



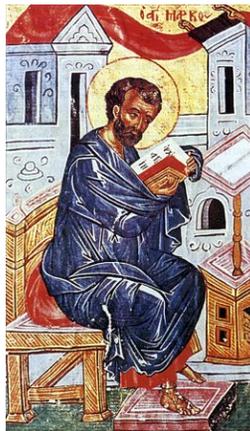
NEWSLETTER & DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Bright Week

Monday, May 3 — Sunday, May 9, 2021



*The Holy GreatMartyr
George the Victory-Bearer*



*The Holy Disciple and
Evangelist Mark*



St. Thomas Sunday

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~ A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN ~

St John Chrysostom on Pascha: If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; He gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.

Christ is risen!

~ TWITTER SUMMARY ~

The main points from Sunday's sermon, in 280 characters or less!

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH, AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!

~ THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY ~

Scripture and liturgical readings to enrich your prayer life every day of the week

<p align="center">~ BRIGHT MONDAY ~ (5/3)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 John 1:18-28</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion: <i>The Bright Resurrection of Christ, Troparion. Tone V —</i> Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Bright Monday</p>	<p align="center">~ BRIGHT TUESDAY~ (5/4)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 2:14-21 Luke 24:12-35</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion: <i>The Bright Resurrection of Christ, Troparion. Tone V —</i> Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Bright Tuesday</p>
<p align="center">~ BRIGHT WEDNESDAY~ (5/5)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 2:22-36 John 1:35-51</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion: <i>The Bright Resurrection of Christ, Troparion. Tone V —</i> Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Bright Wednesday</p>	<p align="center">~ BRIGHT THURSDAY~ (5/6)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 2:38-43 John 3:1-15</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion: <i>The Bright Resurrection of Christ, Troparion. Tone V —</i> Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Bright Thursday</p>
<p align="center">~ BRIGHT FRIDAY~ (5/7)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 3:1-8 Philippians 2:5-11 John 2:12-22 Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion: <i>The Bright Resurrection of Christ, Troparion. Tone V —</i></p>	<p align="center">~ BRIGHT SATURDAY ~ (5/8)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 3:11-16 John 3:22-33 1 Peter 5:6-14 St. Mark Mark 6:7-13 St. Mark</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion: <i>The Bright Resurrection of Christ, Troparion. Tone V —</i></p>

<p>Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Bright Friday</p>	<p>Christ is risen from the dead, trampling on death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Bright Saturday</p>
<p align="center">~ BRIGHT SUNDAY ~ (5/9)</p> <p>Holy Scripture: Acts 5:12-20 John 20:19-31</p> <p>Excerpt from the Menaion : St. Thomas Sunday, Troparion, Tone VII</p> <p>—</p> <p>When the tomb was sealed, Thou, the Life, O Christ our God, didst rise up from the grave; and when the doors were closed, Thou, the Resurrection of all, didst stand among the disciples, and through them renew a right spirit in us, according to Thy mercy.</p> <p>Commemoration of the Day: Antipascha, St. Thomas Sunday</p>	<p>“Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, their words unto the ends of the world.”</p> <p>[Prokeimenon of Pentecost, Tone 8, Liturgy]</p> <p>To read more: https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/</p>

~ PONDER THIS ~

A few thoughts to ponder in light of this week’s lessons and sermons.

CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH, AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE!

<https://orthochristian.com/131425.html>

Can fire be put out by fire? Can darkness be illumined by darkness? Can evil be conquered by evil? Of course not.

Like cannot be destroyed by like, but only by its opposite. Fire is put out by water, darkness is dispersed by light, and evil is conquered by goodness.

Nevertheless, contradicting this pervasive law, Christ trampled down death by His own death.

What death? Spiritual death. that death which is alienation from Christ God, Who is Love, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Spiritual death is the rejection of the way of goodness, love, and truth, and the preference of another path—the path of evil, hatred, and lies.

This path is from the devil, the enemy of Christ; for the devil is the father of lies, hatred, and evil. Thus, the general law that says like cannot be overcome by like has not been broken, but only to the contrary; and it is true that Christ trampled down death by His own death.

~LOOK IT UP ~

Did you know: In the Orthodox Church the feast of Easter is officially called Pascha, the word which means the Passover. It is the new Passover of the new and everlasting covenant foretold by the prophets of old. It is the eternal Passover from death to life and from earth to heaven. It is the Day of the Lord proclaimed by God's holy prophets, "the day which the Lord has made" for His judgment over all creation, the day of His final and everlasting victory. It is the Day of the Kingdom of God, the day "which has no night" for "its light is the Lamb" (Rev 21.22–25).

Read more:

<https://www.oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year/easter-sunday-the-holy-pascha>

~ PRAYER CORNER ~

- Father John and Matushka Deborah.
- Sister Seraphima and her family
- Healthcare workers and anyone at risk of contracting the COVID virus

To submit **commemorations for the next Divine Liturgy**, to make an appointment with Fr. John to give **confession by telephone**, to alert us to any pastoral needs, to submit an item for the **Prayer Corner**, or just to chat, please contact Fr. John or Mat. Deborah using the following contact information:

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Matushka Deborah Tomasi * (310) 849-9451 * deborah_tomasi@yahoo.com

Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!