

# **Sunday, August 18, 2024 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Post-feast of the Dormition. Holy Martyrs Florus and Laurus (313-24).**

*Troparia and Kontakia Troparion, Tone 4:* When the disciples of the Lord learned from the angel\* the glorious news of the resurrection\* and cast off the ancestral condemnation,\* they proudly told the apostles:\* “Death has been plundered!\* Christ our God is risen,\* granting to the world great mercy.

*Troparion, Tone 1:* In giving birth you retained your virginity,\* in falling asleep you did not abandon the world, O Mother of God.\* You passed into life, for you are the Mother of Life,\* and by your prayers\* you deliver our souls from death.

+Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

*Kontakion, Tone 4:* My Savior and Deliverer from the grave\* as God raised out of bondage the children of the earth\* and shattered the gates of Hades;\* and as Master, He rose on the third day.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

*Kontakion, Tone 2:* The tomb and death could not hold the Mother of God,\* unceasing in her intercession and unfailing hope of patronage,\* for, as the Mother of Life, she was transferred to life\* by Him Who had dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.

*Prokeimenon, Tone 4* How great are Your works, O Lord\* You have made all things in wisdom. *verse:* Bless the Lord, O my soul: O Lord my God, You are exceedingly great. (*Psalms 103:24,1*)

*Epistle – A reading of Paul to the Corinthians: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24 (NRSV)*  
*Brothers and Sisters,* keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brothers and sisters, you know that members of the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to put yourselves at the service of such people, and of everyone who works and toils with them. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours.

So give recognition to such persons. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord. All the brothers and sisters send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.

### ***Alleluia, Tone 4***

*verse:* Poise yourself and advance in triumph and reign in the cause of truth, and meekness, and justice.

*verse:* You have loved justice and hated iniquity. (*Psalm 44:5,8*)

### ***Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42 (NRSV)***

The Lord told this parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

### ***Hymn to the Mother of God***

Seeing the pure one’s falling asleep, angels marvelled in wonder how the Virgin could ascend from earth to heaven. *And the Irmos:* O pure Virgin, in you are conquered the bounds of nature,\* for childbirth remains virginal and death is betrothed to life.\* Virgin after childbearing and alive and death, O Mother of God,\* never cease to save your inheritance.

***Communion Hymn*** Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (*Psalm 148:1*)