

Epistle & Gospel Reading

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 together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high honor. 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 towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they arrested 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."

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.

Epistle & Gospel Reading in Greek

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος: Πρ 5:12-20

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, διὰ τῶν χειρῶν τῶν ἀποστόλων ἐγένετο σημεῖα καὶ τέρατα ἐν τῷ λαῷ πολλὰ· (καὶ ἦσαν ὁμοθυμαδὸν ἅπαντες ἐν τῇ Στοᾷ Σολομῶντος. Τῶν δὲ λοιπῶν οὐδεὶς ἐτόλμα κολλᾶσθαι αὐτοῖς, ἀλλ' ἐμεγάλυνεν αὐτοὺς ὁ λαός· μᾶλλον δὲ προσετίθεντο πιστεύοντες τῷ Κυρίῳ πλήθην ἀνδρῶν τε καὶ γυναικῶν· ὥστε κατὰ τὰς πλατείας ἐκφέρειν τοὺς ἀσθενεῖς καὶ τιθέναι ἐπὶ κλινῶν καὶ κρᾶββάτων, ἵνα ἐρχομένου Πέτρου κἂν ἢ σκιά ἐπισιᾶσθαι τινὶ αὐτῶν. Συνήρχετο δὲ καὶ τὸ πλῆθος τῶν πέριξ πόλεων Ἰερουσαλὴμ, φέροντες ἀσθενεῖς καὶ ὀχλουμένους ὑπὸ πνευμάτων ἀκαθάρτων, οἵτινες ἐθεραπεύοντο ἅπαντες. Ἀναστὰς δὲ ὁ ἀρχιερεὺς καὶ πάντες οἱ σὺν αὐτῷ, ἢ οὕσα αἵρεσις τῶν Σαδδουκαίων, ἐπλήσθησαν ζήλου καὶ ἐπέβαλον τὰς χεῖρας ἐπὶ τοὺς ἀποστόλους καὶ ἔθεντο αὐτοὺς ἐν τηρήσει δημοσίᾳ. Ἄγγελος δὲ Κυρίου διὰ νυκτὸς ἤνοιξε τὰς θύρας τῆς φυλακῆς ἐξαγαγὼν τε αὐτοὺς εἶπε· Πορεύεσθε καὶ σταθέντες λαλεῖτε ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ τῷ λαῷ πάντα τὰ ῥήματα τῆς ζωῆς ταύτης.

Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον: Ἰωα α' 19-31

Οὔσης ὀψίας τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ τῇ μιᾷ σαββάτων, καὶ τῶν θυρῶν κεκλεισμένων ὅπου ἦσαν οἱ μαθηταὶ συνηγμένοι διὰ τὸν φόβον τῶν Ἰουδαίων, ἦλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἔστη εἰς τὸ μέσον, καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς· Εἰρήνη ὑμῖν. καὶ τοῦτο εἰπὼν ἔδειξεν αὐτοῖς τὰς χεῖρας καὶ τὴν πλευρὰν αὐτοῦ. ἐχάρησαν οὖν οἱ μαθηταὶ ἰδόντες τὸν Κύριον. εἶπεν οὖν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς πάλιν· Εἰρήνη ὑμῖν. καθὼς ἀπέσταλκέ με ὁ πατήρ, καὶ γὰρ πέμπω ὑμᾶς. καὶ τοῦτο εἰπὼν ἐνεφύσησε καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς· Λάβετε Πνεῦμα ἅγιον· ἂν τινων ἀφῆτε τὰς ἁμαρτίας, ἀφίενται αὐτοῖς, ἂν τινων κρατήτε, κειράτηνται. Θωμᾶς δὲ εἰς ἐκ τῶν δώδεκα ὁ λεγόμενος Δίδυμος, οὐκ ἦν μετ' αὐτῶν ὅτε ἦλθεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς. ἔλεγον οὖν αὐτῷ οἱ ἄλλοι μαθηταὶ· Ἐωράκαμεν τὸν Κύριον. ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς· Ἐὰν μὴ ἴδω ἐν ταῖς χερσὶν αὐτοῦ τὸν τύπον τῶν ἥλων, καὶ βάλω τὸν δάκτυλόν μου εἰς τὸν τύπον τῶν ἥλων, καὶ βάλω τὴν χεῖρά μου εἰς τὴν πλευρὰν αὐτοῦ, οὐ μὴ πιστεύσω. Καὶ μεθ' ἡμέρας ὁκτὼ πάλιν ἦσαν ἔσω οἱ μαθηταὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ Θωμᾶς μετ' αὐτῶν. ἔρχεται ὁ Ἰησοῦς τῶν θυρῶν κεκλεισμένων, καὶ ἔστη εἰς τὸ μέσον καὶ εἶπεν· Εἰρήνη ὑμῖν. εἶτα λέγει τῷ Θωμᾷ· Φέρε τὸν δάκτυλόν σου ὧδε καὶ ἴδε τὰς χεῖράς μου, καὶ φέρε τὴν χεῖρά σου καὶ βάλε εἰς τὴν πλευρὰν μου, καὶ μὴ γίνου ἄπιστος, ἀλλὰ πιστός. Καὶ ἀπεκριθὼν Θωμᾶς καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· Ὁ Κύριός μου καὶ ὁ Θεός μου. λέγει αὐτῷ ὁ Ἰησοῦς· Ὅτι ἐώρακάς με, πεπίστευκας· μακάριοι οἱ μὴ ἰδόντες καὶ πιστεύσαντες. Πολλὰ μὲν οὖν καὶ ἄλλα σημεῖα ἐποίησεν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐνώπιον τῶν μαθητῶν αὐτοῦ, ἃ οὐκ ἔστι γεγραμμένα ἐν τῷ βιβλίῳ τούτῳ· ταῦτα δὲ γέγραπται ἵνα πιστεύσητε ὅτι Ἰησοῦς ἐστὶν ὁ Χριστὸς ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, καὶ ἵνα πιστεύοντες ζωὴν ἔχητε ἐν τῷ ὀνόματι αὐτοῦ.



ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
LANCASTER, PA



SUNDAY, April 26, 2020

Basil, Bishop of Amasea; Glaphyra the Righteous

Orthros: Festal

Epistle: Acts 5: 12-20

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20

Page: 947 (Pew Bibles)

Page: 941 (Pew Bibles)

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Being Spiritually Ready to See the Risen Lord

Thomas was not granted to see Christ on the first day of His resurrection. In the interpretation of St. Theophylactos, Thomas was hesitant and considered Christ's resurrection impossible. He had not reached the inner spiritual condition necessary for seeing the Risen Christ.

We have stated already that Christ was manifested to those who were in a state for which Christ's appearance would have a saving, not a punishing, effect. Thomas seems not to have reached the spiritual maturity required by this event.

Christ postponed His appearance for a whole week for the sake of Thomas's spiritual readiness. Christ delayed visiting him so long, "so that he might be taught by his fellow disciples and an on hearing these things he might also have a more burning desire, and be more trusting towards what was to be in the future" (St. Theophylactos).

A whole week, then, was needed for him to be taught the facts of Christ's manifestation by the other Disciples, in order to learn the facts of His manifestation, and for a great longing to develop, and also to express repentance for his lack of faith so that Christ's manifestation might effect salvation. When Thomas was suitably prepared, he too became a theologian through the manifestation of Christ and confessed: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:29).

Metr. Hierotheos Vlachos, The Feasts of the Lord, p. 265.

1. APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION
(Fifth Mode)

Christ is risen from the dead, by death,
trampling down upon death,
and to those in the tombs
He has granted life.

2. HYMN OF THE SMALL ENTRANCE
(Second Mode)

In the congregation bless God the Lord,
who springs out of Israel.
Save us, O Son of God
who rose from the dead,
To you we sing, Alleluia!

3. APOLYTIKION (Grave Mode)

O Life, You rose from the sepulcher, even though
the tomb was secured with a seal, O Christ God.
And though the doors had been bolted, You came to
Your disciples, O Resurrection of all. Through them
You renew a right spirit in us, according to Your
great mercy.

4. KONTAKION (Plagal Fourth Mode)

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal
One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades;
and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and
You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women,
and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the
fallen grant resurrection.

1. ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ (Ηχ. Πλ. Α)

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν,
θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας,
καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι,
ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.

2. ΕΙΣΟΔΙΚΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ (Ηχ. Β)

Ἐν Ἐκκλησίαις εὐλογεῖτε τὸν Θεόν,
Κύριον ἐκ πηγῶν Ἰσραήλ.
Σῶσον ἡμᾶς, Υἱὲ Θεοῦ,
ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ νεκρῶν ψάλλοντάς σοι.
Ἀλληλουῖα.

3. ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ (Ηχος βαρύς)

Ἐσφραγισμένου τοῦ μνήματος, ἡ Ζωὴ ἐκ τάφου
ἀνέτειλας Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός, καὶ τῶν θυρῶν
κεκλεισμένων, τοῖς Μαθηταῖς ἐπέστης, ἡ πάντων
ἀνάστασις· Πνεῦμα εὐθὲς δι' αὐτῶν ἐγκαινίζων ἡμῖν,
κατὰ τὸ μέγα σου ἔλεος.

4. ΚΟΝΤΑΚΙΟΝ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΣΧΑ (Ηχ. Πλ. Δ)

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατῆλθες Ἀθάνατε,
ἀλλὰ τοῦ Ἄδου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν·
καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητὴς, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός,
γυναιξὶ Μυροφόροις φθεγγόμενος· Χαίρετε·
καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις, εἰρήνην δωρούμενος,
ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων Ἀνάστασιν.



Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

Sunday, April 26th St. Thomas

8:15 AM Orthros
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Monday, April 27th

8:15 PM OCF & Young Adult Online
Discussion Group

Tuesday, April 28th

7:30 PM Parish Council meeting (via Zoom)

Wednesday, April 29th

6:00 PM Live-Streamed/Zoom Bible Study with
Fr. Hector
7:00 PM Paraklesis

Saturday, May 2nd

7:00 PM Vespers

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It is the day of the Resurrection. Let us shine brightly
for the festival, and also embrace one another. Brethren,
let us say even to those who hate us, "Let us forgive
everything for the Resurrection." And thus let us cry
aloud, "Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling
down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has
granted life."

Ἀναστάσεως ἡμέρα, καὶ λαμπρυνθῶμεν τῇ πανηγύρει,
καὶ ἀλλήλους περιπτυξώμεθα. Εἴπωμεν ἀδελφοί, καὶ τοῖς
μισοῦσιν ἡμᾶς· Συγχωρήσωμεν πάντα τῇ Ἀναστάσει, καὶ
οὕτω βοήσωμεν· Χριστὸς ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ
θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζωὴν
χαρισάμενος.

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS

We welcome our non-Orthodox friends and neighbors at all the
liturgical services with a reminder that Holy Communion may be
received only by *prepared* Orthodox Christians. Please sign the Visitor's
Registry in the Narthex if you wish to be contacted by the priest.



Father Hector Firoglanis, Pastor
Father Theodosios Palis, Assistant Pastor
Father Alexander Veronis, Pastor Emeritus

