

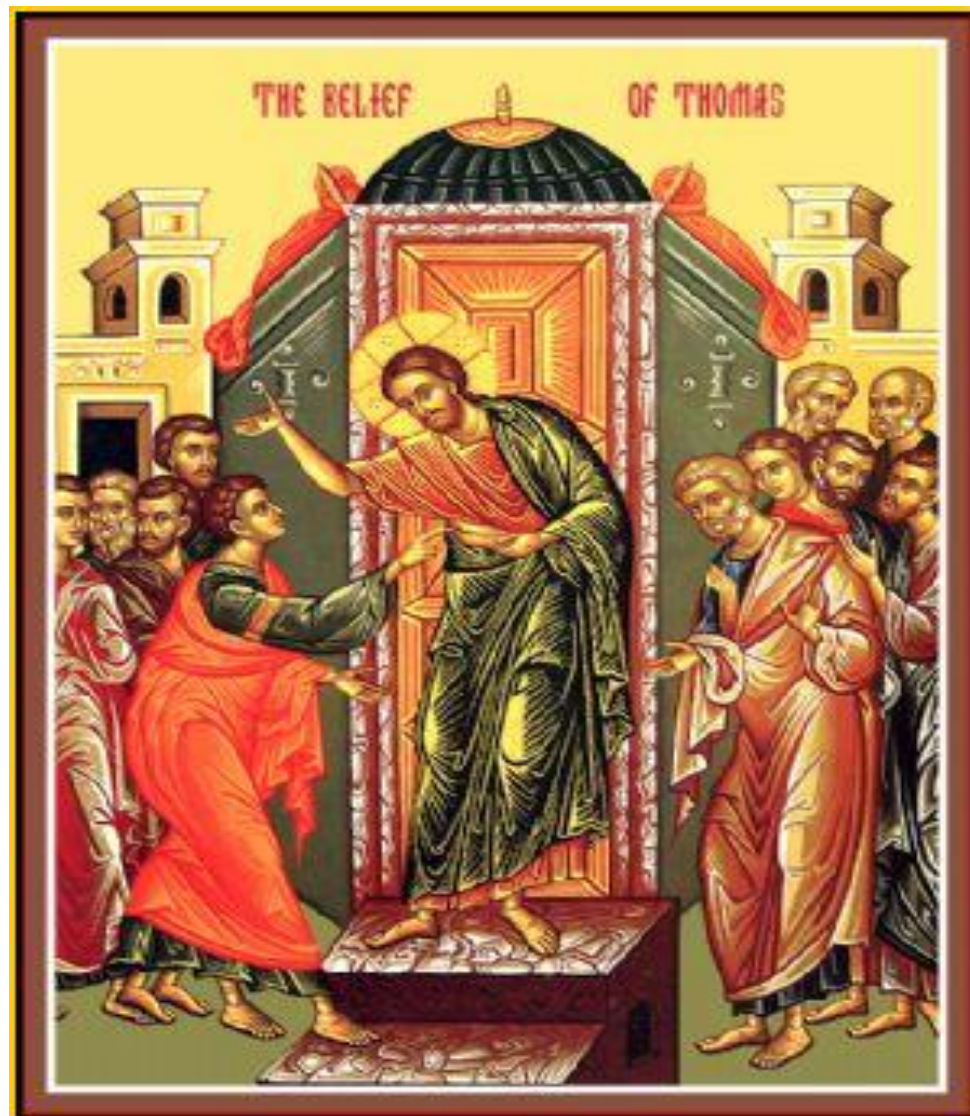
Come and See how we are all called to be Stewards of The Church!

- Stewardship is our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
- Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.
- Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
- Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I Believe . . .", as proof of that belief.
- Stewardship is learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work, for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.

If you would like to make a donation to our parish, please feel free to use the QR Code or link to our parish website donation page below. Thank you for your continued support and generosity for our parish in bringing The Love and Faith of Our Lord Jesus Christ to all! May God continue to bless and guide you and keep all of you in His loving care today and always!



https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=E5X6YTVC9DF3W



St. George Orthodox Church
2 Nottingham Terrace - Buffalo, NY 14216
(716) 875-4222

www.stgeorgebuffalo.com

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

Published weekly in the interest of the parishioners and friends of Saint George Orthodox Church, Buffalo, NY a parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey and The Orthodox Church in America

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

2 Nottingham Terrace Buffalo, NY 14216

V. Rev. Jason Vansuch, Parish Priest

2 Nottingham Terrace 716-875-4222 Buffalo, NY 14216

Cell Phone: 609-851-3811 Email: jvansuch@hotmail.com

Presbyter Andreja Damjanovski, Attached Rev. Peter Irfan, Attached

Mat. Katia Vansuch, Choir Director

Dr. Boris Kuvshinoff, Parish Council President

Home: 716-812-6132 Email: boris.kuvshinoff@gmail.com

ANTIPASCHA. 2nd SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 1. St. Thomas Sunday. Prophet Jeremiah (6th c. B.C.). Ven. Paphnutius, Abbot of Boróvsk (1478). New Martyrs Euthymius (1814), Ignatius (1814), and Acacius (1816), of Mt. Athos. Hieromartyr Makáry (Macarius), Metropolitan of Kiev (1497). Martyr Bata the Persian (4th c.). Rt. Blv. Tamára, Queen of Georgia (13th c.). Ven. Nikêphóros of Chios (1821). "Unexpected Joy" Icon of the Mother of God (1647).

EPISTLE: Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom **GOSPEL:**
Acts 5:12-20 **John 20:19-31**

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

****FLOWERS FOR THIS WEEK****

In front of the Icon of Our Lord, In front of the Icon of The Theotokos, and on the Center Icon Table are donated by St. George Orthodox Church

Altar Vigil Candles are offered by Anthony DelNuovo in Loving Memory of Thy Departed Servants of his family. May their memory be eternal.

TODAY'S WEEKLY MESSENGER IS SPONSORED BY:
ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

WELCOME TO ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

We welcome all of you to the Divine Liturgy this morning, especially those who are visiting with us here at St. George Orthodox Church. Everyone is invited to the Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy for Christian Fellowship. It is our prayer that your experience this morning was spiritually uplifting and you will return very soon to pray with our parish family. In the Orthodox Church, we do not practice open Communion. However we do invite everyone to come and participate in the Divine Liturgy. Hence only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves through prayer and fasting may receive Holy Communion. May the Lord bless you with many years of good health and happiness.

THE SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY SERVICES and ACTIVITIES


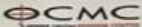
Sunday	May 1	ANTIPASCHA – 2ND SUNDAY OF PASCHA –St. Thomas Sunday	
		Youth Sunday	
		9:40 A.M.	The Hours
		10:00 A.M.	Divine Liturgy
		Q&A with Fr. Jay following Divine Liturgy	
		Coffee Hour Fellowship in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy	
Monday	May 2	6:30 P.M.	Bible Study Class (Via Zoom)
Tuesday	May 3	9:00 A.M.	Daily Matins
		10:30 – 12:30 P.M.	Set-up for Chiavetta's Fundraiser
Wednesday	May 4	2:00 – 4:00 P.M.	Preparations for Chiavetta's Fundraiser
		4:00 to 7:00 P.M.	Chiavetta's Drive-Thru Fundraiser
Thursday	May 5	9:00 A.M..	Akathist Service in Honor of The Resurrection of Our Lord
Saturday	May 7	4:00 P.M.	Great Vespers
Sunday	May 8	3rd SUNDAY OF PASCHA	
		Holy Myrrhbearing Women/Mother's Day	
		9:40 A.M.	The Hours
		10:00 A.M.	Divine Liturgy

Church School in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy
 Mother's Day Luncheon in Parish Fellowship Hall following Divine Liturgy

****PLEASE REFER TO THE WEEKLY EMAILS AND PARISH WEBSITE FOR CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR!****

CHRIST IS RISEN!	CHRISTOS TENSIU!
INDEED HE IS RISEN!	BAHAKE TENSIU!
AL MASEEH QAM!	CHRISTOS ANESTI!
HAQQAN QAM!	ALITHOS ANESTI!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!	HRISTUS A INVIAT!
VOISTINU VOSKRESE!	ADEVERAT A INVIAT!
CRISTO ESTA RESUCITADO!	KRISHTI U NGJALL!
EN VERDAD, ESTA RESUCITADO!	VERTET U NGJALL!
CRISTO E' RISORTO!	YESU MASIH ZINDA HO GAYA HAI!
VERAMENTE E' RISORTO!	HAANYAQEENAN WOZINDA HO GAYA HAI!
KRISTE AGHSDGA!	
CHESMARITAD AGHSDGA!	

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.



**SAMUEL PETER
OSALE**
SAMP PRIEST SERVING IN THE
DIOCESE OF KISUMU & WESTERN
KENYA

Fr. Samuel Peter Osale was born on September 29, 1952, in Eshienda Butso. He was ordained to the priesthood in January of 1992. Fr. Samuel currently serves the parishes of St. Paul in Buhili and St. John in Eshikwati.

Orthodoxy came to the people of East Africa, not through the efforts of a single missionary, but through charismatic African men searching for truth and "orthodoxia" in the early 1920s. Correspondence began with the Patriarchate of Alexandria, and in 1946, they were received into canonical Orthodoxy through His Beatitude Patriarch CHRISTOPHOROS. In 1958, the Patriarchal Synod appointed NICHOLAS (Valeropoulos) the first Metropolitan of Irinoupolis and All East Africa, and in 1972, three African priests were ordained to the rank of auxiliary bishop.

In 1972, construction began on the Makarios III Patriarchal Seminary in Nairobi. His Beatitude Archbishop ANASTASIOS (Yannoulatos), who in 1982 was assigned as acting Archbishop, completed the seminary and undertook the training of indigenous priests, translations, and the building of churches, clinics, and schools.

In November 2015, the Patriarchal Synod expanded the Church in Kenya into three dioceses: the Metropolis of Nairobi; the Diocese of Nyeri and Mount Kenya; and the Diocese of Kisumu and West Kenya. In 2019, His Grace Bishop MARKOS (Theodosius) was elected the new Bishop of Kisumu. His Grace MARKOS was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and is a graduate of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.

☎ 1-877-463-6784 ✉ SAMP@ocmc.org 🌐 www.ocmc.org/SAMP

HYMNS FOR THE DIVINE LITURGY

Troparion for St. Thomas Sunday - Tone 7

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

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever
and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Kontakion for St. Thomas Sunday - Tone 8

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

Prokeimenon Tone 3

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

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

Alleluia Verses

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful
noise to God our Savior!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all
the earth.

The Hymn to the Theotokos

The angel cried to the Lady Full of Grace: 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, all ye people!

Shine! Shine! O New Jerusalem! The Glory of the Lord has shone on you! Exult now and be glad, O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

== Scriptural Readings for the Week ==

Monday	Acts 3:19-26	John 2:1-11
Tuesday	Acts 4:1-10	John 3:16-21
Wednesday	Acts 4:13-22	John 5:17-24
Thursday	Acts 4:23-31	John 5:24-30
Friday	Acts 5:1-11	John 5:30-6:2
Saturday	Acts 5:21-33	John 6:14-27
Sunday	Acts 6:1-7 {Myrrhbearing Women}	Mark 15:43-16:8

EPISTLE LESSON FOR TODAY

ACTS 5:12-20

In Those Days:

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 LESSON FOR TODAY

JOHN 20:19-31 (St. Thomas Sunday)

Let us Attend!

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!"

WELCOME TO THE ORTHODOX CHURCH!

Do we have questions about our life, its meaning, purpose, destiny?

Are we desiring to know Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God?

Are we seeking forgiveness, healing, and wholeness?

Do we wonder where to go to find answers?

We can find the answers to these questions and so many other questions

in The Holy Orthodox Church through Her Sacred Tradition,

Holy Scriptures, Her Teachings and Dogmas.

The Orthodox Church is the original Christian Church, the Church founded by the Lord Jesus Christ and described in the pages of the New Testament. Her history can be traced in unbroken continuity all the way back to Christ and His Twelve Apostles, empowered and sent forth on the day of Holy Pentecost. Incredible as it seems, for over twenty centuries she has continued in her undiminished and unaltered faith and practice. Today her apostolic doctrine, worship, and structure remain intact. The Orthodox Church maintains that the Church is the living Body of Jesus Christ. Many of us are surprised to learn that for the first 1000 years of Christian history there was just one Church.

Where is "**The Church**" to be found and experienced today? Come Taste and See How Good The Lord is every Sunday by joining us for The Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.

What is Orthodox Christianity all about? How does it differ from other Christian confessions? This section will attempt to answer these questions and many more.

For a visual introduction to the Orthodox Church, please view the video link below:

http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player_embedded&fs=1

For a brief introduction and in depth study to The Orthodox Faith and to find answers to: 'What we Believe?', "Who we Are?", and "How we Live?", please view the PDF link below:

<http://orthodoxdelmarva.org/files/studies/InquirersClassV1final.pdf>

or you may visit the OCA website by clicking the link below:

<http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith>

or you can begin a Journey Through Orthodoxy by clicking the link below:

<http://journeytoorthodoxy.com>

To learn more ways that we can teach our children about the Orthodox Faith, The OCA has provided a wonderful website for us to use that provides great resources such as (handouts, texts, articles, stories, and much more)! To see this great website, please view the PDF link below:

<http://dce.oca.org/page/resources/>

If you have any questions or would like to know more about The Orthodox Faith, please contact our parish priest: V Rev. Jason Vansuch (jvansuch@hotmail.com) or 716.875.4222 and he will be able guide you.

* * * * * PRAYERFUL REMEMBRANCE * * * * *

PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS

FOR THE HEALTH OF THY SERVANTS:

HIERARCHS

Metropolitan HERMAN

Archbishop BENJAMIN

Archbishop ALEJO

Archbishop NATHANIEL

Bishop DANIEL

CLERGY

Archpriest Herman, Matushka Cynthia and Family Archpriest Leonid Archpriest David

Archpriest Alexey and his family

Archpriest Vladimir and Matushka Jeanne

Archpriest Timothy/Mat. Michelle

Presbyter John and Presbytera Nancy

Archpriest Ken and Matushka Natalie

Presbyter Andreja, Popadija Anica and Family

Archpriest Timothy

Priest Peter and Mat. Mary

Dn. Sean and Mat. Heather

Archpriest John (Onofrey)

Priest Mykola and those with him

MATUSHKI

Mat. Katia Mat. Paraskeva Mat. Joanna Popadia Vicki Mat. Patricia Mat. Gloria

Catherine Ivan/Marina/Inna Bonnie/Silviu Coard Karen Aliscia Walter/Paul

Edwina Irene Luba Jim, Darren, Marsha Frank June

Serena/Asma Lillian Reader Victor Nicholas, Andrew Marilyn Amanda

Sarah Albert Boris Oscar Ronald, Candice

Xenia, Justin, Danielle, John Larry Joseph Frank Billy Clyde

Victor Catherine Susan Svetlana Juliana Evelyn

Robert Rebecca Paul Brian Jeanne Angela, Jason, Michelle Linda

Justin Olga John, Helen Ashley Steven Lia/Isaiah

Joseph, John, Margaret, Thomas, Victoria Barbara Susan Mary John

Melody Lee Lee, Bridget Matthew William

Kelly, Robert, Boris, Zaeb, Tirza, Sabas Sada Thisinita, Gemmal, Geesa, and Patric

Olga and Eugene Jeremy Stewart

Susan Justin Louis Yuri/Elena Alex John, Kevin, Sean Anthony Tita

Jaime/Sammy, Juliana Harry James

Lee, Benjamin, Harry Patrick Emma/Alexander Elias, John, Joseph, Nadim, Theresa

Aspasia/Stavros Charles Seraphim Aldona

Vadym Iryna Yuriy Anastasia Rosemary Anthony

Mary, Hal, Autumn, Ariana, and Amber, Judithann Anita, Jeffry, Dominic, Douglas, Rachel, Dennis

Amelia, Emily

Brian John, Roberta, Barbara John, Michael John Ron, Illiana, Jillian, Joel

George Costa Jonathan, Kevin, Lary, Carly, Sherry, Mary Jo, Clara, Karl, Dragica, Mary

Stephen, Larry, Olga, Olga, Sally, Deborah, David

Rdr Nicholas, Judithann, Michael, Mary, Cate, Michael, Gary, Damian, Olga, Alexandra, Barbara, Damian,

Joseph

Children of God – Harry, Keely, Isla, Talia, Lane, Liam

Corina and Nicole and the children to be born of them

Diocese of NY&NJ Prayer List

Archpriest Samuel Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar

Mitred Archpriest Daniel and Mat. Myra

Archpriest George Archpriest Paul

Mat. Gerry

Archpriest Jonathan Archpriest Paul

Those Serving in The Armed Forces

Catechumens

Kenneth, Nadine, Jason, Robert, Andrew, Justin, Shawn,

Juanita Martha, Selathiel,

Austin, Chris, John, Daniel, Gjorgje, Thomas

For All of our Parishioners and their families, the communicants of this holy house, those who pray here, our loved ones and their families and for those who are praying with us today and all of those whom we have in our hearts and minds

For All of our parishioners who are in hospitals, nursing home, and those who are homebound.

For All of the ill-afflicted of our parishes and families especially those affected with the Coronavirus and other ailments and for their continued full recovery and good health

For All of our doctors, nurses, physicians, and medical professionals

For our Nation that The Lord our God will continue to bless us and guide and teach us to love another, pray for one another and forgive one another.

For All of those who are travelling and for their safe journey and return to their homes

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FOR THY DEPARTED SERVANTS OF GOD:

For all of those who tragically lost their lives to the Coronavirus and other ailments of the clergy and parishioners of This Holy House who have departed this life, who now lie asleep in the Lord

Metropolitan THEODOSIUS
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Eugene
Ever-Memorable Priest John
Ever-Memorable Archpriest Rastko
Ever-Memorable Dn. Mark

Ever-Memorable Archpriest Bernard
Ever-Memorable Archpriest George
Ever-Memorable Archpriest George
Matushka Dorothy
Khouria Grace

Priest Leonid Gregory, Priest Peter, Archpriest Kirill, Dn. Michael, John Robert, Sister Thomas, Frank, Jenny, Charles, Florence, Michael Stevens, William, George, Marion

Ever-Memorable Pdn Gregory

Ever-Memorable Sbdn Gregory

Martha, Akhtar, Barkat, Rehmat

Newly-Departed Servants of God
Archbishop PAUL

*If anyone would like to have their loved ones added to the prayer list for remembrance during the Divine Liturgy, please see or contact Fr. Jason.

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH BOOKSTORE

As you are in the Parish Fellowship Hall for coffee hour, don't forget to check out our newly-formed Bookstore. We have some new items that just arrived. These items include: Icon ornaments, jewelry, Icons, prayer books, prayers ropes, and much more. If you need a Gift, come check out the Bookstore...you may find something you like!! We are now also offering Gift Certificates for our Bookstore. Please speak with Dave or Andrea for more details/information!! We thank David and Andrea Chmiel who are managing of our Bookstore for us. If you have any questions or if you would like to order something that you do not see, please see or contact David or Andrea Chmiel and they will be able to assist you. You may also email them at: bookstore@stgeorgebuffalo.com. May GOD continue to bless and guide all of you.

Also in the Parish Fellowship Hall, we have the Giving Tree! If anyone would like to sign up for Coffee Hour Readers Bulletin Collection, Communion Cloth, Home Blessing, please see or contact Fr. Jason!



A SINCERE AND HEARTFELT THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS TO THE PARISH FROM OUR PARISH GIVING TREE

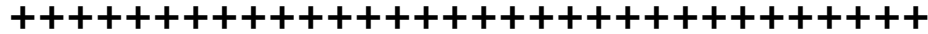
Please be sure to check out "The Giving Tree" in the Parish Fellowship Hall as well as on our parish website (www.stgeorgebuffalo.com) to see how we may be able to donate towards the needs of our parish through our continued support and stewardship for our beloved parish.

Some of the items on the leaves are as follows:

- Candles
- 7-Day Vigil Candles
- Flowers for Feast Days
- Charcoal
- Altar Wine
- Cups for Zapifka
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper

If anyone has any questions, please see or contact Fr. Jason or Barbara. Thank you for your continued prayerful support and stewardship. May God continue to bless and guide all of you, your families and our entire Parish family and keep all of us in His Loving Care!

THE 2022 PASCHAL GREETINGS OF CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!



GREETING

CHRIST IS RISEN!
 CHRISTOS TENSIOU!
 AL MASEEH QAM!
 CHRISTOS ANESTI!
 CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!
 HRISTOS A INVIAT!
 CRISTO HA RESUCITADO!
 KRISHTI U NGJALL!
 YESU MASIH ZINDA HO GAYA HAI!
 CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!
 CHRYSTOS UVASKROS!
 KRISTE AGHSDGA!
 CHRISTOS VOSKRES!
 LE CHRIST EST RESURRECTE!
 HA-MESHIHA QOM!
 HARISUTOSU FUKKATSU!
 CHRISTUS IST AUFERSTANDEN!
 KRISTO ZMARTWYCKWSTAL!
 YINQA HRLYSTOS!
 KRISTO AMEFUFUKKA!
 KRISTO GESSO!
 CRISTO E' RISORTO!
 UKRISTU UVUKILE!
 KRISTUS ER OPSTANDEN!
 KRISTO AJUKKIDE!

RESPONSE

INDEED HE IS RISEN! *(English)*
 BAHAKE TENSIOU! *(Eritrean)*
 HAQQAN QAM! *(Arabic)*
 ALITHOS ANESTI! *(Greek)*
 VOISTINU VOSKRESE! *(Russian)*
 ADEVARAT A INVIAT! *(Romanian)*
 EN VERDAD, HA RESUCITADO! *(Spanish)*
 VERTET U NGJALL! *(Albanian)*
 HAANYAQEENAN WOZINDA HO GAYA HAI! *(Urdu)*
 VOISTINA VOSKRESE! *(Bulgarian)*
 SAPRAUDY UVASKROS! *(Belarussian)*
 CHESMARITAD AGHSDGA! *(Georgian)*
 VOISTINI VOSKRES! *(Ukrainian)*
 EN VERITE, ILEST RESURRECTE! *(French)*
 BE-EMET QOM! *(Hebrew)*
 JITSU NI FUKKATSU! *(Japanese)*
 WAHRHAFT AUFERSTANDEN! *(German)*
 ZAPRAWDE ZMARTWYCKWSTAL! *(Polish)*
 YINQA BEJ! *(Klingon)*
 KWELI AMEFUFUKKA! *(Swahili)*
 BUHAR HA SHO NAY! *(Korean)*
 VERAMENTE E' RISORTO! *(Italian)*
 UVUKILE KUPHELA! *(Zulu)*
 SANDELIG HAN ER OPSTANDEN! *(Danish)*
 KWELI AJUKKIDE ***(Ugandan)***

Remember our Loved Ones during Our Daily Prayers

*'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the
least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'*

{Matt. 25:40}

As we say our daily prayers, let us also take time out to remember our loved ones who are homebound, who are in hospitals and who are in nursing homes. Let us remember them that GOD will continue to watch over them and protect them. Also, during the Year, let us take to either send them a card, give them a call, or visit them to let them know how much we love them, how much we remember them, and how much we pray for them.

Please refer to the of our Parish Shut-Ins below.

If anyone has any questions or would like to add someone to our List of Parish Shut-Ins, please see or contact Fr. Jason. May God continue to bless you and guide you!

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH PARISH SHUT-INS (2022)

Mr. Anthony Dipiano
 305 North Street
 Apt. 77
 Buffalo, N

Reader Victor Shanchuk
 McAuley Residence
 1503 Military Rd.
 Buffalo, NY 14217
 716.881.3096

Mrs. Luba Japadjief
 Elderwood Nursing Home
 104 Old Niagara Rd.
 Lockport, NY 14221 (Room 47A)

Mrs. Bonnie Dan
 15 Pine Street
 North Tonawanda, NY 14150
 716.693.1377

Mr. Albert Fadell
 317.376.2562

Andrew Wityk
 Ellicott Center
 200 Seventh Street
 Buffalo, NY 14201

Mrs. Tita Abraham
 84 Stonington Lane, Apt 3
 Getzville, NY 14068

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH OCMC PARISH AMBASSADORS

To The Glory of God, our parish has been blessed with two parishioners who have answered The Call of Our Lord to be Parish Ambassadors for OCMC guiding us to help bring The Gospel of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ of “Making Disciples of All Nations baptizing them in The Name of The Father and of The Son and of The Holy Spirit!”

Anthony Gregory DelNuovo and John Moses Lutz are our Parish Ambassadors for OCMC (The Orthodox Christian Mission Center). To help the good work being done by The OCMC of supporting Missionaries around the world, our parish will be sponsoring and supporting a missionary on a annual basis. The cost is only \$600/year. So far we have collected over \$1000 for this year’s sponsorship. If anyone would like to make a donation, please see or contact Anthony or John. We express our most sincere and heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who has graciously donated so far. Thank you for kindness and generosity in supporting the good work and mission of The OCMC in fulfilling Our Lord’s Command in The Gospel of Matthew of: “Making Disciples of All Nations!”

For more information about The OCMC, please visit their website: www.ocmc.org

Another blessing for our parish of continuing the Good Work that has been entrusted to us of bringing The Gospel Message to All! Lord it is good to be here!

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****PLEASE REFER TO THE PARISH WEBSITE FOR THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR THE HOLY PASCHAL SEASON THROUGH FEAST OF SS PETER AND PAUL!****

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****IMPORTANT DATES****

- Wednesday May 4** – Chiavetta’s Chicken BBQ Fundraiser
- Sunday May 8** – Mother’s Day Luncheon
- Sunday May 15**– Archpastoral Visit of Archbishop MICHAEL
- Sunday May 15** – NYS DDB Dinner (Our Parish is Hosting)

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to see or contact Fr. Jason!

An Invitation to Support the Stewards of the OCA!

The Orthodox Church in America (OCA) set the direction for expanding our apostolic work in North America at the 18th All-American Council. The foundation for this work is Jesus Christ, Whom we encounter in our spiritual lives, stewardship, evangelism and outreach, and relations with others as we engage the world. Being a steward of the OCA goes beyond the financial gifts which support the work of our church. Being a steward is about caring for and knowing the history of the mission of the Orthodox Church here in North America and finding your place in that history. Having received this great gift of our Orthodox Faith, we bear the responsibility to continue the legacy of Saint Herman and Saint Tikhon; Saint Innocent and Saint Alexis and all the other saints known and unknown who have worked to build up and expand Christ's Church here in North America. Please consider being a part of that mission today by giving to the Stewards of the OCA. For more information, please visit The OCA Website: <https://oca.org/become-a-steward>

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An Invitation to Support the Ministry of the DDB!

In order to fund necessary ministries and fulfill the work of the Church in the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, **Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors** generously contribute financial support. To learn more about the DDB, please go to the following link: <http://vimeo.com/71021182> and watch a 60 second video inviting you to join the ever-growing list of Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors of The Diocese of New York and New Jersey who joyfully support the on-going work of our diocese. Their support allows us to provide assistance to new mission parishes, scholarships to seminarians, support the departments of The Diocese, and much-needed encouragement to older struggling parishes. How about you? Our parish is a member of the DDB. If anyone would like to join, please see Fr. Jason as well as take a pamphlet from the table in the back of the church. May God continue to bless and guide you for your continued support. The Diocese of New York and New Jersey has two monthly newsletters: "**First Fruits**" and "**Beyond the Plateau.**" The goal, as expressed by Archbishop Michael, is to increase communication and grow the communal spirit of diocesan fellowship in the building-up and strengthening of our parish communities. To learn more about these monthly diocesan publications, please refer to the diocesan website: <http://www.nynjoca.org/newsletters.html>.

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“Lessons in Our Faith” Video presented by His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL

His Eminence Archbishop Michael presents a series of talks on matters of faith, belief, and the teachings of the Church. These instructional videos are concise and "to the point," offering Orthodox Christians much-needed information, helpful advice for their spiritual journey, and assistance in answering questions that may come from non-Orthodox friends or acquaintances. The goal is that we might better know and better live our faith. These instructional videos can be found at the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>! For those who do not have internet, please see the handouts from each lesson which are located on the table in the back of the church. **There are 14 videos! Be sure to check them out!**

WEEKLY VIDEO SERMONS GIVEN BY HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL

These sermons offered to us by The Diocese via video can be found on the Diocesan Website: <http://www.nynjoca.org>!

There are videos for each week beginning with The Feast of Feasts – Holy Pascha! Be sure to check them out!

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IMPORTANT PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We will continue with our on-going collections for The Buffalo City Mission, Hearts for Homeless, Mats for Mission, HomeSpace, Resurrection Life Food Pantry, Baker Victory as well as our other outreach ministry projects.
- **WE CONTINUE TO CONTACT ALL OF OUR PARISHIONERS ON A REGULAR BASIS TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE IS OKAY, SAFE AND HEALTHY.**

****Please be on the lookout for emails this week with the following items:**

- 1) **Reader Outlines for ALL weekend SERVICES**
- 2) **Zoom information for Education Classes and Book Club**
- 3) **Updates on Schedule of Services Events**
- 4) **Pastoral Video for Parish Monthly Update**

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EACH WEEK WE WILL BE RECORDING THE WEEKLY INCOME FOR EACH SUNDAY AS WELL AS POSTING THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS AND MINUTES FOR OUR PARISH FOLLOWING THE MONTHLY PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS!

INCOME FOR SUNDAY MARCH 20, 2022 - \$

Commercial Savings Account Deposit \$

DONATION TO THE CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT FUND (Kitchen) – \$750.00

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MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU AND GUIDE YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PRAYERS

Also in the Parish Fellowship Hall, we have the Giving Tree! If anyone would like to sign up for Coffee Hour Readers Bulletin Collection, Communion Cloth, Home Blessing, please see or contact Fr. Jason!

****A REMINDER FOR HOSTING COFFEE HOUR ****

When hosting coffee hour, please check the refrigerators in the Parish Fellowship Hall the week before we are hosting to see what supplies we will/may need.

If anyone would like to host coffee hour or has any questions regarding one's preparations for Coffee Hour, please see or contact Mat. Fran (610.698.1666/frances.vansuch@yahoo.com)

May all of us have a Blessed, Joyous, Holy and Prayerful Paschal Season!

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FIND YOUR SPIRITUAL HOME In The Orthodox Christian Church

Saturday Great Vespers 4:00 PM
SUNDAY Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM (Sept-May)
9:30 AM (May-September)
~ All are Welcome ~

Do we have questions about our life, its meaning, purpose, destiny?
Are we desiring to know Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God?
Are we seeking forgiveness, healing, and wholeness?
Do we wonder where to go to find answers?

We can find the answers to these questions and so many other questions
in The Holy Orthodox Church through Her Sacred Tradition,
Holy Scriptures, Her Teachings and Dogmas.

The Orthodox Church is the original Christian Church, the Church founded by the Lord Jesus Christ and described in the pages of the New Testament. Her history can be traced in unbroken continuity all the way back to Christ and His Twelve Apostles, empowered and sent forth on the day of Holy Pentecost. Incredible as it seems, for over twenty centuries she has continued in her undiminished and unaltered faith and practice. Today her apostolic doctrine, worship, and structure remain intact. The Orthodox Church maintains that the Church is the living Body of Jesus Christ. Many of us are surprised to learn that for the first 1000 years of Christian history there was just one Church.

Where is "**The Church**" to be found and experienced today? Come Taste and See How Good The Lord is every Sunday by joining us for The Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.

What is Orthodox Christianity all about? How does it differ from other Christian confessions? This section will attempt to answer these questions and many more.

For a visual introduction to the Orthodox Church, please view the video link below:

http://www.youtube.com/v/Gj4pUphDitA&color1=0xb1b1b1&color2=0xcfcfcf&feature=player_embedded&fs=1

For a brief introduction and in depth study to The Orthodox Faith and to find answers to: "What we Believe?", "Who we Are?", and "How we Live?", please view the PDF link below:

<http://orthodoxdelmarva.org/files/studies/InquirersClassV1final.pdf>

or you may visit the OCA website by clicking the link below:

<http://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith>

or you can begin a Journey Through Orthodoxy by clicking the link below:

<http://journeytoorthodoxy.com>

To learn more ways that we can teach our children about the Orthodox Faith, The OCA has provided a wonderful website for us to use that provides great resources such as (handouts, texts, articles, stories, and much more)! To see this great website, please view the PDF link below:

<http://dce.oca.org/page/resources/>

If you have any questions or would like to know more about The Orthodox Faith or needs and help or assistance, please contact our parish priest: V Rev. Jason Vansuch (jvansuch@hotmail.com) or 716.875.4222 and he will be able guide you.

ST. ANDREW'S CAMP

** Saint Andrew's Camp has released a new promotional video for prospective campers!

The video can be found here on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintandrewsorthodoxcamp/videos/357928144820497/>

**Be sure to check it out...you may recognize the priest:)

For more than sixty years, St. Andrew's Camp has offered the young people of our parishes an incredible summer camping experience. Children and teens have been instructed in prayer and the divine services, the reading of Scripture and the teachings of our Orthodox Church. They have been nourished with the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion. They have had fun swimming, horseback riding, playing sports, singing and learning musical instruments, creating in the visual arts, learning to safeguard the planet, and exploring the stars. And they have established friendships that last a lifetime, met their future spouses, and nurtured their vocations to serve the Lord in ministry.

As a token of gratitude for the labors of love extended by the administration and staff, both clergy and laypersons, of St. Andrew's over the past six decades, it is now time for us to help the Camp in an especially needed way.

Please join us in raising funds for the new multi purpose building which will include new kitchen, dining hall and activities center. The cost of this new building is \$300,000. To become a reality, the completion and furnishing of this much-needed center will require great generosity of individuals, organizations and parishes.

You can click on the link below which will take you to the gofundme.com page.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-andrew039s-camp-fundraiser-by-ss-peter-and-paul>

As we continue to fulfill the work of Our Lord by living and fulfilling His Gospel Message, let us open our hearts and minds by providing support and assistance to our Diocese, to our children, by taking a moment to reflect upon what God has given us, and to discern how we might be able to return to God a portion of the blessings we have received.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of you and your families for your continued prayers, support and generosity.

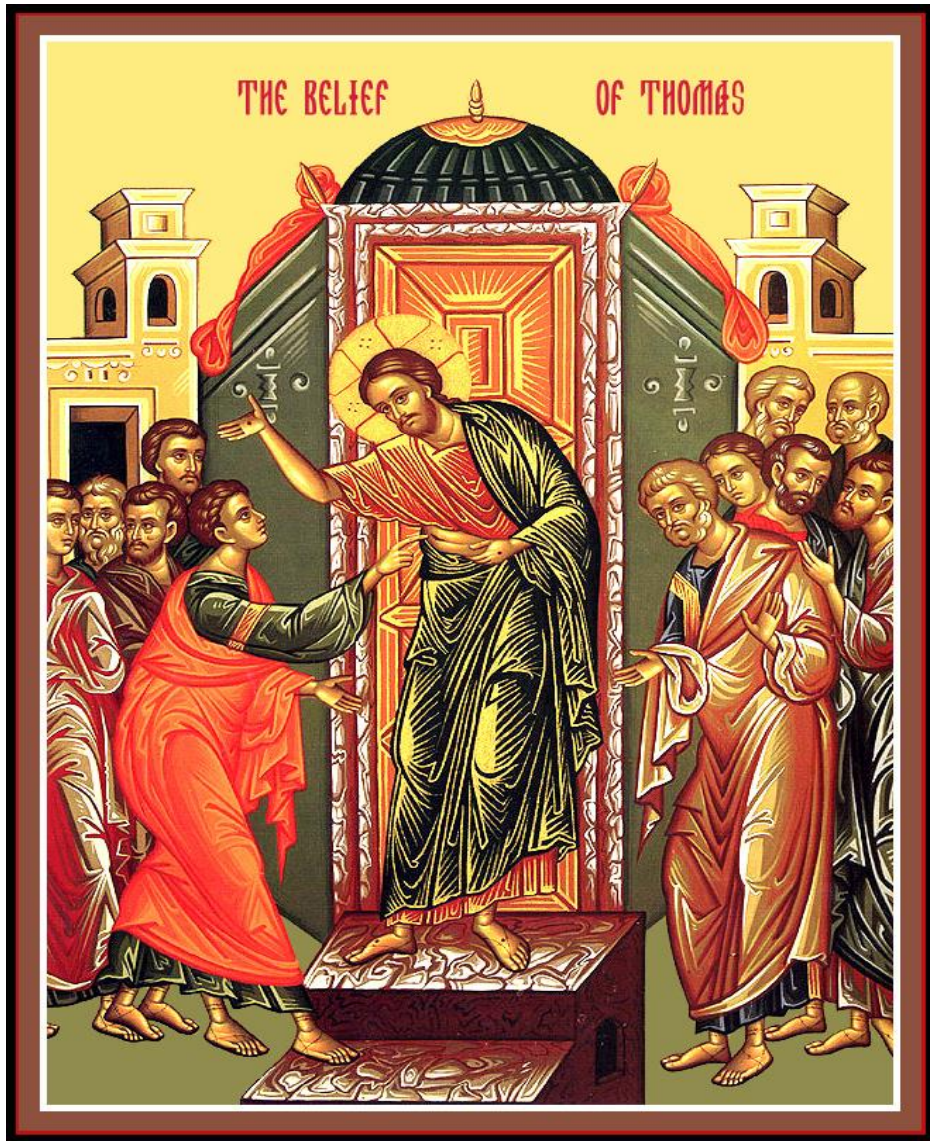
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**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF PASCHA:
ST. THOMAS SUNDAY**

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 St 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.

Every day during the week of Easter, called **Bright Week** by the Church, the paschal services are celebrated in all their splendor. The Easter baptismal procession is repeated daily. The royal gates of the sanctuary remain open. The joy of the Resurrection and the gift of the Kingdom of eternal life continue to abound. Then, at the end of the week, on Saturday evening, the second Sunday after Easter is celebrated in remembrance of the appearance of Christ to the Apostle Thomas "after eight days" (*Jn 20:26*).

It is important to note that the number eight has symbolical significance in both Jewish and Christian spiritual tradition. It signifies more than completion and fullness; it signifies the Kingdom of God and the life of the world to come since seven is the number of earthly time. The **sabbath, the seventh day**, is the blessed day of rest in this world, the final day of the week. The "first day of the week," the day "after Sabbath"; stressed in all of the gospels as the day of Christ's Resurrection (*Mk 16:1, Mt 28:1, Lk 24:1, Jn 20:1, 19*), is therefore also the eighth day," the day beyond the confines of this world, the day which stands for the life of the world to come, the day of the eternal rest of the Kingdom of God (see Hebrews 4).

The Sunday after Easter, called the Second Sunday, is thus the eighth day of the paschal celebration, the last day of **Bright Week**. It

is therefore called the **Antipascha**, and it was only on this day in the early church that the newly-baptized Christians removed their robes and entered once again into the life of this world.

In the Church services the stress is on the Apostle Thomas' vision of Christ and the significance of the day comes to us in the words of the gospel:

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" (John 20:27-29).

We have not seen Christ with our physical eyes nor touched his risen body with our physical hands, yet in the Holy Spirit we have seen and touched and tasted the Word of Life (1 Jn 1:1-4), and so we believe. At each of the daily services until Ascension Day we sing the **Easter Troparion**. At each of the Sunday services beginning with Antipascha, we sing the Easter canon and hymns, and repeat the celebration of the "first day of the week" on which Christ rose from the dead. At all of the liturgies the epistle readings are taken from the **Book of Acts** telling us of the first Christians who lived in communion with the Risen Lord. All of the gospel readings are taken from the **Gospel of St John**, considered by many to be a gospel written particularly for those who are newly-baptized into the new life of the Kingdom of God through death and new birth in Christ, in the name of the Holy Trinity. The reason for this opinion is that all of the "**signs**" -- as the miracles in St John's Gospel are called -- deal with sacramental themes involving water: wine and bread. Thus, each of the Sundays after Thomas Sunday with the exception of the third, is dedicated to the memory of one of these "signs."

THE DAY OF REJOICING: RADONITSA

On Tuesday of St Thomas week we remember those Orthodox Christians from all ages who have died in faith, and in the hope of resurrection. There are indications of this commemoration in the sermons of the Fathers of the Church. St John Chrysostom, for example, mentions it in his homily "On the Cemetery and the Cross."

In pre-Revolutionary Russia bars remained closed and alcoholic beverages were not sold until this Day of Rejoicing so that the joy people felt would be because of the Resurrection, and not an artificial joy brought on by alcohol.

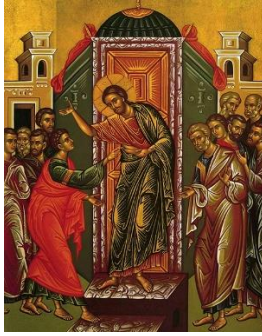
Today the Church remembers its faithful members at Liturgy, and kollyva is offered in remembrance of those who have fallen asleep. Priests visit cemeteries to bless the graves of Orthodox Christians, and to share the paschal joy with the departed. It is also customary to give alms to the poor on this day.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF PASCHA: ST. THOMAS SUNDAY

The Orthodox Church observes the Sunday of Thomas one week following the celebration of the Sunday of Holy Pascha. The day commemorates the appearance of Christ to His disciples on the evening of the Sunday following Passover. It also commemorates the appearance of the Lord to His disciples eight days later when Thomas was present and proclaimed "My Lord and my God" upon seeing the hands and side of Christ.

This Sunday is also called Antipascha (meaning "in the stead of Pascha," not "in opposition to Pascha") because with this day, the first Sunday after Pascha, the Church consecrates every Sunday of the year to the commemoration of Pascha, that is, the Resurrection.

Saint Thomas the Apostle is commemorated by the Church on October 6.



The Biblical Story

The events commemorated on the Sunday of Thomas are recorded in the Gospel of Saint John 20:19-29. Following the crucifixion and burial of Christ, the disciples were gathered in a room with the doors closed and locked for fear of the Jews. On the evening of the Sunday after Passover, Jesus Christ entered the room and stood in their midst, greeting them with the words, "Peace be with you." (v. 19) He showed the disciples his hands, feet, and side. (v. 20) Thomas was not present with the disciples when Jesus appeared, and he did not accept the testimony of the other disciples concerning Christ's Resurrection. He stated, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." (vv. 24-25)

Eight days later, the disciples were gathered together again with Thomas present, and the Lord appeared in the same manner. Standing in their midst he said, "Peace be with you." He then spoke directly to Thomas and said, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." (vv. 26-27) Thomas answered, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus replied by saying, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (v. 29)

Icon of the Sunday of Thomas

The icon of the Sunday of Thomas depicts Christ standing in the midst of the disciples. He has appeared to the eleven in the upper room, and he is inviting Thomas to come and examine his hands and his side. Thomas is reaching out to touch the side of Jesus. He is also looking to Jesus in a manner that indicates his faith and the proclamation recorded in Scripture.

Orthodox Christian Celebration of the Feast of Sunday of Thomas

The Sunday of Thomas is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom. On this Sunday and throughout the Paschal period until the Apodosis or leave-taking of Pascha, the day before the Feast of the Ascension, the services begin with the chanting of the troparion of Pascha, "Christ is risen..."

Scripture readings for the feast are the following: At Orthros: Matthew 28:16-20, the first of eleven resurrectional Gospel passages that are read in a cycle throughout the year during the Sunday matins. On this day the cycle always begins with the first Gospel passage; At the Divine Liturgy: [Acts 5:12-20](#) and [John 20:19-31](#).

LET ALL THAT YOU DO BE DONE IN LOVE. 1 Cor.16:14

YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. Matt. 22:37

YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF. Matt. 22:39

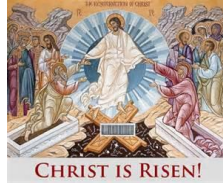
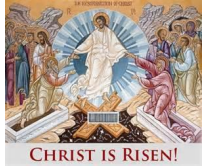
LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU. Matt. 5:44

LOVE IS PATIENT, LOVE IS KIND, LOVE DOES NOT ENVY, LOVE DOES NOT BOAST, LOVE IS NOT PROUD, LOVE IS NOT SELFISH, LOVE IS NOT PROVOKED. 1Cor. 13:4

LOVE BEARS ALL THINGS, LOVE ALWAYS HAS FAITH, LOVE ALWAYS HAS HOPE, LOVE ENDURES ALL THINGS. LOVE NEVER FAILS! 1Cor. 13:7,8

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH

ARCHPASTORAL VISIT OF HIS EMINENCE ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL



Sunday May 15, 2022

Meeting of Church School Children with His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL **9:00 AM**

**In The Parish Fellowship Hall*

The reading of The Hours – **9:10 AM**

Blessing of Renovated Kitchen and Restrooms and Beverage Area – **9:45 AM**

The Children and Altar Servers will lead His Eminence in a procession from the Parish Fellowship Hall to the front entrance of The Church where we will greet him with flowers, bread/salt and Cross.

Entrance and Greeting of His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL followed by Tonsuring of Drew Constantine Burke to The Rank of Reader and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy – **10:00 AM**

**Awarding of The Palitza to Archpriest Jason Vansuch

**Awarding of Gold Cross and Elevation to Archpriest of Priest Andreja Damjanovski

Festive Luncheon in Parish Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy

Following The Luncheon, there will be an informal meeting with members of The Parish Council with His Eminence Archbishop MICHAEL and Archpriest Alexey Karlgut (Dean of NYS Deanery)



ST. THOMAS SUNDAY – SUNDAY MAY 15, 2022 – ST. THOMAS SUNDAY

**Immediately following the Parish Luncheon Fellowship
on the Church and Rectory Property!**

For all children of our parish and their families!

**Let us come together and celebrate the Glorious Feast of the
Resurrection of Our Lord and St Thomas Sunday by participating in
the Divine Services followed by some Christian Fellowship.**

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[Commentary on John 20:19-29 for St. Thomas Sunday](#)

*From The Explanation of the Gospel of St. John by Blessed
Theophylact, Archbishop of Ochrid and Bulgaria*

It is fitting that He grants joy to the women, condemned to bear children in pain and suffering; and peace to the men, on account of the warfare that would engulf them for preaching the Gospel. At the same time He reveals that the cross has ushered in peace: “The cross has brought peace: now I send you forth to proclaim it.” To strengthen and embolden the disciples, He declares, “As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you. It is My work you have undertaken, so do it boldly: I will be with you.” Behold the authority of his command: “It is I Who sends you (Εγὼ πέμπω ὑμᾶς).” No longer does He condescend to the limitations of their understanding, saying as He often did before the resurrection, “I will ask My Father and He will send you.” Now He breathes on them and gives them the Holy Spirit—but not the entirety of the gift He would bestow at Pentecost. Receive ye the Holy Spirit, means, “Let this partial bestowal of grace make you ready to receive later the fullness of the Holy Spirit.” The words, Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them, indicate the particular gift He gives the disciples now: power to forgive sins. Later, on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit Himself would descend in all His might, lavishing upon the apostles every spiritual gift and power to work wondrous deeds, such as raising the dead.