

# August 21

**Seventh day of the Dormition;  
Commemoration of the holy Apostle Thaddeus  
and of the holy woman martyr Bassa and her sons,  
Theognis, Agapios and Pistos  
(5th Class)**

## VESPERS

*Stichera for Thaddeus (Tone 8)*

6. O Thaddeus, blessed Apostle of the Lord, upon reaching the supreme Light, you became a light in turn through your communion with God. Scattering the night of the many idols, you led souls to the Almighty One. Thus, as we joyfully celebrate your memory which sheds its radiance upon us, we glorify Christ our God.
5. O Thaddeus, blessed Apostle of the Lord, after the divine and radiant Resurrection and all-holy Ascension of Christ into Heaven, you received the mission of preaching the divine message in Edessa, your city. By your words and miracles there, you confirmed the ruler Abgar and all his subjects in the truth of the Faith.
4. O Thaddeus, blessed Apostle of the Lord, your divine touch allowed the blind to see, the lame to walk, the sick to recover their health, the paralytics to stand aright, and the uninitiated to receive salvation; for you were filled with gifts by the Creator Spirit. Thus, we sing to you in our hymns, O blessed one.

*For Bassa (Tone 4)*

3. O illustrious martyr Bassa, wishing to fight the good fight for Christ, you endured your many torments. Thus you passed to the life-without-suffering, the never-setting Light, the radiant joy and eternal happiness of God. For this reason, we call you blessed and celebrate your holy feast today, O victorious martyr.

2. After so many, varied tortures, when you were cast into the sea, the Savior of all, our God, saved you by His divine power, for you crushed the power of the Enemy, O martyr of many struggles. Now you enlighten the heart of believers by your wonders which surpass our understanding.
1. As a bird on a branch makes her delightful song heard, so from the tree of wondrous struggles, you called your loving children to escape from the snares of the Deceiver. With them, O wondrous Bassa, you flew away to rest in the heavenly dove-cots where you intercede for us.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion (Tone 6)*

Come, let us celebrate the universal Dormition of the spotless Mother of our God; today the angels feast her translation in her presence and invite us mortals to rejoice, that we may tirelessly sing to her: "Hail, O light Cloud which brought together the disciples in one choir! Hail, O our hope and protection!" With incessant voice, all we Christians call you blessed!

*"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Wednesday evening.*

**APOSTICHA** (Tone 2)

1. The choir of Disciples has come together from the ends of the earth, in order to bury, in company with the angels, your body which bore God, O divine mother.

All: Go up, O Lord, into Your resting place, You and the Ark of Your majesty.

2. Come, all you mortals: together with the angels, let us form a radiant choir today for the Dormition of the Mother of God.

All: The Lord has sworn an oath to David, and He will not repent.

3. Your body was not touched by the dust of the tomb; although it was buried in keeping with nature and its laws, nevertheless it remains incorruptible.

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

*Theotokion*

The spotless Bride, the Mother of Him in whom the Father was well-pleased, she who was foreordained by God to be the dwelling-place of His union without confusion, delivers today her blameless soul to her Creator and God. The spiritual powers receive her with honors due to God, and she who is truly the Mother of Life departs unto life, the lamp of the Light which no man can approach, the salvation of the faithful and the hope of our souls.

**TROPARION OF THADDEUS** (*Tone 3*)

O holy Apostle Thaddeus, intercede with the merciful God that He may grant our souls the forgiveness of sins.

**OR TROPARION OF THADDEUS** (*Tone 4*)

An eye-witness of the God who appeared to you in a body, O Apostle Thaddeus, as His holy disciple you shone the grace of the Savior upon those in darkness. The people of Edessa came to see a wondrous healer in you; now protect all those who run to you with faith.

v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

**TROPARION OF THE MARTYRS** (*Tone 4*)

Your martyrs, O Lord, received the crown of immortality from You, O our God, on account of their struggle. Armed with Your strength, they have vanquished their persecutors and crushed the powerless arrogance of demons. Through their supplications, O Christ God, save our souls.

**OR TROPARION OF THE MARTYRS** (*Tone 1*)

As a mother adorned with beautiful children, O victorious martyr Bassa, you offered to the divine Trinity the fruit of your womb, Theognis, Agapios and Pistos, who heeded your teachings and persevered in fighting the good fight. As you rejoice in God with them, save the faithful who sing: "Glory to Him who glorified you! Glory to Christ who crowned you! Glory to Him who through you grants mercy to all!"

- now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**TROPARION OF THE DORMITION** (*Tone 1*)

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity; and in falling asleep, you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life, being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.