



## St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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### Afterfeast of the Dormition of the Mother of God / Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia, and those with him, who suffered under Maximian August 22, 2021

#### **Troparion – Tone 8**

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

#### **Troparion – Tone 1**

In giving birth thou didst preserve thy virginity. In falling asleep thou didst not forsake the world, O Theotokos. Thou wast translated to life, O Mother of Life,// and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

#### **Troparion – Tone 4**

Thy holy martyr Agathonicus and his companions, O Lord, through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//  
Through their intercession, save our souls!

#### **Kontakion – Tone 8**

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,// and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

#### **Kontakion – Tone 1**

Having received the good calling, O divinely wise one, thou didst abandon the cult of evil men, not fearing their tortures, O glorious Agathonicus. Therefore, thou hast inherited good things// and worthily received the incorruptible crown with thy fellow martyrs.

#### **Kontakion – Tone 2**

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life,// she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 8**

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!

*V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.*

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 3**

My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

### **Afterfeast of the Dormition of the Mother of God**

The Church continues to honor the passage of the Most Holy Theotokos from death to life. Just as Christ once dwelt in the virginal womb of His Mother, now He takes Her “to dwell in His courts.”

### **Martyr Agathonicus of Nicomedia, and those with him, who suffered under Maximian**

The Martyrs Agathonicus, Zoticus, Theoprepus, Acindynus, Severian, Zeno and others accepted death for Christ during the reign of the emperor Maximian (284-305).

The Martyr Agathonicus was descended from the illustrious lineage of the Hypasians, and he lived at Nicomedia. Well versed in Holy Scripture, he converted many pagans to Christ, including the most eminent member of the Senate (its “princeps” or leader). Comitatus Eutolmianus was sent to the Pontine (lower Black Sea) region, where he crucified the followers of the Christian Zoticus, who had refused to offer sacrifice to idols. He took Zoticus with him.

In Nicomedia, Eutolmianus arrested the Martyr Agathonicus (together with the princeps), and also Theoprepus, Acindynus and Severian. After tortures, Eutolmianus ordered that the martyrs be taken to Thrace for trial by the emperor.

But along the way, in the vicinity of Potama, the Martyrs Zoticus, Theoprepus and Acindynus were unable to proceed further behind the chariot of the governor because of wounds received during torture. Therefore, they were put to death. The Martyr Severian was put to death at Chalcedon, and the Martyr Agathonicus together with others was beheaded with the sword by order of the emperor, in Selymbria.

The relics of the Martyr Agathonicus were in a church named for him at Constantinople, and were seen in the year 1200 by the Russian pilgrim Anthony. And in the fourteenth century Philotheus, the archbishop of Selymbria, devoted an encomium to the Martyr Agathonicus.

### **Epistle: 1 Corinthians 3:9-17**

For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is. If anyone’s work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone’s work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

### **Gospel: Matthew 14:22-34**

Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there. But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary. Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out for fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.” And Peter answered Him and said, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.” So He said, “Come.” And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, “Lord, save me!” And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, “Truly You are the Son of God.” When they had crossed over, they came to the land of Gennesaret.

### **Service Schedule for the week of August 22**

**Today** – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Panikhida for Victor Strecker (Poslansky), brother of Anne Cheslock, followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall.

**Saturday August 28** – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

**Sunday August 29** – 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

## Weekly Giving

August 15 – 74 adults, 16 youth, \$3,321

## Parish Announcements

*There is a lot going on so please read all of the below carefully!*

Welcome to all new parishioners and visitors! Please join us after Divine Liturgy for Coffee Hour next door in Daria Hall.

Archbishop Michael has asked his parishes to hold a special collection for St. Andrew's Camp in Jewell, NY to help support their ongoing renovation projects. There is a collection basket behind the last pew on the table – we will collect today and next Sunday. Thank you for supporting the camp, which provides a wonderful camping experience for Orthodox children!

Sunday, September 5, will be the last day to enroll your child/ren in church Sunday School. Children must be 7 years or older to attend. The sign-up sheet is in the back of the church. Thank you.

### **COFFEE HOUR STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:**

The Parish Council is asking our parish family to become involved in the stewardship of the parish by participating at least once or twice a year in hosting Coffee Hour. Melody and Michael have taken care of Coffee Hour for all of us week after week for many years as we sit back and enjoy as they work – it is time for all of us to pitch in and help!

Every family/individual will be assigned a Sunday to host Coffee Hour starting Sunday, September 5. The list of names and dates for the remainder of 2021 will be posted in the back of the church, in Daria Hall, and in the weekly church bulletin. Coffee Hour, as it used to be when it was first started many years ago, can be as simple as donuts, rolls, and/or bagels. Some parishioners choose to provide additional items, such as salads, fruit, pasta, pizza, etc. which is also fine. We do not want anyone to feel they need to provide more than what they are comfortable with providing. The host will need to be aware of fasting dates so as not to provide meats or dairy products when it is not permitted.

If you are assigned a date that you cannot accommodate, contact someone on the list and switch dates. Or, if you are planning a special event on a particular Sunday and wish to be assigned that date, contact the person assigned to that date to switch, **and update the schedule posted in Daria Hall**. Coffee hour hosting guidelines and instructions will be available in Daria Hall.

If you have questions, reach out to Melody, Father Volodymyr, Darice, Francine, or Herman who can assist. Thank you all for your participation, cooperation, and stewardship for your parish family!

**CHARITABLE OUTREACH PROGRAM UPDATE:** In the next few weeks a list of items needed for our charitable food boxes for the community will be available. Non-perishable food donations that will be outlined on the list or monetary donations to purchase non-perishable food items will be much appreciated. Our goal is to provide non-perishable food items to our local community for those in need, and supply these items at least on a quarterly basis. We will appreciate everyone's support in helping our neighbors.

**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC:** As you know, the annual church picnic will be held on Sunday September 19 at the church picnic grounds on Rt. 33 in Hamilton. There are sign-up sheets in the back of the church for items we will need. The church will provide the meats. Thank you and we look forward to seeing everyone at the picnic!

**MOSAIC ICON:** We are getting closer to our fundraising goal! Donation envelopes for the mosaic icon are available at the candle desk. Please write "Mosaic Icon" in the memo portion of your check and turn in your donation envelope at the candle desk, or you may send a check directly to Father Volodymyr at the rectory. If you have any questions please see Father Volodymyr or a member of the Parish Council. Thank you for your continued involvement in the beautification of our church!

Please see a member of the FOCA Club if you are interested in purchasing a mural block (Daria Hall); funds will be used for Daria Hall improvements. Donors will have a brass nameplate added to the commemoration boards on the sides of the mural – either "Donated By" or "In Memory Of", with the names inscribed as designated by the donor.