**SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 TONE 8**

**9th Sunday after Pentecost/Afterfeast of the Dormition**

**Martyrs Florus and Laurus of Illyria (2nd c.)**

**"Lord I Call..." Tone 8**

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!

*v. (10) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!*

 **Tone 8** *(for the Resurrection)*

We offer to Thee, O Christ,

our evening song and reasonable service,

for Thou didst will to have mercy on us//

by Thy Resurrection.

*v. (9) The righteous will surround me; for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me.*

Lord, Lord, do not cast us away from Thy face!

For Thou didst will to have mercy on us//

by the Resurrection.

*v. (8) Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!*

Rejoice, holy Zion:

Mother of the churches, the abode of God,

for thou wast the first to receive remission of sins//

by the Resurrection.

*v. (7) Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!*

*(Resurrection stikheron by Anatolios)*

The Word of God the Father,

begotten before the ages,

in the latter times willed to be incarnate of the Virgin

and endured crucifixion unto death.

He has saved mortal man//

by His Resurrection.

*v. (6) If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.*

**Tone 2** *(for the Dormition) (With what crowns)*

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.

*v. (5) For Thy name’s sake have I waited 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!”

*v. (4) 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!

*v. (3) 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) (Thou hast given us a sign)*

Revealed as perfect stones cut by martyrdom

and quarried by torments, O holy ones,

ye fashioned yourslves into a church of the Lord,

casting the temples and worship of the idols down to the ground.

Therefore, we call them blessed as inhabitants of Paradise//

and offerings of the temple of heaven.

*v. (2) 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!”

*v. (1) For His mercy is abundant towards us; and the truth of the Lord endures for ever.*

Ye 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

ye 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 8**  *(Theotokion – Dogmatikon)*

The King of heaven,

because of His love for man,

appeared on earth and dwelt with men.

He took flesh from the pure Virgin

and after assuming it, He came forth from her.

The Son is one: in two natures, yet one Person.

Proclaiming Him as perfect God and perfect Man,

we confess Christ our God!//

Entreat him, O unwedded Mother, to have mercy on our souls.

**9th Sunday after Pentecost/Afterfeast of the Dormition**

**Martyrs Florus and Laurus**

**Litya** *(If the rector desires the Litya, these stichera are sung)*

**Tone 2** *(for the Dormition)**(O House of Ephratha)*

O all you choirs of heaven,

sing a hymn of praise!

For the Virgin Mother

has been gloriously translated//

from earth to the heavens.

O holy and undefiled Maiden,

the choir of the Disciples

has gloriously assembled

from the ends of the earth//

to bury thy divine and incorrupt body.

Be lifted up,

O ye gates of heaven,

beholding the only Mother of God,

the portal of the Most High,//

coming to the highest!

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

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

 **Tone 4**

O pure and most holy Virgin,

the multitude of Angels in heaven and men on earth

extol thy venerable falling asleep and call it blessed,

for thou hast become the Mother of Christ, our God and Creator of all.

Never cease to intercede with Him on our behalf, we pray,

for next to God we have put our hope in thee,//

O greatly-honored, unwedded Theotokos!

**9th Sunday after Pentecost/Afterfeast of the Dormition**

**Martyrs Florus and Laurus**

**Aposticha**

**Tone 8**  *(for the Resurrection)*

Descending from heaven to ascend the Cross,

the eternal Life has come for death

to raise those who are fallen;

to enlighten those in darkness.//

O Jesus, our Savior and illuminator, glory to Thee!

*v. The Lord is King; He is robed in majesty!*

We glorify Christ, who rose from the dead.

He accepted the human body and soul,

and freed both from suffering.

His most pure soul descended to hell, which He spoiled.

His holy body did not see corruption in the tomb.//

He is the Redeemer of our souls.

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

In psalms and songs we glorify Thy Resurrection from

the dead, O Christ.

By it, Thou hast freed us from the tortures of hell//

and as God hast granted eternal life and great mercy.

*v. Holiness befitteth Thy house, O Lord, forevermore!*

O Master of all,

incomprehensible Creator of heaven and earth,

by Thy suffering on the Cross Thou hast gained passionlessness for me.

Accepting burial and arising in glory,

Thou didst resurrect Adam with Thyself by Thine almighty hand.

Glory to Thy rising on the third day!

By it Thou hast granted us eternal life and cleansing of sins//

as the only compassionate One.

*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!”

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***(at Great Vespers)***

**Tone 8** **Troparion**  *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!

Thou didst accept the three day burial

to free us from our sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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

**Tone 4** **Troparion**  *(Martyrs Florus and Laurus)*

Let us praise as is meet, you 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.*

**Tone 1** **Troparion** *(Dormition)*

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.

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***(at Vigil)***

**Tone 4 Troparion to the Theotokos**

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,//

for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls. *(twice)*

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

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***(at the Divine Liturgy)***

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Entreat Christ our God to save our souls!

**Tone 8 Kontakion** *(Resurrection)*

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrected Adam.

Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,

and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O

greatly Merciful One!

**Tone 8 Kontakion** *(Martyrs Florus and Laurus)*

Today all the world honors in glory the divinely wise Florus and Laurus as

 pious martyrs who suffered for Christ.

Through their prayers may we receive grace and mercy

and be delivered from calamity and temptation, and from wrath and

 sorrow on the Day of Judgment!

**Tone 2** **Kontakion** *(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.

**Tone 8** **Prokeimenon** *(Resurrection)*

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! *(Ps 75/76:11)*

*v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps 75/76:1)*

**Tone 3** **Prokeimenon** *(Song of the Theotokos)*

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

*(Lk 1:46-47)*

**Epistle**

 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

 **Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our*

*Savior! (Ps 94/95:1)*

*v: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps 94/95:2)*

**Tone 2**

*v: Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place: Thou and the Ark of Thy*

*sanctification!*  *(Ps 131/132:8)*

 **Gospel**

 Matthew 14:22-34

***Instead of “It is truly meet …,” we sing:)***

 **Tone 1**

***Refrain:***The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin,

were struck with wonder,

seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.

***Heirmos:*** The limits of nature are overcome in thee, O Pure Virgin:

for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death;

a virgin after childbearing and alive after death,

thou dost ever save thine inheritance, O Theotokos.

 **Communion Hymns**

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise Him in the highest! *(Ps 148:1)*

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

*(Ps* *115/116:13)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Liturgical texts for this service represent modified versions of translations provided by Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery, Otego, New York and St. Tikhon’s Monastery, South Canaan, Pa. The Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America expresses its gratitude to Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery and St. Tikhon’s Monastery and to those translators whose work has been consulted at times in the course of reviewing and modifying these texts to their present form: Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware), Archimandrite Ephrem (Lash), Archimandrite Juvenaly, Fr Benedict Churchill, Isaac Lambertson, St. Vladimir’s Seminary, and Holy Transfiguration Monastery, among others.