

August 18th

# The After-Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

## Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers

Byzantine Chant Tone 2  
Special melody: O house of Ephratha

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) O ye ce - les - tial gates, be o - pened, for, — be - hold now,

the Moth - er of — the Most High, the pure and ho - ly

Vir - gin, now di - eth and she — draw - eth near.

*Verse:* Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy holiness.

2) From thē ends of — the world, the choir of Christ's dis - ci - ples

is won - drous - ly — here gath - ered to bur - y thy di -

- vine — and all - spot - less bod - y — in the grave.

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*Verse:* The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David, and he will not annul it.

3) Strike up a sa - cred hymn to praise God's on - ly Moth - er,

ye pow - ers of the Heav - ens, with God the Word's in -

- i - ti - ates gath - ered from the far - thest lands.