

AUGUST 31 - the placing of the honorable belt of the Birthgiver of God

FIRST ANTIPHON. PSALM 91.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord; to sing praises to Your name, O most High.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your faithfulness every night.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

To show that the Lord is upright, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Refrain: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

SECOND ANTIPHON. PSALM 92.

The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, He has girded Himself.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

The world also is established, so that it cannot be moved.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore.

Refrain: Through the prayers of Your saints, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen. Only-begotten Son and immortal Word of God, Who for our salvation willed to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, Who without change became man and was crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, Who are one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit - save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON. PSALM 94

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

In His hand are the deep places of the earth; the strength of the hills is His also.

Refrain: O Son of God, Who are wondrous in Your saints, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

TROPARIA Tone 8 Ever Virgin Birthgiver of God, protectress of mankind,
you have given your people a powerful legacy:
the robe and sash of your most honored body
which remained incorrupt throughout your seedless childbearing;
for through you time and nature are renewed.//
Therefore we implore you: "Grant peace to your people and to our souls great mercy!"

Tone 4 In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, / a model of meekness,
and teacher of abstinence, / so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, / O
Holy Father Nicholas, / intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of
ages. Amen.

KONTAKION

Tone 2 Your precious belt, O Birthgiver of God, which encompassed your God-receiving
womb, is an invincible force for your flock, and unfailing treasury of every good, O only
Ever-virgin Mother.

*The prokeimenon in the third tone: My soul magnifies the Lord / and my spirit rejoices in
God my Savior. (Luke 1:46-47)*

*v: For He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for behold, henceforth all
generations will call me blessed. (Luke 1:48)*

THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL TO THE HEBREWS

(9:1-7) Brethren: even the first testament had ordinances of divine service and the earthly
sanctuary. For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the
table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary; and behind the second veil, the part
of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All, which had the golden censer and the ark
of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the
manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant; and above it were the
cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in
detail. Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first
part of the tabernacle, performing the services. But into the second part the high priest went
alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins
committed in ignorance.

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. Hear, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear. (Psalm 44:11)

v. Before your face the richest of people will pray. (Psalm 44:13)

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (10:38-42, 11:27-28)

COMMUNION HYMN I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! (Psalm 115:4)