

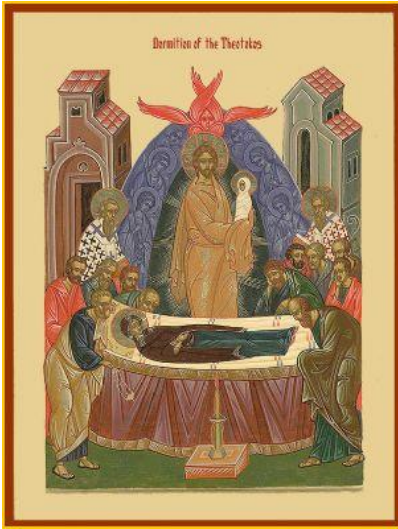


THE WAY

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Orthodox Church

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THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Celebrated on August 15 (August 28)

The Feast of the Dormition or Falling Asleep of the Theotokos commemorates the death, resurrection, and glorification of Christ's mother. To help us in our preparation of the feast, it is preceded by a two week fast. As with the Nativity of the Virgin (September 8/21) and the feast of her Entrance to the Temple (November 21/December 4), the Feast of the Dormition also comes from the Tradition of the Church.

There we learn that Mary died as all people die because she had a mortal human nature affected by the corruption of this world. The Church proclaims that Mary needed to be saved by Christ just as all of us are saved from trials, sufferings, and death of this world. Having truly died, she was raised by her Son as the "Mother of Life" and already participates in the eternal life of paradise which is prepared and promised to all who "hear the word of God and keep it." (Luke 11:27-28) Finally, we celebrate the fact that what happens to Mary happens to all who imitate her holy life of humility, obedience and love.

It is important to remember that there are no relics of the Theotokos. Their existence has never been mentioned throughout history. At one time in Constantinople there was a center of pilgrimage where the belt and veil of the Virgin were venerated.

(Adapted from *The Orthodox Church, Volume II: Worship*, by Fr. Thomas Hopko.)

From the Tradition of the Church

Following the day of Pentecost, the Theotokos remained in the city of Jerusalem, comforting the infant Christian community. She was living in the house of the beloved Apostle John, later the Evangelist. At the time of her death (tradition states she was in her early fifties) many of the Apostles were

scattered throughout the world preaching the Gospel. All but Thomas were miraculously brought to the Virgin aloft on clouds.

As they stood around her bedside, she commended her spirit to the Lord and Jesus descended from Heaven, taking up her soul in His arms. The Apostles sang the funeral hymns in her honor and carried her body to a tomb in Cedron near Gethsemane . When a Jewish man tried to interrupt their solemn procession, an angel of the Lord came and punished him by cutting off his hands, which were later healed.

The Apostle Thomas arrived on the third day and wished to see the Virgin for the last time. They discovered an empty tomb. Church tradition relates that the Theotokos was resurrected bodily and taken to heaven, the same reward that awaits all the righteous on the Last Day. **This is the significance of the Feast that we need to remember.** (Orthodox Life)

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Blessings / prayers –

Birth prayers: Sanesha & Nina Popovich.

Baptism: Mihailo Jakovljevic.

Bless home: Eduardo & Ana Yanez Family.

Slava: St. John the Baptist: George & Ljiljana Luksetich Family; St. Archangel Gabriel: Dragoljub Grujic.

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News –

SERBIAN DAYS CELEBRATION :

This year’s event was well attended on both days. On Saturday morning soccer games began on the newly graded play field and continued throughout the day. Barbecued lamb and pork were served along with čevapčići. “Tri Šešira” Orchestra donated their time to play to everyone’s enjoyment. After Vespers, the festivities continued. Guests from Vancouver, B.C. and Spokane, WA joined us in fellowship.



At Sunday's Divine Liturgy the church was well attended by our parishioners, out of town guests as well as Fr. Serafim Gascoigne and his parishioners from the Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God Church in Seattle. Following church services lunch was served as on Saturday. The folklore program followed with Dejan Subotic as master of ceremonies. Two groups from Vancouver, B.C. performed along with our Drina Group to the delight of everyone in attendance. After the program special children's activities were organized by Milan & Aleksandra Stefanovic and Dejan Subotic. The rest of the day was spent enjoying the music of Nenad Basanovic Orchestra from Vancouver, B.C., kolo dancing, socializing and relaxing. We were blessed that both days were warm and pleasant.

Thank you to all who worked both days to make this year's celebration a great success!



















ST. SAVA YOUTH

One more month of summer and back to school. In addition to public school, remember that St. Sava Church School will also begin in September. School registration will be September 12 and the first day of class will be September 19. In addition, to studying our Serbian Orthodox Faith, extra-curricular activities will be on the schedule.

The following children have already signed-up to dance in the folklore group: Jelena & Aleksandra Bojic, Anja Nikolic, Tea Nikolic, Ana Pekic, Sinisa & Sandra Stankovic, Jelena & Kristina Stevanovic, and Tajana & Daniel Vujic. All children are welcome to participate in the Church-School Program. All parents are encouraged to support their children and all our children to keep them away from various temptations by participating in wholesome programs. Through our Church-School program we preserve our Orthodox Faith and cherish our cultural treasures that our forefathers left us. Our generation does not have the right to prevent this tradition from continuing.

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Thank you –

Sunday Lunches: Choir, Protinica Carole, KSS / Church Board (Serbian Days), Spomenka Novakovic, Branka Vujic

Serbian Days Preparation: July 17 Church Board organized work party – Fr. Ilija and Protinica Carole Balach, Marina Banjanin, Slavica Bardak, Olja Djordjevic, Darko & Michelle Hrle, Srdjan Jakovljevic, Radomir Jasika, Milovan Jovic, Vojislav & Julia Kokeza, Goran Krstic, Ranko Krstic, Stevo Krstic, Spomenka Novakovic, Robert and Suzana Sakay & Slavica, Milan & Aleksandra Stefanovic, Mile Stevanovic, Vesna Tasic, Tihomir Tepsa, Djoko Trifkovic,

Serbian Days Food preparation on July 23 by KSS: Protinica Carole Balach, Olja Djordjevic, Michelle Hrle, Nevena & Jelena Krstic, Spomenka Novakovic, Branka Vujic

Play field grading and seeding - monetary donation: Mladen Blagojevic, Dejan Jankovic, Neven Kablar

Calendar

All services at St. Sava unless noted otherwise.

- Aug 1 Divine Liturgy
- Aug. 2 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy, St. Ilija
- Aug 7 Vespers
- Aug 8 Divine Liturgy, KSS Slava Celebration – St. Mary Magdalene
- Aug 11-14 All-Merciful Savior Monastery Pilgrimage, 9933 SW 268th
Street, Vashon Island, WA 98070-2420,
www.vashonmonks.com.
- Aug 14 Dormition Fast Begins
- Aug 14 6 p.m. Vespers at St. Stephen Church – Portland, no vespers at
St. Sava
- Aug 15 H. Divine Liturgy, St. Stephen’s Church Slava – Portland (with
Bp. Maxim)
- Aug 16-27 Fr. Ilija on vacation
- Aug 18 6:15 p.m. Vigil, Transfiguration of our Lord – Pokrov Church,
564 Ravenna Blvd., Seattle, WA 98115 (park under the 5
Freeway at NE 65th St. and the church is around the corner
facing Ravenna), www.pokrov-seattle.org .

- Aug 19 7:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Transfiguration of our Lord – Pokrov Church, Seattle
- Aug 21 5:30 p.m. Vespers – Pokrov Church, Seattle
- Aug 22 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy – Pokrov Church, Seattle
- Aug 25 7:00 p.m. Choir practice
- Aug 28 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, Dormition Most Holy Mother of God
- Aug 28 5:00 p.m. Vespers – St. Demetrios Church, Seattle
- Aug 29 Divine Liturgy; Church Board Meeting
- Sept. 11 or 18 Roslyn Serbian Cemetery clean-up and parastos

*THE MORE WE COME TO
CHURCH,*



*THE MORE WE BECOME THE
CHURCH.*