



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Antipascha: St. Thomas Sunday

May 5, 2019

Troparion – Tone 7

From the sealed tomb, Thou didst shine forth, O Life! Through closed doors Thou didst come to Thy Disciples, O Christ God. Renew in us through them an upright spirit, // by the greatness of Thy mercy, O Resurrection of all!

Kontakion – Tone 8

Thomas touched Thy life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God, when Thou didst come to Thy Apostles through closed doors. He cried out with all: "Thou art my Lord and my God!"

Prokeimenon – Tone 3

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power! His understanding is beyond measure!

v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

Antipascha: St. Thomas Sunday

Some icons depicting this event are inscribed "The Doubting Thomas." This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, "The Touching of Thomas." The Slavonic inscription is, "The Belief of Thomas." When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

This day is also known as "Antipascha." This does not mean "opposed to Pascha," but "in place of Pascha." Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection. Sunday is called "Resurrection" in Russian, and "the Lord's Day" in Greek.

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed. Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, and 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, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life."

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, 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. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also 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 them; if you retain the sins of any,

they are retained.” Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His 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.

Service Schedule for the week of May 5

Today – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall. Blessing of the graves at the cemetery will start at 1:00 PM unless canceled due to rain.

Saturday May 11 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday May 12 – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall.

Weekly Giving

April 28 – 155 adults, 33 youth, \$5,369

Parish Announcements

Bible Study classes will be held the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 PM. The next classes are this Wednesday May 8 and May 22. All are welcome to attend.

A Troika Dinner Fundraiser to benefit St. Andrew's Camp in upstate NY will be held at St. Peter and Paul Church in South River on Saturday, May 18th from 6:00 - 10:00PM. His Eminence, Archbishop Michael has asked that we do our part in sustaining the camp for future generations to enjoy. (Vespers will be at 5:00PM) A full Eastern European dinner will be served. There will also be entertainment, basket raffles, and a chance to win two tickets to the smash hit Come From Away. Event tickets are \$33.00 per adult and \$25 for seniors over 65 and students. For reservations, please contact Phil Rogozenski (908)331-1297 (progozinsk@aol.com) Thank you very much!