



# The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul

## August 11, 2019

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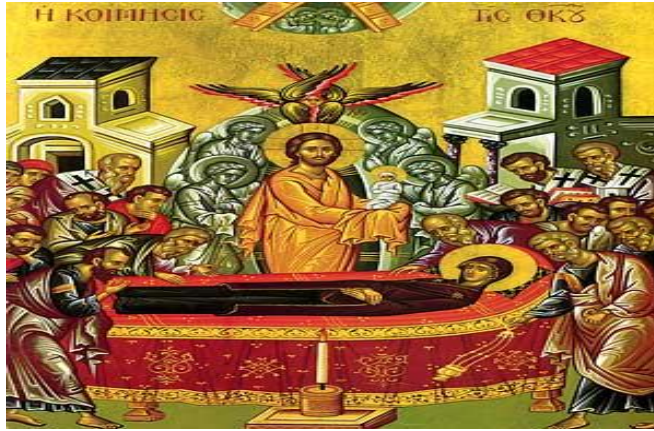
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### ***Dormition Fast***

**Wednesday, August 14-Tuesday, August 27, 2019**

Dormition is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Christian faith.

The word 'Dormition' simply means 'falling asleep' – the biblical idiom for a believer's death. The Tradition of the Church is that Mary died as all people die, not "voluntarily" as her Son, but by the necessity of her mortal human nature which is indivisibly bound up with the corruption of this world.

For the first fourteen days of August during each year, the Holy Orthodox Church enters into a strict fast period in honor of the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary.

Every Orthodox Christian is aware and generally knows the reason behind the fasts for Pascha and Christmas. But while they may know of the Dormition Fast, few follow it, and more than a few question why it is there, neither knowing its purpose.

First, given the pervasive misunderstanding of the purpose of fasting itself, a refresher on its purpose is always a good idea. There is a perception that we should fast when we want something, as though the act of fasting somehow appeases God, and seeing us "suffer" gets Him to grant our request. Nothing can be further from the truth. It is not our fasting that pleases God, it is the fruits of our fast (provided we fast in the proper mind set, and do not merely diet) that please Him.

The Feast of the Dormition is preceded by a two-week fast, referred to as the Dormition Fast. From August 14 to August 27 (inclusive) Orthodox and Eastern Catholics fast from red meat, poultry, meat products, dairy products (eggs and milk products), fish, oil, and wine. The Dormition Fast is a stricter fast than either the Nativity Fast (Advent) or the Apostles' Fast, with only wine and oil (but no fish) allowed on weekends. As with the other Fasts of the Church year, there is a Great Feast that falls during the Fast; in this case, the Transfiguration (August 19), on which fish, wine and oil are allowed.

The Birth-Giver of God (Theotokos), the Virgin Mary, was "blessed amongst women," and she was chosen "to bear the Savior of our souls." Orthodox Christians consider her to be the Queen of all the saints and angels.

*Please consult the Monthly Calendar for August Information*

## *Liturgical Schedule*

**Today-Sunday August 11, 2019**

**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. Tone seven.**

- Martyr **Callinicus** of Gangra in Asia Minor (250).  
     New Hieromartyrs Venerables Seraphim (Bogoslovsky) and Theognost (1921).  
     New Hieromartyr Anatole (1930-1935).  
     New Hieromartyr Alexis priest, and Martyr Pachomius (1938).
- Venerables **Constantine** and **Cosmas**, abbots of Kosinsk (Pskov) (13th c.).
- Martyr Daniel of Cherkassk (1776).
- Virgin-martyr **Seraphima** (Serapia) of Antioch (2nd c.).
- Martyr **Theodota** and her three sons, in Bithynia (304).
- St. Lupus the Confessor, bishop of Troyes (479).
- Martyr **Michael** (9th c.).
- Martyr **Eustathius** of Mtskheta in Georgia (589) (*Georgia*).  
     St. Constantine, patriarch of Constantinople (676).  
     The Nativity of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker from Myra in Lycia (4th c.)  
     Venerable **Romanus**, abbot of Kirzhach (1392), disciple of St. Sergius of Radonezh.  
     Translation of Velikoretsky Icon of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker from Viatka to Moscow (1555).  
     St. Theodosius the New, emperor (450).  
     Martyr Mamas in Darii.  
     St. Olaf, king of Norway (1030) (*Celtic & British*).  
     Martyrs Benjamin and Berius of Constantinople (*Greek*).  
     Martyr Basiliscus the Elder (*Greek*).  
     Hieromartyr Bessarion of Smolyan, Bulgaria (1670).

### **The Scripture Readings**

**1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

**Matthew 14:14-22**

*Reader of the Hours – Sandra Hladky*

*Reader of the Epistle (English)- Sandra Hladky*

*Reader of the Epistle (Ukrainian)- Natalie Cypensky*

**Saturday, August 17, 2019 NO VESPERS**

**Next Sunday, August 18, 2019**

**Forefeast of the of the Transfiguration of our Lord**

**The Scripture Readings**

**1 Corinthians 3:9-17**

**Matthew 14:22-34**

*Reader of the Hours- Jeremy Oryhon*

*Reader of the Epistle (English)- Jeremy Oryhon*

*Reader of the Epistle (Ukrainian)- Halyna Kashpar*

***Thank you to Fr. Howard Sloan for serving Divine Liturgy while Fr. Vasyl is in Ukraine.***