

Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific

THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS



After her son ascended into heaven, scriptures have very little to say about the Theotokos. We know she was entrusted to the care of the Apostle John the Theologian, but aside from a brief mention of her being present in the Upper Room with the Apostles as they gathered in waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit, the New Testament says nothing more about her. Tradition tells us that the Virgin Mary, in effect, became the “first pilgrim,” making spiritual journeys to the sacred places that were so significant in the public ministry of our Lord. She became an inspiration to the early Christians, who eagerly sought to know more about Christ from the person who knew Him best.

Ultimately, the Theotokos learned she would leave this world in the same manner she received word she was to be the Mother of God: through a revelation from the Archangel Gabriel. Given three days to prepare for her departure from this earthly life, the Virgin longed to see the Apostles one last time. Only Thomas failed to arrive in Jerusalem prior to her death. When he reached Holy City three days later, Thomas begged to be given the opportunity to bid farewell to the Theotokos. When her tomb in the Garden of Gethsemane was opened, Mary’s body was nowhere to be found! That evening after dinner, the Apostles heard the singing of angels in the radiance of heavenly glory. Their joyful response was one that we are also encouraged to exclaim in times of tribulation and uncertainty: MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, HELP US!



August 11, 2019
8th Sunday of Matthew

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8th Sunday of Matthew

Commemoration of: Commemoration of St. Spyridon's Miracle in Corfu of 1716; Euplus the Martyr

Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

Metemorphosis (Holy Transfiguration) Tone 7

You were transfigured upon the mountain, O Christ our God, showing to Your disciples Your glory as much as they could bear. Do also in us, sinners though we may be, shine Your everlasting light, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Giver of light. Glory to You. (AgesInitiatives.com)

Katelisas to Stavro (Hymn of the Day) Tone 7

Oh Lord by your Cross You abolished death and opened to the thief Paradise. The lamentation of the myrrh-bearers You turned to joy, and You commanded Your Apostles to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing upon the world the great mercy.

Metemorphosis (repeated) (Holy Transfiguration) Tone 7

Tu Stavru su ton tipon (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8

Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever You guard in peace, at the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone are the Lover of mankind.

Kontakion Tone 7

Epi tu Orus metemorphosis

Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father's radiance. (AgesInitiatives.com)

Epistle Reading 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

BRETHREN, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any one else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Gospel Reading Matthew 14:14-22

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a lonely

place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

Announcements

Today

✘ SUN, 8/11– 8th Sunday of Matthew

This Week

✘ TUE, 8/13– Paraklesis 6:30 p.m.

✘ WED, 8/14– Great Vespers 6:30 p.m.

✘ THU, 8/15– Dormition of the Theotokos: Orthros 8:30 a.m., Divine Liturgy 9:30 a.m.

✘ FRI, 8/16– Byzantine Chant 1:30 to 3 p.m.

✘ SUN, 8/18– 9th Sunday of Matthew

On Sunday, August 18, 3-3:45 p.m., our Greek Dance Groups will be performing at Ala Moana Center Stage. Please come and support us.

Pearls of Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"Christ has become man by the Virgin, in order that by the same way in which the disobedience caused by the serpent took its beginning, by this way should it also take its destruction. For Eve, being a virgin and incorrupt, conceived the word spoken of the serpent, and brought forth disobedience and death. But Mary the Virgin receiving faith and grace, when the angel Gabriel brought her the good news answered: 'Be it unto me according to Your word.'"

~Justin Martyr

To Our Visitors:

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread.

Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.