

Thomas Sunday April 27, 2025

Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem and the kinsman of the Lord; John the Confessor,
Abbot of the Monastery of the Chaste

1st Antiphon

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. (**Refrain**)

Glory... Both now... (**Refrain**)

2nd Antiphon

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us and have mercy upon us.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee. (**Refrain**)

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (**Refrain**)

Glory... both now... Only begotten Son and Word of God...

3rd Antiphon

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face.

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

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (**Refrain**)

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (**Refrain**)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (**Refrain**)

The 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 unto Thee: Alleluia.

Troparion for Thomas Sunday (Tone 7)

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. And 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 of Pascha (Tone 8)

O Christ our God, though Thou didst descend into the grave, yet didst Thou overthrow the pow'r of Hades and rise as an Immortal Conqueror. Thou didst greet with joy the myrrh-bearing women, and to Thine Apostles hast sent Thy peace, and to the fallen, O Lord, didst bring resurrection.

The Prokeimenon

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

The Epistle

Acts 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 Holy Gospel

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 with 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 with 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 with 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, "Have you 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.

Assisting Priest: Fr. Michael Kontogiorgis

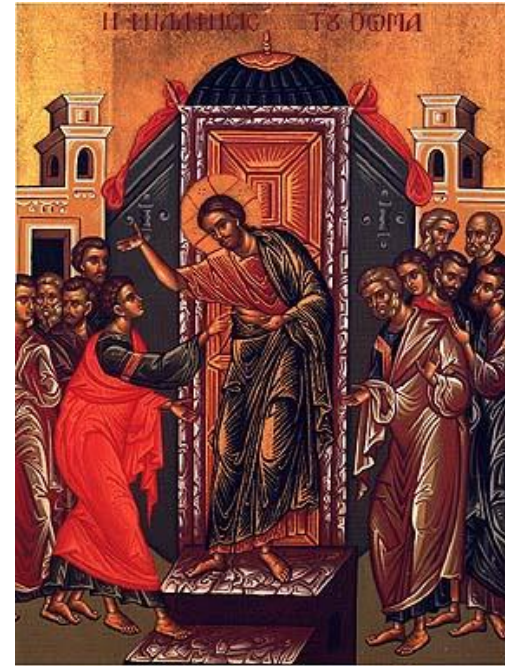
Holy Bread: Kh Meleah Palke/Carol Ofiesh/Pr. Vicki Kontogiorgis

Commemorations(Living): Fr Michael, Pr Vicki, John, Corgie, George, Joan, Maher, Fabiola, Christopher, Steven, Jonathan, Jaime, Justin, Fr Tom, Kh Meleah, Stephen, Carol, Michael, Joel, Lisa, Danny, Asa, Cody, Max, Levi, Courtney, Cassi, Nina, Alex, Lauren, Aaron, Adam, Atticus, Gabriela, Syreeta, Amanda, Michelle, Fr. Vladimir Paul, all Orthodox missionaries, suffering believers throughout the world.

Know your faith Simon of Cyrene carried the cross of Jesus on the way to Golgotha (the name of the hill where Jesus was crucified). Mark 15 indicates the names of Simon's two sons: Alexander and Rufus. List four of the final words from the cross: 1) Father, forgive them... 2) I thirst. 3) Today you shall be with me in Paradise. 4) Father, into your hands I commend my spirit. 5) Jesus commends the care of his mother to John. 6) My God, why have you forsaken me. 7) It is finished. Following these words, a Roman soldier said this about Jesus: "Truly, he was the Son of God." What happened in the Temple as a sign that the death of Jesus made a way for the believer to approach God? The curtain was torn in two. When Jesus died there was darkness. How long did it last? 3 hours. In John 19 two men helped prepare the body of Jesus for burial. Who were they? Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. What happened at some of the cemeteries when Jesus died? There were a number of bodily resurrections. Who was the first person to see Jesus after his resurrection? Mary Magdalene.

Thanks to Lisa and Nina Hamm for providing carnations on Holy Friday!
Thanks to the Hamm families for providing lilies for Pascha.

Wednesday Zoom Bible Study will resume on May 7 at 8:00 PM.



St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church **Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese**

Metropolitan Saba, Primate
Bishop Thomas, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic

Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Meeting at Compton Village
14401 Compton Village Dr.
Centreville, Virginia 20121

Fr. Thomas L. Palke, Pastor
Mail: 3041 Donnington Court
Jeffersonton, VA 22724
(703)303-3047/(540)937-2609
email: pastortlp@aol.com
website: www.straphaelva.org

Prayer of Confession

O Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, our God, Fountain of life and immortality, Creator of all things visible and invisible; Consubstantial and Co-eternal Son of the eternal Father, who in thy exceeding great love didst become incarnate in the latter days, and was crucified for us ungrateful and wicked children, and by thine own blood didst renew our nature corrupted by sin: Do Thou, Immortal King, receive me, a repentant sinner; incline thine ear unto me and hear my prayer. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against heaven and before Thee, and I am not worthy to lift up my eyes to the majesty of thy glory, for I have affronted thy goodness, and broken thy commandments, and disobeyed thy laws. But, Thou, O Lord, most loving, long-suffering and merciful, hast not given me over to perish in my sins, but dost ever await my return. For, O Thou who lovest mankind, thou hast said by thy Prophet, that Thou hast no pleasure in the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his wickedness and live. Thou dost not desire, O Master, to destroy the work of thy hands or that they should perish, but willest that all men should be saved and come to the knowledge of the Truth. Wherefore, I, although unworthy both of heaven and of earth and of this temporary life, even I, a wretched sinner who hath given myself over to every evil desire, despair not of salvation, though I have been wholly subject to sin, a slave to passion, and have defiled thine image within me, who am thy creation and thy work; but trusting in thine infinite compassion, draw nigh unto thee. Receive me, O Lord, thou that lovest mankind, as thou didst receive the sinful woman, the thief, the publican, and the prodigal son. Take away the heavy burden of my sins, O Thou that takest away the sins of the world, and healest the infirmities of men, and callest all that are weary and heavy laden to thyself and givest them rest. ; thou that camest not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance, cleanse thou me from all stain of body and soul and teach me to fulfill holiness in thy fear, that with the witness of my conscience united to thy Holy Body and Precious Blood, and may have thee, with thy Father, and Holy Spirit, dwelling and abiding in me. And, grant, O Lord Jesus Christ, my God, that the partaking of thy precious and life-giving mysteries may not be to my condemnation, nor may through the weakness of my soul and body be received unworthily; but, grant that, even to my last breath, I may partake of a Communion of thy Holy Spirit, as a preparation for eternal life and for a good defense at thy dread Judgment Seat, so that I, together with all thine elect, may also receive those incorruptible good things which thou hast prepared for them that love thee, O Lord; in whom thou art glorified forever. Amen.

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