

## **Metropolitan Nicolae at Putna's patronal feast: The Mother of God is the Mother of us all**



Addressing the pilgrims present at Putna Monastery on the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, the Romanian Orthodox Metropolitan of the Americas, Nicolae Condrea, referred to the universal love of the Mother of God.

‘We call her the Mother of God and we believe that she is the Mother of us all, who prays and protects us,’ His Eminence noted August 15, 2019.

The Metropolitan stressed that the feast of the Dormition is a ‘source of hope and joy’.

It is an unquenchable source of hope because ‘it strengthens our hope that our soul will be welcomed in the arms of our Saviour Jesus Christ.’

Referring to the festal icon, Metropolitan Nicolae said that ‘it should be known to all those who believe in falling asleep and not in death.’

“Those of us who believe express our hope that the souls of the departed are received by Christ in His arms, as the icon of the Dormition of the Mother of God assures us,” said Metropolitan Nicolae.

If the troparion of the feast ‘condenses the entire earthly mission of the Virgin Mary,’ its final part ‘strengthens this belief that through her intercessions our souls will be delivered from death.’

The Divine Liturgy was presided over by Metropolitan Ignatios of Western and Southern Europe (Antioch Patriarchate).

Concelebrants included Metropolitan Nicolae of America, Archbishop Pimen of Suceava and Radauti, and Bishop Thomas of Bronnitsy (Moscow Patriarchate).

- Photography courtesy of Putna Monastery / Facebook – Source: [basilica.ro](http://basilica.ro)