

# *Holy Virgin Dormition Russian Orthodox Church*

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Like us on Facebook: *Dormition of the Blessed Virgin  
Mary Russian Orthodox Church*

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8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost      18 August 2024

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## SCRIPTURES FOR TODAY (Tone 7)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 14:14-22

Next Sunday, 1 Corinthians 3:9-17; Matthew 14:22-34

*Vespers Every Saturday evening @ 5:00 PM*

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## REQUIEM MEMORIALS FOR TODAY

ND Kera White, offered by family

Jacob and Anne Homer, offered by daughters Carrie and  
Sandy

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## CHURCH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Feast of the Transfiguration

Sunday immediately following Liturgy – Great Vespers

Monday morning 9am – Divine Liturgy with Blessing of  
Fruit

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SAINTS NAME FOR THIS WEEK TODAY, SUNDAY (Aug 18/5)-  
Evsignius, Favius, Anthirus, Kantidius, Kantidian, Sivelus,  
Pontius, Nonna. MON- Transfiguration of the Lord: Job,  
Theoctist, Sergius. TUE- Domdtius, Pimen, Marinus, Asterius,  
Orus, Mitrofan, Anthony. WED- Emilian, Myron, Gregory,  
Elevtherius, Leonid (Leonard). THUR- Holy Ap. Mattius,  
Anthony, Julian, John, Jacob, Alexei, Dimitri, Photius, Peter,  
Leonty, *Maria*, Psoius, Makary. FRI- Lavrenty (Lawerence),  
Sixtus, Felicissimus, Agapitus, Roma (Raymond). SAT- Euplus,  
Theodore, Basil, *Sosanna (Suzanna)*, Gaius, Gavinius, Claudius,  
Maxim, *Prepedignia*, Alexander, Kifius, Nifont

Parish Council Meeting next Sunday following Divine Services

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## Dormition Fast

We are currently in the midst of the Dormition Fast. This Lenten period is only 14 days in duration and concludes on the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

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## Decorated Candles for Dormition Feast

Special decorated candles will be set up in our church for the Feast of the Dormition of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Aug. 28). These candles are available at \$20 each. Please use the request sheet in the vestibule. Please make all requests by next Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

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## Blessing of Fruit

On the feast of the Holy Transfiguration a pious and holy custom of the Orthodox faithful is to bring fruits to the church to be blessed by the priest. Many who bring fruit to be blessed on this day do so without knowing why it is done.

The feast of the Transfiguration occurs in the summer season when many fruits ripen. Devout Orthodox faithful from infancy have been instilled with the knowledge that all things should be blessed in the name of God. It is only logical that these fruits of summer be brought to the church for God's blessing as an expression of gratitude to God Who made possible that fruit, Who created us and the world in which we live, including every plant and living thing in it.

In asking the Lord's blessings upon these summer fruits during the feast of the Transfiguration, we petition Almighty God, Who on this occasion revealed His Great Glory on Mount Tabor, that He may find us worthy to eat of His Heavenly Fruits in the Eternal Kingdom.

This custom of blessing fruits should not be forgotten nor discouraged. Oftentimes, it will be argued that since we don't grow our own fruits in our own orchards or yards, we are not really bringing forth the fruits of our own labors. Or, since we can buy these fruits throughout the calendar year, summer is really not the only season for the begetting of these fruits.

The fruits which we bring to church of the Transfiguration Feast serve to remind us of the need to rededicate ourselves periodically to the service of God. The fruit of the tree can serve as a symbol of the fruits of our lives which we bring to God. The custom *should* and *must* be perpetuated. Children must be taught and allowed to bring their own baskets (however small) of fruit! What a wonderful gesture of devotion it is from our youth! How much more meaningful is that basket of fruit than the artificial tinsel at Christmas, the box of candy for Valentine's Day, or the modern chocolate "Easter" bunny rabbit.