

THE EPISTLE

Reader: *The Prokimenon in the 3rd Tone: Great is our Lord, and great is His strength, and of His understanding there is no measure.*

Choir: Great is our Lord, and great is His strength, and of His understanding there is no measure.

Reader: *Praise ye the Lord, for a psalm is a good thing; let praise be sweet unto our God.*

Choir: Great is our Lord, and great is His strength, and of His understanding there is no measure.

Reader: *Great is our Lord, and great is His strength.*

Choir: And of His understanding there is no measure.

Reader: The Reading is from the Acts of the Holy Apostles: [Acts 5:12-20]

GOSPEL

Reader: *Alleluia in the 8th Tone:*

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: *Come let us rejoice in the Lord, let us shout with jubilation unto God our Savior.*

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: *For the Lord is a great God and a Great king over all the earth.*

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel [John 20:19-31]

Welcome to

Sts. Theodore Orthodox Church

96 Los Robles St., Williamsville NY 14221

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Priest John Boddecker

Deacon Andrew Hammond

Deacon George Hammond

We are a parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, and all are welcome to worship with us! Our services are in English. Please join us for lunch downstairs after the service.

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!
ХРИСТОСЪ ВОСКРЕСЕ! ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ!
HRISTOS A ÎNVIAT! ADEVĂRAT A ÎNVIAT!

April 2/15, 2018

Second Sunday of Pascha

St. Thomas Sunday

This Week's Schedule

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Mon. – Fri. | Midnight Office and Typika | 7:00 am |
| Tuesday | General Panikhida for Radonitsa | 6:00 pm |
| Saturday | Confession and Communion Rule | 4:00 pm |
| | All-Night Vigil | 5:00 pm |
| Sunday | Hours and Divine Liturgy | 9:00 am |
| | <i>Meal in Trapeza after Services</i> | |

Today's Readings

Epistle: Acts of the Apostles 5:12-20

Gospel: John 20:19-31

HYMNS FOR ST. THOMAS SUNDAY

Troparion – Tone 7: While the tomb was sealed, Thou, O Life, didst shine forth from the grave, O Christ God. / And while the doors were shut, Thou didst come unto Thy disciples, O Resurrection of all, / renewing through them an upright Spirit in us // according to Thy Great Mercy.

Kontakion - Tone 8: With his searching right hand, Thomas did probe Thy life-bestowing side, O Christ God; / for when Thou didst enter while the doors were shut, // he cried out unto Thee with the rest of the disciples: Thou art my Lord and my God.

MEGALYNARION

Refrain: The angel cried unto her that is full of grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin! And again I say, rejoice! For thy Son is risen from the grave on the third day, and hath raised the dead, O ye people, be joyful!

Irmos: Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee; dance now and be glad, O Zion, and do thou exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear.

A WORD FROM THE HOLY FATHERS

People say: if we had seen Christ we would not have denied Him. This is not true: the majority of those who denied Him had seen Him, and they denied Him because they did not love spiritual values, and the victory over the devil spoke but little to their hearts; they desired external success.

Cases of full denial are not many. Normally a remnant of faith remains, and this half-acknowledgment and half-faith is perhaps even worse, and such half-believers are in the majority. If they were to be excluded from so-called believing

society we would see that there are but few true worshippers. Church and cross, unity in Christ, unity in the name of the feat [podvig] of love – there is the outline of our relationship towards the Lord. But half-believers do not strive to understand either one or the other – unity or Christ’s love – in the way that Christians understand it.

Half-faith has many degrees, but one thing inevitably follows from all half-belief. Those who deny know both what they have denied and to what to return. But the half-believer does not have any such clarity and grows accustomed to a life guided by sophistries, half-truth, and hints at some sort of supposed truth.

+ Metropolitan Anthony (Khrapovitsky)

PARISH NEWS

- ❖ **Christ is Risen! Христось Воскрепе! *Hristos a înviat!***
Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!
- ❖ **Radonitsa / Радоница:** This Tuesday is Radonitsa / Радоница. Fr John will be available to serve the Paschal Litia in commemoration of your departed Orthodox loved ones buried in local cemeteries by appointment between now and the Feast of the Ascension. A Panikhida will be served at the church on Tuesday evening and all are welcome to join us or submit names of Orthodox departed for commemoration at the Panikhida.
- ❖ **Mother’s Book Group:** The next meeting of the Mother’s Book Group will be this Tuesday, April 17, following the Panikhida (~ 6:30 pm).
- ❖ **Sunday of the Myrrhbearers:** Next Sunday is the Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearers among whom were numbered St Mary and Martha, the patronesses of our parish sisterhood. Therefore, I ask the men to take care of the clean-up after the Trapeza meal next Sunday.