

Vesper Propers, August 31, 2025  
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

**The deposition of the venerable Belt of the Most Holy Mother of God.** At the time of her dormition, the Theotokos left her belt to the apostle Thomas. This was later taken to Constantinople and kept in a sealed casket in the church of Blachernae. In the time of the emperor Leo the Wise, the casket was opened and the belt placed on the Empress Zoe, who recovered from a life-threatening illness.

*Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2006*

*Lamplighting Psalms in the Tone of the Week (Tone 3, p. 48), stichera 10-7.*

**Cantor:** (Tone 4) If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive?  
(on 6) But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you.

**Stichera of the Deposition - Tone 4 samohlasen**

The reliquary containing your cincture, O Theotokos,  
is an ark of holiness for the faithful, a sacred rampart around them, their  
glory and their pride. Each day it overflows as a fountain of healing.  
Thus, gathered together by God, we celebrate today the sea of your  
miracles and your countless wondrous deeds.

**Cantor:** My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.  
(on 5) My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman for daybreak.  
Repeat "The reliquary..."

**Cantor:** Let the watchman count on daybreak,  
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

Be-hold the re - nowned place; be - hold the ceaseless-ly ra - diant dwell - ing - place  
in which grace is kept as a treas - ure: the hon - or - a - ble cinc - ture  
of the Hand-maid of the Lord! O mor - tals, come and draw pardon and  
en - light - en - ment! In thanksgiving, cry out with your whole heart:  
By your birth - giving you have saved us and we bless you, O all - pure  
Vir - - - gin!

**Cantor:** Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,  
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.  
Repeat "Behold, the renowned place..."

**Cantor:** Praise the Lord, all you nations, **Psalm 116**  
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

We celebrate the holy de-po - si - tion of your cinc-ture, O The - o - to - kos,  
as a festive day full of joy. On this day, you have deigned to bestow it u-pon  
your cit - y as a sa - cred rampart, an invi-o - late tal - is - man,  
a precious bond, an impregnable treasu-ry of heal - ing, a river o-ver-flow - ing  
with the Spir - it's gifts.

**Cantor:** Strong is the love of the Lord for us;  
(on 1) he is faithful forever. *Repeat "We celebrate..."*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

**Doxastikon - Tone 2 samohlasen**

O all-pure The - o - to - kos, the Church of Christ has received your sa - cred  
cinc - ture as a re-splen - dent di - a - dem. To - day it is radiant

with joy, O La - dy, as it ex - ults in the myster-y and cries out:  
 Re - joice, pre - cious diadem, crown of the glo-ry of the Lord, on - ly glo-ry  
 of the assembly and my e - ter-nal joy! Re - joice, pro - tec - tress of those who  
 have re-course to you, our ha-ven of peace, our an-chor of sal - va - tion.

**Cantor:** (Tone 7) Now and ever...

*Dogmatikon in the Tone of the Week (Tone 3, p. 53)*

### Aposticha

*Aposticha in the Tone of the Week (Tone 3, page 54), concluding with:*

**Cantor:** (Tone 2) Glory...

**Aposticha Doxastikon of the Deposition - Tone 2 samohlasen**

Let us pu - ri - fy our hearts and our minds, that we may joy - fully celebrate this  
 feast with an - gels, in-ton-ing the psalm Da-vid sang for the young Bride of the King

of All, Christ our God: he said: Go up to your rest - ing-place, O Lord,  
 you and the Ark of your ho - li - ness! O Lord, you have adorned her as a  
 pal - ace of de-lights and have giv - en her as an inheritance to your cit - y  
 to sur-round it and pro-tect it; de - liv - ering it, in your power, from all  
 its en - e - mies through the pray'rs she rais - es to your throne.

**Cantor:** Now and ever...

*Aposticha theotokion in the same tone (Tone 2, p. 45).*

*Troparia in the Tone of the Week (Tone 3, p. 57)*