August 23

C. Leavetaking of the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

This day is the leave-taking of the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos and we sing the entire service of the feast.

Note the Chapter in the Typicon (Ustav) and Menaion "If the leave-taking of the feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos falls on a Sunday.

Holy Martyr Lupus

He was the servant of St. Demetrius of Thessalonica. Finding himself by his master during his martyr's death, he soaked his clothes with his blood, he took his ring and with this ring and the blood of the martyr he worked many wonders in Thessalonica. For this he was beheaded during the reign of Maximinian. Concerning the service for him see August 22.

Holy Hieromartyr Ireneus, Bishop of Lugdunum (Lyons)

He was born in Smyrna, Asia Minor, and in boyhood was taught the Christian faith by St. Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna (February 23). Ordained a presbyter by the latter, St. Ireneus was sent to Gallia (Gaul) to preach the Gospel. After the martyrdom of St. Pothinus, Bishop of Lyons, St. Ireneus, being elected as his successor, zealously spread the Christian faith and struggled with heretics. In 202, during the persecution of Septimius Severus, St. Ireneus died as a martyr. He left behind a rather important work according to its content: "Detection and Overthrow of the Pretended but False Gnosis", or "Five books Against the Heresies". The writing of this composition was caused by the wide distribution of the Valentinian heresy. This work of the Holy Father and others known under his name are of great importance and of special authority on the history of Christian doctrine according to antiquity, and especially owing to the closeness of St. Ireneus to St. Polycarp, the direct disciple of the Holy Apostles.
St. Callinicus, Patriarch of Constantinople

He was raised from a priest to the rank of patriarch by Emperor Justinian II in 693, from which for his zealousness concerning the Church of God he accepted a martyr's death. St. Callinicus was blinded, his tongue cut out, sent to Rome and there they sealed him up in a stone wall. After 40 days when they partitioned the wall, St. Callinicus was found still alive, but died within 4 days. His body was buried in Rome in about the year 705.

Ven. Eutychius and Florentius

They practiced asceticism as monks in the environs of Nursia (now Norcia), Italy. For their wonderful ascetic efforts they were granted the gift of wonderworking from the Lord. The Ven. Eutychius subsequently became the hegumen of one of the Nursia Monasteries and died in the year 540. Ven. Florentius, after the death of his co-ascetic, left for the city of Fulshnium to St. Bishop Vincent and there died in the year 547.