Koimisis of the Theotokos

On August 15th we commemorate the Koimisis, Dormition, or the Falling Asleep of the Virgin Mary. Much of the Church's Holy Tradition is given in the book called the *Horologion.* In this book we read about the falling asleep of the Theotokos.

As time drew near for the Lord to call His earthly Mother, He sent an angel to announce this to her three days beforehand. The Virgin Mary then went to the Mount of Olives to pray. This was a prayer of rejoicing, the joy of return to the Savior. Ever since the Resurrection, death had a new meaning and attitude. Death no longer meant the end and despair; now it was a new beginning, a hope, a new life. Death was now, in Christian terms *sleep,* which Christ would wake us up from and live forever with Him in heaven.

The event of the Dormition is very important in our Church life and it is preceded by a two week fast period. During this time we conduct the service of the Paraklesis, the Supplication to the Theotokos. During this service we ask the Virgin Mary to pray for us to her Son, to help us, to overcome our illnesses, and to assist us in times of trouble or need. We do this because the Church feels that since she is so close to God that she will assist us in our prayers to Him.

During the first two weeks of August, we will be conducting four Paraklesis services and you are invited to join us and pray with us for the health and needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Paraklesis Service
All services will take place at 7p.m.

Monday, August 3, 2009
Friday, August 7, 2009
Monday, August 10, 2009
Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Παράκλησις Ακολουθίες
Όλες οι ακολουθίες θα λάβουν μέρος στίς 7·μ.μ.
Δευτέρα, 3η, Αυγούστου, 2009
Παρασκευή 7η, Αυγούστου, 2009
Δευτέρα, 10η, Αυγούστου, 2009
Τετάρτη, 12η, Αυγούστου, 2009

Please write the *baptismal names* of those people you wish remembered and return to the church office.

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