The Lord Who, on Mt. Sinai, gave the Fifth Commandment, *Honor your father and your mother* (Exodus 20:12), showed by His own example how one should respect one's parents. Hanging on the Cross in agony, He remembered His Mother, and indicating to the Apostle John, He said to her: *Woman behold your son* (John 19:26). After that, He said to John: *Behold your mother* (John 19:27). And so, providing for His Mother, He breathed His last. John had a home on Mount Zion, in Jerusalem, in which the Theotokos then lived. She dwelt there to the end of her days on earth. By her prayers, kind guidance, meekness and patience, she greatly assisted Her Son's apostles.

She spent most of her remaining time on earth in Jerusalem, often visiting those places that reminded her of the great events and of the great works of her Son. She especially visited Golgotha, Bethlehem and the Mount of Olives. Of her few distant journeys, her visit to St. Ignatius the God-bearer [Theophorus] in Antioch is recorded; as is her visit to Lazarus (whom our Lord resurrected on the fourth day), the Bishop of Cyprus. She also visited the Holy Mountain [Athos], which she blessed; and she stayed in Ephesus with St. John the Evangelist [The Theologian] during the time of the great persecution of Christians in Jerusalem. In her old age, she often prayed to her Lord and God on the Mount of Olives, the site of His Ascension, that He take her from this world as soon as possible. On one of these occasions, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to her and revealed to her that she would find repose within three days. The angel gave her a palm branch, which was to be carried in her funeral procession. She returned home with great joy, hoping in her heart to see her Son's apostles just once more in this life. The Lord fulfilled her wish, and the apostles, borne by angels in the funeral procession. She returned home with great joy, hoping in her heart to see her Son's apostles just once more in this life. The Lord fulfilled her wish, and the apostles, borne by angels in the clouds, gathered together at the house on Mount Zion. With great rejoicing she saw them, encouraged them, counseled them, and comforted them. Then she peacefully gave up her soul to God without pain or physical illness. The apostles took up her coffin, from which a heavenly fragrance arose—and, in the company of many Christians, bore it to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the sepulchre of her parents, Saints Joachim and Anna. By God's providence, the procession was concealed by a cloud from the evil Jew Thomas who, a Jewish priest, grabbed the coffin with the intention of overturning it, but an angel of God severed both his hands. He then cried out to the apostles for help, and was healed upon declaring his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Apostle Thomas was absent—again, according to God's providence—in order that a new and all-glorious mystery of the Holy Theotokos would be revealed. On the third day, Thomas arrived and desired to venerate the body of the Holy Most-pure One. But when the apostles opened the sepulchre, they found only the winding sheet: the body was not in the tomb! That evening, the Theotokos, surrounded by a host of angels, appeared to the apostles and said to them: "Rejoice, I will be with you always." It is not exactly known how old the Theotokos was at the time of her Falling Asleep, but the overwhelming opinion is that she was over sixty years of age.

August 18, 2019 – After-feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

Martyrs Floros and Lauros of Illyria; Venerable Sophronios of St. Anne Skete on Athos

**Matins Gospel Reading:** John 20:19-31

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 8):**

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, Glory to Thee!

**Troparion of the Dormition (Tone 1):**

O Theotokos, in giving birth thou wast preserved in virginity, and in Thy falling asleep, Thou has not forsaken the world. For Thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore by Thy pleading deliver our souls from death.
Kontakion of the Dormition (Tone 2)
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!

Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4):
Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

Prokeimenon Psalm:
Make vows to the Lord thy God and perform them. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Epistle Reading: the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. 3:9-17

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:22-34

Saturday, August 24: Vespers, 7:30 PM (Confession available before and after)

Volunteers

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reader</th>
<th>Prosphora</th>
<th>Greeter</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
<th>Coffee</th>
<th>Food</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Aug 18</td>
<td>Polycarp</td>
<td>Cristina P.</td>
<td>Sarah K.</td>
<td>Nancy H.</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Elizabeth K.</td>
<td>G – K</td>
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<td>Sunday Aug 25</td>
<td>Sd. Joseph</td>
<td>Eva W.</td>
<td>Hal O.</td>
<td>JoAnne T.</td>
<td>Phil &amp; Rowena L.</td>
<td>L - P</td>
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<td>Sunday Sep 1</td>
<td>Doug J.</td>
<td>Dn Walid</td>
<td>Roberta P.</td>
<td>Pat K.</td>
<td>Robert H.</td>
<td>R - W</td>
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<td>Sunday Sep 8</td>
<td>Jim K.</td>
<td>Sandy A.</td>
<td>Azizeh C.</td>
<td>Rowena L.</td>
<td>Gabriel &amp; Domitille N.</td>
<td>A – F</td>
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<td>Saturday Sep 14</td>
<td>Joseph L.</td>
<td>Carmen C.</td>
<td>Jerry C.</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Potluck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Sep 22</td>
<td>Polycarp</td>
<td>Pat K.</td>
<td>Sarah K.</td>
<td>Alice I.</td>
<td>Polycarp &amp; Gosia G.</td>
<td>L - P</td>
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News and Announcements

The Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago presents the annual Labor Day Weekend Family Retreat to be held Aug 30 - Sep 1 at the St Iakovos Retreat Center in Kansassville WI. Topic: Spiritual Athleticism in Family Life, speaker Fr Josiah Trenham. For details please visit https://www.gocfamilysynaxis.org/2019-ld-weekend-retreat. Registration closes on August 21st, register by August 15th to receive a discount.

Orthodox Women in the Healing Ministries will hold its 27th Annual Retreat on October 4, 5, & 6 in Rives Junction, Michigan. Retreat speaker V. Rev. Dimitrie Vincent. Theme: "My Grace is Sufficient for You, My Strength is Made Perfect in Weakness." For details, visit https://owhm.org/schedule

The tradition of bringing basil plants to church on the Feast of the Holy Cross: On the spot where the Cross was discovered, St. Helen had found a hitherto unknown flower of rare beauty and fragrance, which has been named “Vasiliko,” or Basil, meaning the flower of royalty. Note that the word “Vasiliko” means “of the King,” since the word “Basileus” in Greek means “King”; so, the plant Vasiliko, Basil, is tied to the Precious Cross of the King of Glory, our Lord Jesus Christ. Fr. Pat has expressed in the past, that he would like the step in front of the iconostasis filled with basil plants for this feast, so let the gardeners, and the would-be gardeners, remember to bring their basil plants on Saturday September 14th before the Holy Liturgy. Keep in mind that next spring would be the perfect time to start basil plants, from seed, for next year's feast.