

The 31st Day of August

Placing of the Cincture (Sash) of the Most-holy Theotokos.

Evening Service

At “Lord, I call...,” 6 stikhera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”*

The shrine of thy sash, O Mother of God /
Is an ark of sanctification for thy servants. /
A sacred enclosure of praise and glory, /
An abundant fountain of healing. /
And we, who have mystically assembled before it today ///
Praise the abundance of thy miracles and thy majesty. *(Twice)*

Behold, this most glorious setting! /
Behold, this sacred and radiant temple! /
Behold, this place where the treasure is laid! /
Behold the precious sash of the Maiden of God! /
Come near, draw illumination and cleansing, /
And cry aloud with a thankful heart: ///
We, who are saved by thy birthgiving, bless thee, O most-pure Virgin. *(Twice)*

We celebrate with joy the placing of thy holy sash, O Theotokos /
For on this day thou wast well-pleased to bestow it upon thy people /
As a sacred garment, a wall of protection /
A treasure which cannot be stolen away, /
A precious gift of immeasurable riches, ///
A river overflowing with spiritual gifts. *(Twice)*

Glory..., now and ever..., in Tone 2: *In the usual melody*

The Church of God is adorned today by thy holy sash /
As with a most glorious and splendid garland, /
And shining with glory and mystically rejoicing, it cries out to thee, O Lady, /
Rejoice, O diadem and precious garland of divine glory! /
Rejoice, thou, who alone art the fulfillment of glory and joy eternal! ///
Rejoice, thou refuge, protection and salvation of all who hasten to thee.

Or Dogmatic Theotokion if a Resurrection service.

At the Apostikha, these stikhera, in Tone 4: *To the melody, “Thou hast given a sign....”*

Thou didst give thy sash to thy people, O glorious Lady, /
As a divine protection to keep them safe from misfortunes, /

31 AUGUST: THE CINCURE (SASH) OF THE THEOTOKOS

Preserving them, unvanquished by their enemies. /
Therefore we cry to thee with love: /
Thy Son and God, Who alone is compassionate, ///
Is our strength, our might, and our greatest joy!

Verse: Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness.

Those who rule with piety, /
Should always praise thee, O most-pure one, /
They should treasure thy sash as a garland and a precious crown, /
And they should praise thy divine majesty; /
For it is known to strike fear in the hearts of our enemies. /
Therefore, they should cry out to Him, Who beyond understanding was born of thee: ///
O Most-glorious Jesus, in Thy compassion, save us!

Verse: The rich among the people shall pray before thy face.

Encircle us with the power of thy sash, O Virgin, /
And strengthen us against our enemies. /
Chasten the passions which always torment us and struggle against us, /
And grant us the victory of dispassion, /
So that with purity we may glorify thee /
And earnestly cry out to thy Son: ///
O All-powerful Jesus, in Thy compassion, save us!

Glory..., now and ever.... Tone 2: *In the usual melody*

Having cleansed our thoughts and minds /
Let us celebrate together with the angels, /
Brightly, like David, let us sing to the Maiden, /
The Bride of Christ our God, the King of all! /
And let us sing: Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, /
Thou and the ark of thy holiness! /
For having adorned her as a beautiful palace /
Thou hast given her to us, O Master, /
To strengthen and defend us from our enemies ///
Through her prayers and Thy powerful might.

The Troparion of the Theotokos, in Tone 8:

O Ever-virgin Mother of God, protectress of the human race, /
Thou hast bestowed a mighty legacy upon the people, /
Thy robe and thy sash that encircled thy body, /

Which by thy seedless birthgiving remained incorrupt, /
For time and nature are both renewed in thee. ///
So we implore thee to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

Morning Service

At “God is the Lord...” the Troparion of the Theotokos, thrice.

The Canon

incomplete as of 7/26/2014

The Kontakion of the Theotokos, in Tone 2: To the melody, “Seeking the highest....”

O Mother of God, the sash that encircled thy body /
Which had borne the Son of God, /
Is for us, an object of glory. /
A treasure abundant in grace, ///
O Theotokos and only Ever-virgin Mother.

At the Praises, 4 stikhera , in Tone 4: To the melody, “As one valiant among the martyrs....”

The Church of God is adorned today by thy holy sash /
As with a most glorious and splendid garland, /
And shining with glory and mystically rejoicing, it cries out to thee, O Lady, /
Rejoice, O diadem and precious garland of divine glory! /
Rejoice, thou, who alone art the fulfillment of glory and joy eternal! ///
Rejoice, thou refuge, protection and salvation of all who hasten to thee. *(Twice)*

Thou, most-pure and sovereign Lady /
Art a mighty rampart, immoveable and strong, /
Bringing salvation to thy people; /
By giving them thy most precious sash as a splendid garment /
To save all from all misfortune, ///
Who with faith fervently honor thee, O Bride of God.

Thy temple, O most-pure Lady, /
Is revealed today as an inexhaustible fountain of miracles, /
For rivers of grace pour out abundantly from thy shrine /
And gladden the thoughts of the faithful, /
Who with love and faith cry out to thee: ///
Thou art the joy and the gladness of our life!

Glory..., now and ever.... Tone 2: *In the usual melody*

Having cleansed our thoughts and minds /
Let us celebrate together with the angels, /
Brightly, like David, let us sing to the Maiden, /
The Bride of Christ our God, the King of all! /
And let us sing: Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, /
Thou and the ark of thy holiness! /
For having adorned her as a beautiful palace /
Thou hast given her to us, O Master, /
To strengthen and defend us from our enemies ///
Through her prayers and Thy powerful might.

Liturgy

The Troparion of the Theotokos, in Tone 8:

O Ever-virgin Mother of God, protectress of the human race, /
Thou hast bestowed a mighty legacy upon the people, /
Thy robe and thy sash that encircled thy body, /
Which by thy seedless birthgiving remained incorrupt, /
For time and nature are both renewed in thee. ///
So we implore thee to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

The Kontakion of the Theotokos, in Tone 2: *To the melody, "Seeking the highest...."*

O Mother of God, the sash that encircled thy body /
Which had borne the Son of God, /
Is for us, an object of glory. /
A treasure abundant in grace, ///
O Theotokos and only Ever-virgin Mother.

Prokeimenon, in Tone 3, (The Song of the Theotokos): My soul magnifies the Lord, /
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. *Verse:* For He hath regarded the low estate of
His handmaiden, for behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed.

Epistle to the Hebrews: (320) Heb. 9:1-7.

Alleluia, in Tone 8: Arise, O Lord, into Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy
holiness. *Verse:* The Lord hath sworn to David a sure oath and will not change His mind.

Gospel according to St. Luke: (54) Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28