Sunday, April 23, 2023

Sunday after Pascha: Thomas Sunday
+ St. George the Great Martyr

Eothinon/Orthros Gospel: First (Matthew 28:16-20)
Mode of the Week: Festal/Της Εορτής

QR Codes (scan with smart phone for service texts)

Our Parish Hymn of the Holy Cross of Christ:

Save, O Lord, save your people and bless Your inheritance. Give victory to those who battle evil and protect us all by Your Holy Cross.

Σῶσον Κύριε τὸν λαόν σου καὶ εὐλόγησον τὴν κληρονομίαν σου, νίκας τοῖς Βασιλεῦσι κατὰ βαρβάρων δωρούμενος καὶ τὸ σὸν φυλάττων διὰ τοῦ Σταυροῦ σου πολίτευμα.

To our Visitors and Guests: We extend a warm welcome to all worshiping with us today! While Holy Communion, following ancient practice, is reserved for Orthodox Christians, non-Orthodox may receive the blessed bread (antidoron) offered at the conclusion of the service.

Please join us in the Parish House after the Divine Liturgy for Coffee Fellowship!
The righteoues man shall be glad in the Lord.
Verse: Hear my voice, O God. (Ps. 63)
Today our Holy Orthodox Church commemorates:

- Sunday after Pascha: Thomas Sunday

Though the doors were shut at the dwelling where the disciples were, therefore feared for fear of the Jews on the evening of the Sunday after the Passover, our Saviour wondrously entered and stood in their midst, and greeted them with His customary words, “Peace be unto you.” Then He showed unto them His hands and feet and side; furthermore, in their presence, He took some fish and a homobasileus and ate before them, and thus assured them of His bodily Resurrection. But Thomas, who was not then present with the others, did not believe their testimony concerning Christ’s Resurrection, but said in a decisive manner, “Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and my hand into His side, I will not believe.” Wherefore after eight days, that is, on this day, when the disciples were again gathered together and Thomas was with them, the Lord Jesus came while the doors were shut, as He did formerly, standing in the midst of them, and said to them, “Peace be unto you,” then He said to Thomas, “Bring hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and bring hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side. Be not unbelieving, but believing.” Thomas held in his hands and examining carefully the hands and side of the Master, cried out with faith, “My Lord and My God.” Thus it clearly proclaimed the two natures - human and divine - of the God-Man (Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-29).

- The Holy Glorious Great Martyr George the Trophy bearer (+303)

- The Holy Martyr Valerians

- The Holy Martyrs Anatolios and Proteoloe the Commanders, Glykerios the Farmer, and Athanasios (+303)

- The Holy Martyrs Donatios and Therrinos (+250)

- The Holy New Martyrs George of Poliemas (+1752)

- The By the intercessions of Your Saints, O God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

Variable Hymns of the Day in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (page 8 in the Pese Book):

- Hymn of the Resurrection (Χριστός ανέστη, Plagal 1st Mode):

Χριστός ανέστη, εκ θανάτου ζωήν χαρίσας.

- Special Entrance Hymn (Entrance 2, Plagal Mode):

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of water.

- Hymn of Thomas Sunday (Εὐσεβικόν Εὐσεβικόν, Grave Mode):

O Life, You rose from the sepulcher, even though the tomb was secured with a seal, O Christ God. Then, although the doors were shut, You came to Your Disciples, O Resurrection of all. Through them You renew a right spirit in us, according to Your great mercy.

- Hymn of St. George (Δς των αγαθώνων, 4th Mode):

As the one renowned for setting captives free and for defending those in their need, Christ our God and the champion of emperors, great and victorious Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls.

- The Hymn of the Holy Cross is not sung today due to the feast.

- The Kontakion of Pascha (Εκ του εν ταύτω, Plagal 4th Mode):

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out “Rejoice” to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

Prayer Requests:

- Prayers for those recently reposed:

Alexie (+March 5), Jane (+March 17), Tasos (+March 21), Fr. Angelo (+April 20)

- Prayers for our Catechumens and Inquirers into the Orthodox Church:

Nate, Chad, Alexander, and pray for those who are seeking Christ and His Church!

Weekly Wisdom of the Fathers:

Elder Thaddeus encouraging us to stay steadfast in our journey to Christ: “All of us sin constantly. We slip and fall in our spirituality, we fall into a trap set by the demons. The Holy Fathers and the Saints always tell us, ‘It is important to get up immediately after a fall and to keep on going toward God.’ Even if we fall a hundred times a day, it does not matter. We must get up every time and go on walking toward God without looking back. What has happened has happened – it is in the past. Just keep on going, all the while asking for help from God.”

Upcoming Celebrations This Week

Name Days—Chronia Polia, Many Years!

Sunday after Pascha: Tim Zdrakas

Monday: George Georgiou, George Demetrious, George Drakopoulos, George Gordy, Norberto Hernandez, George Iakovlev, George Kley, Georgia Lane, Tennessee George Morris, George Saratsiotis, Georgia Saratsiotis, George Stefanis, Richard George Stewart

Tuesday: Maria and Greg Spier

Birthdays—Happy Birthday!

April 24: Tony Bennett

April 25: Elizabeth Saratsiotis

April 29: George Lane, Maria Murphy, Eleni Saratsiotis

Anniversaries—Congratulations!

April 5: Maria and Greg Spier

If you have a celebration that did not make it into the bulletin, please e-mail Fr. Theodore!

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