

HOLY AND GLORIOUS APOSTLE THOMAS

Apostle Thomas was born in the Galilean city of Pansada and was a fisherman. Hearing the good tidings of Jesus Christ, he left all and followed after Him. The Apostle Thomas is included in the number of the holy Twelve Apostles of the Savior.

According to Holy Scripture, Thomas did not believe the reports of the other disciples about the Resurrection of Christ: “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe” (John 20:25).

On the eighth day after the Resurrection, the Lord appeared to the Apostle Thomas and showed him His wounds. “My Lord and my God,” the Apostle cried out (John 20:28). “Thomas, being once weaker in faith than the other apostles,” says St. John Chrysostom, “toiled through the grace of God more bravely, more zealously and tirelessly than them all, so that he went preaching over nearly all the earth, not fearing to proclaim the Word of God to savage nations.”

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

According to Church Tradition, the holy Apostle Thomas founded Christian churches in Palestine, Mesopotamia, Parthia, Ethiopia and India. Preaching the Gospel earned him a martyr’s death. For having converted the wife and son of the prefect of the Indian city of Melipur, the holy Apostle was locked up in prison, suffered torture, and finally, pierced with five spears, he departed to the Lord. Part of the relics of Apostle Thomas are in India, in Hungary and on Mt. Athos.



***HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44134***

THE TRINITARIAN

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6822 BROADVIEW ROAD, PARMA, OHIO 44134
CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 216-524-4859
CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.holy-trin.org>
V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 216-524-8989

BULLETIN 49 - VOLUME LVI

TONE 7

OCTOBER 6, 2019

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas
Glorification of St. Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow,
Enlightener of the Aleuts, and Apostle to the Americas
Monk-Martyr Macarius of St. Anne Skeet;
Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos "O All-Hymned Mother"

“O disciple of Christ and colleague of the Apostles, your lack of faith became a confirmation of the Resurrection, for your searching hand made you believe. O holy Thomas, worthy of all praise, obtain peace for us, and great mercy.”

Troparion, Tone II

“O holy Father Innocent, in obedience to the will of God, you accepted dangers and tribulations, bringing many peoples to the knowledge of truth. You showed us the way; now by your prayers help lead us into the Kingdom of Heaven.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY'S EPISTLE: II CORINTHIANS 6:1-10
HEBREWS 7:26-8:2

TODAY'S GOSPEL: LUKE 7:11-16
JOHN 10:9-16

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, October 12 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, October 7	Ephesians 1:22-2:3	Luke 7:36-50
Tuesday, October 8	Ephesians 2:19-3:7	Luke 8:1-3
	Ephesians 3:8-21	Luke 8:22-25
Wednesday, October 9	Hebrews 7:26-8:2	John 10:9-16
Thursday, October 10	Ephesians 4:14-19	Luke 9:7-11
Friday, October 11	Ephesians 4:17-25	Luke 9:12-18
Saturday, October 12	I Corinthians 14:20-25	Luke 6:1-10

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER:

- 6, TODAY 10:45 a.m. Food Sale in the Fellowship Hall
- 14, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Council meeting
- 17, Thursday 7:00 p.m. EOWG Annual Pasta Dinner at HTOC
- 19, Saturday 5:00 p.m. Vespers and ZOE for Life program at St. Michael's
- 20, Sunday 3:00 p.m. Eastern Churches Seminar at Notre Dame College

MEMORY ETERNAL:

Marie Quick fell asleep in the Lord on September 27, 2019, and was buried this past Friday.

FOOD SALE:

Stop by the tables in our Fellowship Hall after the Liturgy today and purchase some home-made foods!

EOWG PASTA DINNER:

The Eastern Orthodox Women's Guild invites all to a Pasta Dinner here at HTOC on Thursday, Oct. 17. Doors open at 6:00 for socializing and appetizers; dinner is at 7:00. Adults are \$15—see Joanne Stoyka for tickets. Further details are on the bulletin board.

EASTERN CHURCHES SEMINAR:

"My Sin and God's Mercy" is the theme of the 2019 annual seminar. Dr. Peter Bouteneff, professor at St. Vladimir's Seminary, will speak. The seminar is Sunday, Oct. 20, 3:00-5:00; at Notre Dame College in South Euclid. The presentation is free and open to the public. See details in the Fellowship Hall.

ST. ELIZABETH BOOK CIRCLE:

The Book Circle will meet Monday, October 14, at 12:30 p.m. We are reading the chapters on Creation and on Illness—pages 218-231—in Wounded By Love. All are welcome.

ORTHODOX SINGLES GROUP:

A Singles Group will form and meet on Sunday, October 13, St. Matthew Church, during coffee hour, following the Divine Liturgy. The church is located at 10383 Albion; North Royalton.

MEATLOAF LUNCHEON:

HTOC will host a Meatloaf Luncheon on Sunday, November 3, to raise funds and awareness of our monthly meal outreach at St. Herman's House of Hospitality. For luncheon details, see Judy Howe. A basket auction is planned, and donations are needed. Gift cards are popular. To help, contact Dianna Kall: dkall@ameritech.net or 216-741-2888.

BOUTIQUE FUNDRAISER:

Special thanks to all who donated and participated in our Women's Accessory Boutique. Remaining items were donated to two worthy organizations—ZOE for Life and Westside Catholic Charities. Profits were \$355 for our Operating Fund.

ZOE FOR LIFE PROGRAM:

ZOE for Life invites all adults and high school teens to a showing of the movie Unplanned, a true story that includes a look inside the abortion industry. The event is Saturday, Oct. 19, after 5:00 Vespers at Archangel Michael Church.

COFFEE HOUR:

Thank you to the Cundik Family for preparing and serving our refreshments today.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Marsha Uziel in memory of Mary and Bill Macko.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Susan and Neil Haverly in memory of their Aunt Olga.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, SEPTEMBER 29	\$ 2359.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	97.00
BUILDING FUND	4165.00
MORTGAGE FUND	40.00
CANDLES	104.00
COFFEE HOUR, 9/22/19	81.00

WHAT, AND WHAT NOT, TO DO IN CHURCH

The new Divine Liturgy books that are now in the pews of our church give us a chance to address some basic points of church etiquette. We are offering only brief remarks here, and it's important to keep in mind that traditions vary among different Orthodox churches. **Also please note:** where health, medical conditions and age are factors, and for parents with small children, the rules below about sitting and standing should be modified appropriately.

Some of the older folks will remember that there was a time when people literally had special “Sunday” clothes which were worn only to church. Men wore suits and ties, women always wore dresses and hats, shoes were polished, children also were outfitted in clean “Sunday” clothes. In this regard things have changed, and people generally dress more informally and casually. Still, when in church, we should think about where we are. When we go out to eat at a nice restaurant, it is often required that we dress in “proper” attire. Coming to church is no different, so clean, decent clothing and shoes are always appropriate.

Our parish is blessed with a beautiful vestibule, and it is large enough for the conversations and interactions that we need to have as we enter the church. In our parish, the vestibule is also the designated place for placement of candles. In the body of the church, the nave, talking should be reduced to a minimum or not at all, especially of course during liturgical services. This does not apply to infants and very young children, who do make their presences known. We welcome the young ones at all times, and their crying and fussiness is generally not a distraction. When the decibel level gets too high and activity becomes difficult, parents should use their common sense and take the child out to the vestibule or hall until they simmer down.

Upon entering the nave, we normally make the sign of the cross, venerate the icons of Jesus Christ and the Blessed Theotokos; and if the service has not yet begun, we can venerate the festal icon on the tetrapod at the center of the church. As we take our places in the pews before the service, many will kneel or stand to say a short private prayer. Before services, sitting is acceptable, and also during the reading of the Hours. However, it is customary to stand when we hear the reader do the Trisagion (that is, the “Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us [3x]; through the “Our Father”). Our parish tradition is that all the faithful present recite the “Our Father” together.

Once the service begins, we stand. Ancient and well-established Orthodox tradition is that all stand during liturgical services. Sitting, and pews in general, are a fairly recent, 20th century/North America addition. The questions of when to sit and stand vary among parishes. In some parishes, and ours included, the faithful sit during the Epistle readings. But during the Gospel, it is proper for all to stand. Sitting at the sermon makes sense. And if you are tired, you can sit during the litany between the Cherubic Hymn and the Creed. People should not sit after the Anaphora (that is, after the Consecration of the Holy Eucharistic Gifts) and before the Lord’s Prayer. If possible, remain standing until after Holy Communion, but it is acceptable to sit when the curtain is drawn behind the Royal Doors (the central doors of the iconostasis). Other issues will be discussed in church today.

Fr. Alexander Garklaus