remembered for their labor, and for all who await the mercies of God, let us say.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and forgiveness of sins for the servants of God, the parishioners, members of the parish council and organizations, donors and benefactors of this holy temple and those here present who celebrate this holy feast.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray that He may keep this holy church and this city and every city and countryside from wrath, famine, plague, earthquake, flood, fire, the sword, foreign invasion, civil war and sudden death; that our good God, Who loveth mankind, will be gracious, favorable and conciliatory and turn away and dispel all the wrath stirred up against us and all sickness, and may deliver us from His righteous chastisement which impendeth on us, and have mercy upon us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (FORTY TIMES)

Deacon: Again we pray that the Lord our God may hearken unto the voice of the supplication of us sinners, and have mercy upon us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, the Hope of all the ends of the earth and of those who are far off upon the sea; and be gracious, *be gracious*, O Master, upon our sins, and have mercy upon us. For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

THE INTERCESSION¹

Priest: O Master, great in mercy, Lord Jesus Christ our God, through the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary—whose Dormition and translation into the heavens we now celebrate—by the might of the precious and life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, all-laudable apostles Peter and Paul, and of all the holy apostles; of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; Athanasius, Cyril and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon of Trimythous and Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworkers; of our fathers among the saints Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Raphael, bishop of Brooklyn; of the holy, glorious, great-martyrs, George the Trophy-bearer, Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Soldier, Theodore the General, and

¹ Saints of particular local veneration may be included among the Saints of their same classification at the discretion of the pastor.

Menas the Wonderworker; of the hieromartyrs Ignatius the God-bearer of Antioch, Charalampos and Eleutherios; of the holy, glorious great women martyrs, Thekla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriaki, Photeini, Marina, Paraskeva and Irene; of the holy, glorious, right-victorious martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers who shone in the ascetic life; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all Thy saints:

Priest: Make our prayer acceptable;

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Grant us forgiveness of our trespasses;

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Shelter us under the shelter of Thy wings;

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Drive away from us every enemy and adversary;

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Give peace to our life.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: O Lord, have mercy on us and on Thy world and save our souls, for Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind.

Choir: Amen.

THE ARTOKLASIA

This Theotokion is sung in Tone Five.

Clergy: Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb;

Choir: For thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Who didst bless the five loaves in the wilderness and didst satisfy the five thousand therewith, Thyself bless these loaves, this wheat, wine and oil, and multiply them in this city, in the houses of those who celebrate this feast and in all thy world, and sanctify the faithful who partake of them. For it is Thou Who dost bless and sanctify all things, O Christ our God, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory, together with Thine unoriginate Father and Thine all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

TROPARION IN TONE SEVEN

The clergy sing this Troparion once, and then the choir sings it twice.

Rich men have turned poor and gone hungry; but they that seek the Lord shall not be deprived of any good thing.

- *Great Vespers resumes with the Aposticha.*
- *The following Great Dismissal is used at Great Vespers when the Litia and Artoklasia are served. The usual one is not said. This follows the Apolytikia.*

THE GREAT DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: The blessing of the Lord and His mercy come upon you through His divine grace and love towards mankind, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our Hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest: May Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother—whose Dormition and translation into the heavens we now celebrate—by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of *Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our Holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

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