

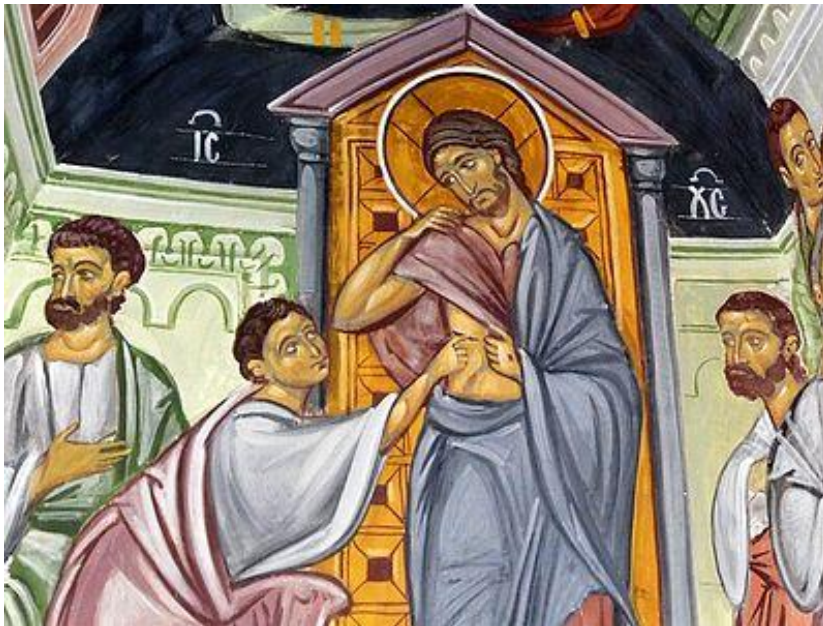
ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America
4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641
773-231-6177 • www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, May 12, 2024

Second Sunday of Pascha • St. Thomas Sunday

Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am



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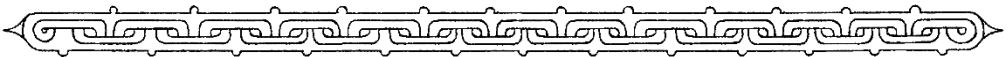
Paschal Troparion: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Entrance Hymn: In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Troparion for St. Thomas Sunday (Tone 7): While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy disciples, O Christ God, resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

Kontakion for Pascha (Tone 8): Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal; Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming 'Rejoice' to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4): Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people! Grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.



THE EPISTLE READING

For St. Thomas Sunday

Great is our Lord, and great is His strength. Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.

The reading from the Acts of the Apostles (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the

sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: “Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.”

THE GOSPEL

For St. Thomas Sunday

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be to you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

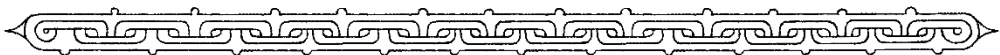
Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe.”

Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, “Peace be to you.” Then He said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing.”

Thomas answered Him, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to him, “Thomas, you have believed because you have seen me. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



Megalynarion for St. Thomas Sunday (Tone 1): O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

Paschal Hymn to the Theotokos (Tone 1): The angel cried to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, rejoice O pure Virgin! Again I say: Rejoice! Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb. With Himself He has raised all the dead; rejoice, rejoice O ye people. Shine, shine, shine O new Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you. Exult now, exalt, and be glad, O Zion. Be radiant, O pure Theotokos, in the resurrection of your Son.

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia.



Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Today: St. Thomas Sunday

- Orthros & Liturgy, followed by coffee hour (R-Z) and church school for all ages.
- Adult church school will be taught by Fr. Pat.

Tuesday, May 14:

- Parish council meeting, 7:30pm (online)

Wednesday, May 15:

- Morning prayers, 9am
- Homeschool classes, 10am-4pm
- Vespers, 7pm

Thursday, May 16:

- Morning prayers, 9am

Friday, May 17:

- Morning prayers, 9am

Saturday, May 18:

- Romans Bible Bowl study, 5-7pm
- Vespers, 7pm

Sunday, May 19: Sunday of the Holy Myrrh-Bearers

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, followed by coffee hour (A-F) and church school.
- This will be our final day of church school for the year. Many thanks to Melissa W. and all of our teachers and staff for the work you have done!
- Adult church school will be taught by Joseph Letendre.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY: May God bless all of our mothers, whether living or departed! Not everyone IS a mother, but everyone HAS a mother. Say a prayer for her, and may the prayers and protection of our Holy Mother Mary the Theotokos be ever with us.

FOOD DONATIONS: North Side Housing expresses their gratitude for the 257 lbs. of food we were able to raise over the Lenten season. Their supplies were running low and they appreciate the extra help we were able to give! May God bless all of you for your generosity.

PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE 2024: All Saints Church will be co-hosting our diocese Parish Life Conference this summer, along with Holy Transfiguration in Warrenville. Mark your calendars: the dates are **Wednesday, June 26 through Saturday, June 29**. We will be in need of volunteers, particularly folks to help staff the registration table Wednesday through Friday, and volunteers for the kids' club events – curriculum planning and teaching.

Register online and see more information: Antiochianevents.com/Toledo

We are also collecting items for registration welcome bags to give out at the conference.

We need 300 of the following items:

- Pens
- Small Notepads (4 x 6)
- Protein or Granola Bars
- Bottles of hand sanitizer

If you wish to contribute any of these items, please contact Paul Cline at officehtaoc@gmail.com or (630) 836-1319.



Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sun., May 12 <i>St Thomas Sun.</i>	Paul K	Domitille	John O	Lydia A	R-Z
Sun, May 19	Christy K	Cristina P	James B	Zach C	A-F
Sun, May 26	Joseph L	Sarah S	Azizeh	Alina S	G-K
Sun, June 2	Richard C	Sandy A	Nancy L	Domitille	L-P
Sun, June 9	Doug J	Debbie K	John O	Lydia A	R-Z
<u>Wed, June 12</u> <i>Ascension</i>	Sd Joseph	Dn Walid	JoAnne T	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Potluck</i>
Sun, June 16	Michelle C	Pat K	James B	Zach C	A-F
Sun, June 23 <i>Pentecost</i>	Christy K	Domitille	Azizeh	Alina S	G-K
Sun, June 30 <i>All Saints</i>	Jim K	Cristina P	Nancy L	Domitille	L-P

For Sunday coffee hour, the church has been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.

***Shaded dates** indicate fasting – no meat, dairy, or eggs should be served on these days.*

*If you have children, please monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and help them clean up after themselves. **Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour.** And of course, things go faster when we all pitch in and help!*

STEADFASTNESS DESPITE PERSECUTION

His Eminence Metropolitan Saba (Ispert)



His Eminence delivered this sermon at St. George Church of Houston, Texas on Bright Monday, May 6, 2024, the celebration of St. George the Great-martyr.

St. George was a great martyr. He was persecuted so much, but he remained steadfast according to his faith.

Many of the faithful, since I came to North America, ask me about persecution. They ask how Christians can face persecution. I heard from them that there is persecution even in this society. It is not easy for Christians to face all the challenges of their society.

I told them some stories from our experience during the last few years in the Middle East, just to remind them that our God is present and alive. He supports us and encourages us to overcome all kinds of persecution. It is by His grace, not by our strength.

In one story, in 2013, two young kids were kidnapped. We have a Christian village in my old archdiocese which was invaded and attacked. The kids were 13 and 14 years old. Thank God, we had them released.

One of them told me that he was so fearful, trembling. They tried to persecute him with different kinds of violence. At last, they put him in a wooden box, like a tomb. They burned him with cigarettes, put a knife against his neck, and asked him to deny Christ.

But then, he felt courage, but he didn't know how and from where. He told me that he was ready to challenge them. He told them, "You can kill me, persecute me, do whatever you want. I am a Christian. I was born a Christian. I will not deny my Christ."

He was amazed, asking me how he could have gotten all this strength and encouragement. So, I opened the gospel, and read him what our Christ said to His disciples: When you are taken to be judged, do not think about what you have to say or what to answer; the Holy Spirit will talk through you and be with you (cf. Luke 12:11-12).

On this great feast of St. George, let us remember that our God is with us. ... Let us trust Him and He will help us, support us, and give us whatever we need to face all challenges. In society, we face values that are against our gospel. We, as Christians, cannot accept them. Let us ask God to inspire us and give us the best way to face these challenges and to deal with them.

What we need first is not to fear, but to have courage because God is with us. We say, "Christ is risen" and "Indeed, He is risen." That means He is alive, and He is with us. Let us open our hearts to Him to overcome not just some challenges and some persecutions, but to overcome the whole world. Amen.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MAY 12-18, 2024

ADAPTED FROM THE
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

Sunday, May 12: St. Thomas the Apostle

Matthew 28:16-20 / Acts 5:12-20 / John 20:19-31

Monday, May 13: Holy Martyr Glyceria

Jonah 3 / Acts 4:1-22 / John 4:1-4, 43-54

Tuesday, May 14: Isidore the Martyr of Chios

Jonah 4 / Acts 4:23-37 / John 5:16-30

Wednesday, May 15: Pachomius the Great

Joshua 5:10-15 / Acts 5:1-11 / John 5:31-47

Thursday, May 16: Brendan the Navigator

Exodus 13:17-22 / Acts 5:17-42 / John 6:1-14

Friday, May 17: Holy Apostles Andronicus and Junia

Exodus 14:1-20 / Acts 6:1-15 / John 6:15-21

**Saturday, May 18: Holy Martyrs Peter, Dionysius, Andrew, Paul, Christina,
Heraclius, Paulinus and Benedimus**

Acts 7:1-16 / John 6:22-27

ALL SAINTS IS A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
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HIS GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST
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