August 20th

After-feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone 5
Special Melody: Rejoice

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) He that in our behalf had become
2) Whence hath it been made known unto you
3) Standing about thine honourable bed

like unto us from thy most pure and all holy blood,
of my departure from the body? So spake the blest
and then escorting thee with glory unto the grave

the Same, when He was well pleased to translate thee out of the world
and pure Theotokos to the sacred disciples of Christ.
according to nature's law, O all holy Virgin most pure,

and most strangely take thee to Himself as pure,
O my children, what is this most wondrous sight?
Christ Saviour's disciples sang thee funeral hymns,

assembled together all His own servants upon a cloud
They answered: We suddenly were all lifted up on the clouds;
while saying: Rejoice, August Lady, palace and throne of God;

and brought them to thee, by command, that they bury thee,
and as thou seest, we are come unto thine abode,
rejoice, thou ready help and succor of men; rejoice,

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giving honor to thy departure befittingly.

now to worship thee as a holy and fiery throne,

spotless chariot of the Holy Divinity.

Then the Apostles, seeing thee, O Virgin, were filled with grace,

and to see thy departure and divine emigration hence,

Go, pass unto the everlastimg mountains with swift ascent;

and with exceeding great reverence, they all then

and with our own hands to bury thy tabernacle of glory, dwell in di-

saecrally worshipped thee and cried out with firm faith:

-tanacle which once held God, that all holy dwelling,

-vine tabernacles now, and ask for the faithful

O rejoice, thou who hast brought forth Great Mercy for the world.

by the which the world hath found His Great Mercy for itself.

the divine unfailling peace and Great Mercy of our God.