

### *Explanation to the Emperor*

There is nothing in the holy, inspired Scripture about the death of Mary, the holy Mother of God. But we know from ancient and wholly reliable tradition that at the time she so gloriously fell asleep, all the holy Apostles, who were traveling the world for the salvation of the peoples, were lifted up in a single instant of time and were gathered at Jerusalem; and as they stood by her, they saw a vision of angels, and heard the divine chanting of the higher powers ... Her body, which had been God's dwelling place, was brought for burial amidst the singing of the angels and the Apostles, and laid to rest in a coffin in Gethsemane; and the angelic dancing and singing continued without pause in that place for three days. But after three days, the song of the angels ceased; the Apostles were there, and since one of them, Thomas, had not been present (for her burial and came at the end of three days) and

wished to reverence that body which had housed God, they opened the coffin. And they could not find her body, which had been the object of such praise; all that they found were her burial wrappings. And being overcome by the ineffable fragrance that came out of the wrappings, they closed the coffin again. Amazed by this miraculous discovery, they could only draw a single conclusion: the one Who had deigned to become flesh in her own person, and to take His humanity from her, the one Who willed to be born in human flesh as God the Word, the Lord of glory, and Who had preserved her virginity intact even after childbirth, now chose, after her departure from this world, to honor her immaculate and pure body with the gift of incorruptibility, and with a change of state even before the common, universal resurrection.

*St. Juvenal, Patriarch of Jerusalem*

## TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS



*Icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos*

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

**4250 Harewood Road NE**

**Washington, DC 20017**

**Phone: 202-526-3737**

**Fax: 202-526-1327**

**E-mail: [ucnsholyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:ucnsholyfamily@gmail.com)**

**Webpage: [www.ucns-holyfamily.org](http://www.ucns-holyfamily.org)**

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040**

***Pastoral Care entrusted to:***

**Father Robert Hitchens**

**Father Wasyl Kharuk**

**Sunday – August 15, 2021**

**Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever**

**Our Church is open for Divine Liturgies. We will continue to Livestream our 9:00 a.m. English Divine Liturgy and our 11:30 a.m. Ukrainian Divine Liturgy. The dispensation from attending Sunday Divine Liturgy and Holy Days of Obligation throughout the Archeparchy is still in effect until further notice.**

**All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM**

**Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>**

**OUR CHURCH IS OPEN FOR LITURGIES**

<b>Sunday August 15</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Dormition of the Mother of God – Blessing of Flowers and Herbs</b> (+Frank Fisanich from the Popadiuk Family) (For the Parish)
<b>Wednesday August 18</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	(+Lydia Kernitsky from Family)
<b>Thursday August 19</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	(+Danny Wolff from the Keating Family)
<b>Friday August 20</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	(Blessings for John Michael from Ruth Fedack)
<b>Sunday August 22</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b>	(+Roman Cap from the Drabyk Family) (For the Parish)

**CONCERNING FUTURE PARISH EVENTS**

**District of Columbia Mayor Bowser announced July 29 that the District is re-instituting a universal, indoor masking mandate for everyone, even those fully vaccinated. This new requirement takes effect on July 31 at 5 a.m. Persons attending Church in the District, even if they are fully vaccinated, must wear a mask. Fellowship with Cake and Coffee after the Sunday Divine Liturgies will also continue to be suspended.**

**Everyone is kindly asked to return to wearing a mask during the Divine Liturgies.**

**Prayer List**

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Fr. Frank Avant, Susan Avant, Chuck Basile, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Taisia Bullard, Michele Burns, Robert Matthew C., Mary Connors, Jack Davis, Darlene Dossick, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Daniel Horeczko, Nila Iwaskiw, Kateryna Jurach, Oksana K, Sarah Kelt, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Fr. Mykhailo Kuzma, Michael Joseph Little, Mark Pidlusky, Michele Pretka Litvar, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, James Salandro, Maria Sawkiw, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Timothy Stock, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Helen Lefcheck Torre, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Jennifer Wilson.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.

**God With Us Catechism**

**Death Is Not the End**

St Paul describes the risen Christ as “the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep” (1 Cor 15:20). The rest of the “crop” will be gathered at Christ’s second coming (v. 23). This is the resurrection of the dead which we await. But from the first century the Church has also pointed to a “proof” that St. Paul’s claim is true: the body of the Theotokos was taken to glory. This is the second aspect to our feast of the Dormition. The Church teaches that Mary’s body was not allowed to decay, or even to remain in death. The Lord restored her soul to her body and glorified them both with Him. The Holy Virgin entered eternal life fully intact. As we sing in the kondakion of the feast, “Christ, who dwelt in her ever-virginal womb, lifted her up to eternal life.” Mary’s participation in eternal life is unique because her relationship to Christ is unique. She is not awaiting the return of her Son; she alone is fully sharing in His resurrection and stands as proof that human beings can be transformed physically into the image of the risen Christ. One tradition about the Dormition is chanted at vespers on this feast: “The holy Apostles were taken up from every corner of the world and carried upon clouds by order of God. And they gathered around your pure remains, O Source of Life, and kissed them with reverence. As for the most sublime Powers of Heaven, they came with their own Leader to escort and pay their last respects to the most honorable body that had contained Life itself. Filled with awe, they marched together with the Apostles in silent majesty, professing to the Princes of heaven in a hushed voice: “Behold, the Queen of All, the divine Maiden, is coming!” Lift up your gates and receive with becoming majesty the Mother of the Light that never fades, because through her salvation was made possible for our human race. She is the one upon whom no one may gaze, and to whom no one is able to render sufficient glory. For the special honor that made her sublime is beyond our understanding. Wherefore, O most pure Mother of God, forever alive with your Son, the Source of Life, do not cease to intercede with Him that He may guard and save your people from every trouble, for you are our intercessor. To you we sing a hymn of glory with loud and joyful voices, now and forever.”