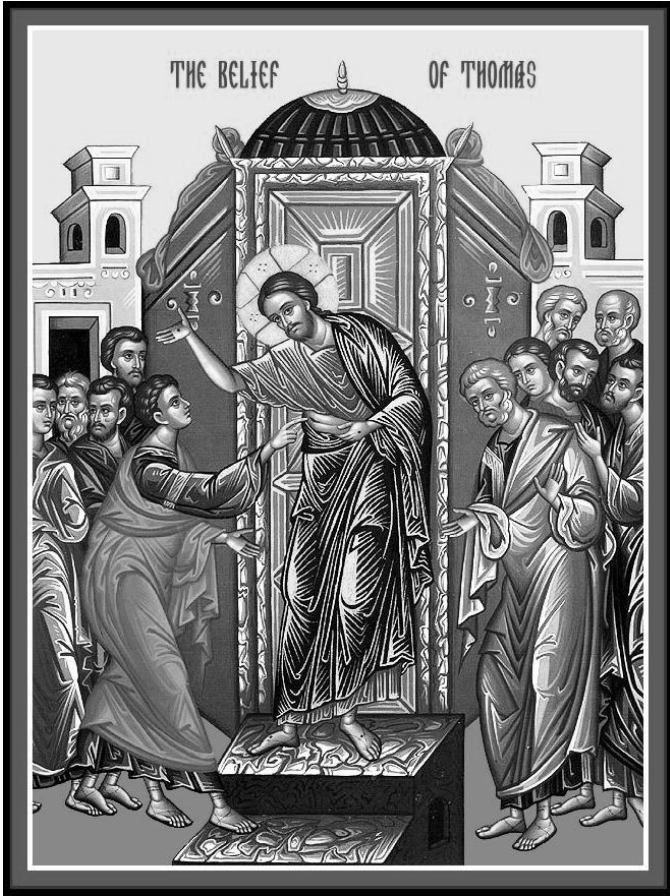




# The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

Thomas Sunday + May 12, 2024 + ANTIPASCHA + Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!



## Hymns for Today's Service

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!

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

## Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with  
the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

## Epistle Reading - Acts 5:12-20

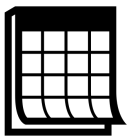
And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 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 Reading - 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

**DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS:** A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

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.



## This Week's Schedule

### Doly Trinity Orthodox Church

#### **THIS WEEKEND - Thomas Sunday**

##### **BRIGHT SATURDAY, May 11th**

Paschal Hours @ 8:40 AM

Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

Parish PotLuck / Picnic @ 11:00 AM

Great Vespers @ 2 PM (*Note Time Change*)

##### **THOMAS SUNDAY, May 12th**

Hours @ 8:40 AM

Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

*followed by Coffee Hour &*

**Childrens Easter Egg Hunt @ 11 AM,**

**Blessing of the Graves** (weather permitting)

*Holy Resurrection @ 12:30, Fern Knoll @ 2:30*

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#### **THIS WEEK**

**No open church or services this week**

**Thursday Bible Study is on Spring Break**

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#### **NEXT WEEKEND - Myrrh-Bearing Woman**

Saturday, May 18th

Friends of the Poor @ 9 AM

Great Vespers @ 5 PM

*Confession available before or after Vespers*

Sunday, May 19th

Hours @ 8:40 AM, Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

*followed by Coffee Hour, Church School*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### & Upcoming Parish Events

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**Parish Council is usually the second Sunday of each month. Our next meeting is May 26th**

**Friends of the Poor is usually the second Saturday of each month. The next gathering will be SAT, May 18th.**

**Parish Potlucks are usually the last Sunday of each month. Our next potluck is May 26th**

**Orthodoxy 101 Class: We are currently on Spring Break. Start date will be announced in the coming weeks. Enjoy the Paschal Season!**

#### **TODAY: Thomas Sunday Easter Egg Hunt & Grave**

**Blessings: Easter Egg Hunt & Grave Blessing. Our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Thomas Sunday at 11 AM following Divine Liturgy and a quick coffee break (for parents and the priest). Our annual Grave Blessings at Holy Resurrection & Fern Knoll Cemeteries will take place at 12:30 PM and 2:30 PM respectively. Both of these events are weather permitting.**

#### **May 26th, Retirement dinner following the Sunday Divine Liturgy for Archbishop Gregory**

**White: All are welcome! Tentative location Cork Restaurant, Madison St, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Approx. cost for the buffet if we reach the required number of attendees \$31. Attendees will be responsible to pay for their own meals. The menu will consist of Chicken Marsala, Beef Tips, Vegetable, Desert, and coffee. Other drinks are available from the bar at an additional cost.**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**May Birthdays:** Alexandria Rubino (5/7), Gabriel Brisk (5/10), Jeremy Haugh (5/18), Paul Meck (5/18), Becky Leonori (5/20), Zach Harvey (5/24), Jack Willis (5/24), Elaine Benczkowski (5/26), Eva King (5/30), Martha Tumavitch (5/30) **Anniversaries:** Matthew & Aimee Austin (5/15)

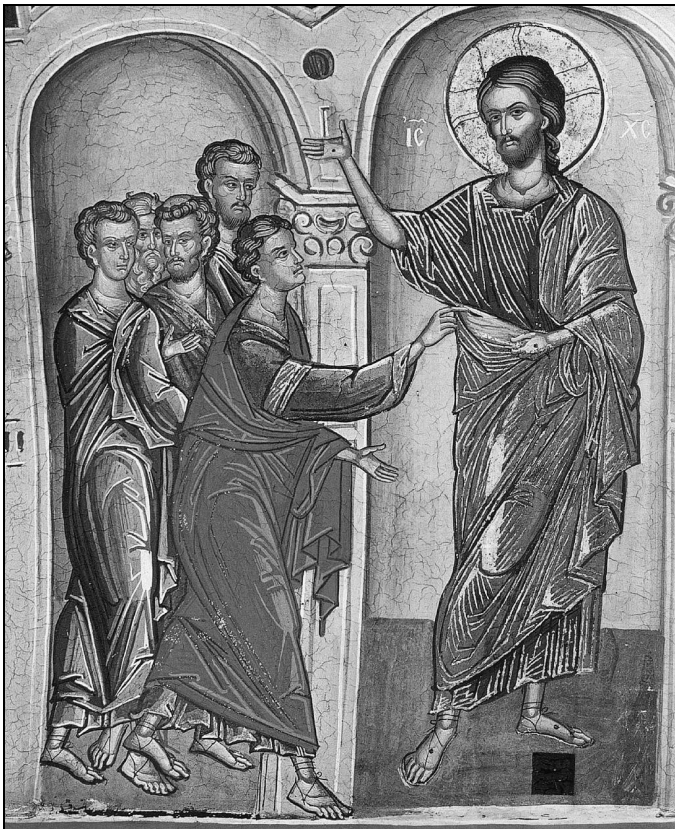
**This week:** Jeremy Haugh (5/18), Paul Meck (5/18),  
**Anniversaries:** Matthew & Aimee Austin (5/15)



## Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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### Why is it called St. Thomas Sunday / Antipascha?



On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ's Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior's side.

If the seals of the Virgin's womb and of the grave did not hinder Thee,

How could the seals of the doors hinder Thy might, O Savior?

This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means "in place of Pascha", because Thomas did not hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. We remember his doubt but do not repeat it. After this Sunday, the Church dedicates Sunday to the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered together on the Sunday following the Resurrection, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, "Peace be unto you." Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate before His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's scars—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. The Master told Thomas to see and feel. Then Thomas immediately cried out, "My Lord and my God!" But Jesus tells His Disciples, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." This also clearly illustrates the two Natures of Christ: the human and the divine.

By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.



## The Treasury

*"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. + Jesus Christ*

**Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305**  
**Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840**  
**Collections (Holy Week/Pascha): \$4,777**

**PARISH PRAYER LIST Living:** Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Tom & Joan Austin, Joan Lello, Barbara Pascoe, Elizabeth Hutz, Delores Voda, David Goobic, David Lezinsky, Fr. Gregory White, Mary Gurka, Mary Ann Kudey, Tom Youngblood, Catherine Gates, John Boyle, Rose Marie, Patricia Yeosock, Lucille Dragan, Mark **Departed:** Ben Dragan, Michael Yeosock, Shirley Gingo, Edward Hojnicky, Truett Bridges

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Happy  Mother's Day

*In honor of all the*

*Mothers,*

God mothers, aunts and  
hard working women  
of Holy Trinity and  
Holy Resurrection  
Communities,  
Geraniums are given to  
each one of you!

*May God Grant you Many Years!*  
*ALL WOMEN please pick your flower*  
*up on the way out of church!*



**Wilkes-Barre  
Bright Saturday  
Cookout & Picnic**

**When:** Saturday, May 11th  
following Paschal Divine Liturgy at 9 AM. Picnic will  
begin at approx 11 AM.  
Hot grill will be provided. Bring Food/Drinks!  
Vespers @ 2 PM

**Where:** Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

**Who:** All are welcome to attend and bring a friend.

**All Local Orthodox Parishes have been invited!**

*“The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously.  
The calf is fatted; let no one go away hungry.”*

+ St. John Chrysostom

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