

**NEW SUNDAY OR ANTI-PASCHA**  
SUNDAY OF THOMAS THE APOSTLE,  
CALLED "THE TWIN"

**MAY 12, 2024**

**ST. NICHOLAS**  
**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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**CLERGY**

His Eminence Metropolitan SABA  
*Archbishop of New York & Metropolitan of all North America*

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY  
*Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest*

Very Reverend Michael Nasser  
*Pastor*

Reverend David Khorey  
*Associate Pastor*

V. Rev. Elias Mitchell  
Rev. Theodore Sirotko  
Rev. Deacon Justin Adolphson

Rev. Deacon Clement Nicoloff  
Rev. Deacon John Kaufman  
Subdeacon Nicholas Rock



## WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book and taking a visitor's packet both located on the table in the Narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, so feel free to join us for refreshments & fellowship in the Cultural Center.

We believe **Holy Communion** to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith is encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, & regular confession are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

## WHO WE ARE

St. Nicholas Church is a worshipping community living and sharing the Faith Christ gave to the Apostles.

Our parish exists to seek and share Christ's love so that all will find eternal life in Him.

We would love to share more about our Orthodox Faith with you. Our website and our bookstore are great resources to assist you in learning more about us and what we believe! Also, feel free to make an appointment with our pastor.

We trust that you will experience Christ's presence as you worship with us today.



## HYMNS AND READINGS OF THE DAY

### HYMNS

#### *APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 7)*

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

#### *KONTAKION OF PASCHA (TONE 8)*

O Christ our God, though Thou didst descend into the grave, yet didst Thou overthrow the power of Hades and rise as an Immortal Conqueror. Thou didst greet with joy the myrrh bearing women, and to Thine Apostles hast sent Thy peace, and to the fallen, O Lord, didst bring resurrection.

### CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

<b>Arabic:</b>	Al Massih Qam! Haken Qam!
<b>Greek:</b>	Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
<b>Russian:</b>	Khristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!
<b>Armenian:</b>	Krisdos hanyav ee merelotz! Orhnyal eh harootiunun Krisdosee!!
<b>Romanian:</b>	Hristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat!
<b>Ethiopian:</b>	Christos Tensiou! Bahake Tensiou!
<b>French:</b>	Le Christ est Ressuscite! En Verite Il est Ressuscite!
<b>German:</b>	Christus ist Erstanden! Er ist Wahrhaftig Erstanden!
<b>Spanish:</b>	Christo ha Resucitado! En verdad, ha Resucitado!
<b>Italian:</b>	Cristo é risorto, é veramente risorto!
<b>Mandarin:</b>	Jīdū fùhuóle Tā zhēn de fùhuóle

## EPISTLE

*Great is our Lord, and great is His strength.  
Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.*

### **The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles 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 with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. 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 cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they 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 and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."



## GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. 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 to 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 to 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 to 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, "Thomas, you have 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.

## SYNAXARION

*(LIVES OF THE SAINTS OF THE DAY)*

On May 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Germanos, patriarch of Constantinople; and Epiphanius, bishop of Cyprus.

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.

### Verses

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 immediately hear of Christ's Resurrection and disbelieved it. Starting with this day, the Church dedicates Sunday to the celebration of the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered on Pascha, 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 with His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior's wounds—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later, Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel His wounds. 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 event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

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

## HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Mike and Angela Sirotko on the occasion of their wedding anniversary, offered by Fr. Ted. May God grant them many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Nathaniel Aaron Sirotko of the occasion of his birthday, offered by Fr. Ted. May God grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Eva Mary Bower of the occasion of her birthday, offered by Fr. Ted. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Jake and Jamal Rinvelt as they celebrate their first anniversary on May 13th, offered with love by Rob, Beth, Tori, Zack, Samantha, Levi, and Ellison. May God grant them many, many years of love and happiness!

For the Health and Blessings of Mike and Angie Sirotko in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless them with health, salvation and all good things, and grant them many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Nathaniel Aaron Sirotko in celebration of his 16th birthday, offered by Mike and Angie Sirotko. May God bestow health, blessings and all good things and grant him many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Emma Rose on her 16th birthday, offered by Barbara Thomas. May God continue to guide her.

For the Health and Blessings of Annie Kurian and Annette Saseen on their birthdays, offered by Barbara Thomas. May God grant them many years!

In memory of the Servants of God, Elizabeth Thomas and Charles Riley, offered by Barbara Thomas. May their memories be Eternal!

In memory of Sue Roth, beloved aunt, on her seven-day falling asleep in the Lord, offered by the Zahn family. May her memory be Eternal!

For the Health and Blessings of all Mothers, Grandmothers, and Godmothers, and in remembrance of all these handmaidens of God who have departed. Happy Mother's Day!

# REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

*Names are added to the Prayer List  
for one week by offering Holy Oblation  
or for up to 40 days in the case of an ongoing serious illness.*

## **LIVING**

Metropolitan PAUL  
Archbishop JOHN  
Archpriest Joseph  
Archpriest Michael Nasser  
Dn. Clem Nicoloff and his family

For all the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty  
in the Middle East, Ukraine, and throughout the world.  
And for all Mothers, Grandmothers, and Godmothers

Kh. Vicky Nasser	MaryAnn Maloley
Mike Sirotko	Joe Corey
Angela Sirotko	David Corey
Nathaniel Sirotko	Kathy Corey
Eva Bower	Tillie Sayfie
Jake Rinvelt	Ann Hoodhood
Jamal Rinvelt	Maddison Frawley
Emma Rose	Wadih Choueiri
Annie Kurian	Michelle Spruit
Annette Saseen	Marianne Knight



## **NEWLY DEPARTED**

For the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty  
in the Middle East, Ukraine, and throughout the world.

Audrey Nicoloff

## **DEPARTED**

Elizabeth Thomas  
Charles Riley  
Sue Roth

And for all Mothers, Grandmothers, and Godmothers