

St Innocent Orthodox Church

The Church St Innocent of Irkutsk is a parish of the Diocese of the West,
The Orthodox Church in America (OCA)

5657 Lindley Ave. Tarzana, CA 91356. Church Office: (818) 881 - 1123

stinnocenttarzana.org

Fr. Yousuf Rassam

April 23rd, 2023

Today's commemorated feasts and saints:

ANTIPASCHA. 2nd SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 1. St. Thomas Sunday. Holy Glorious Greatmartyr, Victorybearer, and Wonderworker George (303). Martyr Alexandra the Empress, wife of Diocletian (303). Martyrs Anatolius and Protoleon, soldiers converted by witnessing the martyrdom of St. George (303).

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!



FROM HOPELESSNESS TO CELEBRATION

Almost immediately after our Lord's Resurrection, stories of Him appearing to some of His followers began to surface. He appeared to Mary Magdalene, who, at first, thought she was speaking to a gardener rather than Christ Himself. He appeared to His Apostles on the evening of His Resurrection in the same Upper Room where they had shared the Last Supper. Without a doubt, however, the most dramatic post-Resurrection encounter occurred along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus.

Emmaus was a small town approximately 7 miles from Jerusalem. St. Luke's Gospel details a late afternoon journey between the two cities by two disciples: Cleopas and Luke. As they were walking, engrossed in conversation about recent events in the Holy City, Cleopas and Luke were suddenly joined by a "stranger" whom they did not recognize as their Savior! When questioned by Him concerning their apparent sadness, the disciples told their new companion about Christ's death and rumored Resurrection. They spoke about their pain, grief and mourning.

Upon hearing this, our Lord goes into a comprehensive explanation of all of the prophecies concerning Himself. Enlightened and encouraged by His words, the disciples invite Jesus to remain with them for the evening after reaching Emmaus. As He breaks bread with them at supper and blesses it, the disciples realize that this "stranger" is their beloved Master. After Christ vanishes before their eyes, Cleopas and Luke quickly return to Jerusalem to share their astonishing experience with the Apostles.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

SCHEDULE ALL SERVICES LIVE STREAMED.

Matins Gospel: Matthew 28: 16 - 20 (*1st Matins Gospel*)

Next Week's Epistle: Acts 5: 12 - 20 **Gospel:** John 20: 19 - 31

Reader: Matthew

Today 9:30 am Liturgy. Paschal Panikhida

Tuesday 9:30 am Radonitsa. Typika with Paschal Panikhida

Wednesday 6:00 pm Moleben, Kontakion of Thomas Sunday followed by Adult Education

Saturday 5:30 pm Vespers

Sunday 9:30 am Liturgy.

Next Week's Epistle: Acts 6: 1 - 7 **Gospel:** Mark 15: 43 - 16: 8

Reader: James

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon. **Confessions:** After Saturday Vespers and by appointment.

Receiving Holy Communion: We should draw near to our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, and receive Holy Communion often. Orthodox Christians, who have prepared themselves through prayer and fasting, and are at peace with all men, and have attended the Divine Liturgy from the beginning, (or, at the very least, have not missed the Gospel), and have made a recent Confession, should draw near. Others should diligently seek to be properly disposed and prepared as soon as possible.

Troparion of Pascha - Tone 5
Christ is risen from the dead, /
trampling down death by death, //
and upon those in tombs bestowing life.

Announcements:

Our Bulletins (\$60.00)

Our Altar Wine (\$40.00)

Our Altar Candles (\$40.00)

Our Altar Incense (\$20.00)

Vigil – Golgotha I (\$7.00 /wk)

Vigil – Golgotha II (\$7.00 /wk)

Vigil – Prothesis (\$7.00 /wk)

Alla Slobodskaya

Izolda (Zoya) & Vladimir Sogokon

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Caratās family

Caratās family

Caratās family

- Broncă: Gabriela, Robert, & Carmen Iuliana. Good health, & help in need. Repose: Tasie.

- Sogokon: for the health of Zoya, Vladimir, Irina, Anastasia, Vladimir, Vladimir.

Thomas Week. The second week of Pascha. This week is the first time where memorials are allowed since before Great and Holy Thursday, so the dead are often given commemoration of a Paschal character, especially on Thomas Tuesday (Radonitsa – Day of Joy). Mitigated fasting on Wednesday and Friday (wine & oil). Such mitigated fasting applies on all remaining Wednesdays and Fridays until Pentecost.

Artos the Artos, the special bread blessed on Pascha, is available today in small portions. Some should be kept for occasions of need through the year.

Paschal Commemorations this week, for the departed after Liturgy. In the afternoon graves will be blessed at Forest Lawn Hollywood, Starting at 2:00 pm. Next Sunday graves will be blessed at Oakwood Cemetery at 2:00.

Adult Education returns to Wednesday evenings this week. For the Akathist, the Kontakion on Thomas by St Romanus.

Thanks to God for all who labored to clean, sing, read, fix, hide eggs etc. for our Pascha celebration.

2017 Wall Calendars are here at the Candle stand. Requested donation the same as last year, \$5.00.

Lectionary. The Church Lectionary during the Paschal period reads Acts and St. John’s Gospel.

Pascha Flowers – The jar for donations for Pascha flowers is in the narthex.

2023 Wall Calendars are here at the Candle stand. Requested donation this year, \$8.00.

Lectionary. The Church Lectionary during the Paschal period reads Acts and St. John’s Gospel.

Coffee Hour, This Week: Zoya & Vladimir **Next Week:** Djananov family in memory of Nashko

USEFUL INFORMATION

Donations We now have a [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) page to make donating to the parish easy. Just click this link: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1324837>. Thank you and God bless!

Streamed serices can be viewed at our website <https://stinnocenttarzana.org/livestream> or <https://stinnocenttarzana.org/facebook>, the streamed services are also uploaded here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCehqUqTl5kDekOrPPERcy5g>.

The daily readings and saints may be found here: <https://stinnocenttarzana.org/dailyreadings>.

Troparion, Thomas Sunday – Tone 7

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!

Kontakion, Thomas Sunday – Tone 8

Thomas touched Thy Life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God, / when Thou didst come to Thine apostles through closed doors. / He cried out with all: Thou art my Lord and my God!

Of our charity, remember in your prayers:

April 23rd, 2023

Special Intentions:

Christians of Syria, Egypt; Met. Paul, Abp. John, in captivity.

Natalya & Alla in Donetsk

sister Oksana McGovern & family

Metropolitan Onuphry of Kiev, the brotherhoods of the Kiev Caves Lavra, & the Pochayiv Lavra

The Sick and those in need of health:

Archbishop Benjamin,

Archpriests Nicolas Boldireff, Paul Waisanen, George Gray, Michael Regan, Andrew Jacobs; Moses Berry; John Armstrong.

Abbess Susanna; Protodcn Nicholas Jannakos;

Matushki Alexandra Safchuk, Elizabeth Powell, Clara Mancantelli, Suzanne Senyo; Maria Vallens, Priscilla Shipley, Jean Moore;

Monk John. Deacon Mark Story, Robert Peterson, Marios Perez, Barbara Anderson, Monika Cleenewerck, Marea Kuolt.

OCA-DOW

Manya Prybyla, Gregory Theophan Hoffberg; Virginia, Levon; Edmund Roschak, Darka Raicevich; Karen Olds;

Alla Miller, Mike Shinkarik, Andrew Sturmer; Bridget Merrydy Strand, Assia Alexander, Scott T. Karen T., Dmitri G., Kyra;

Bill & Linda Phillips; Ed Salm; Raphael; Magdalena Elizabeth; Ludmilla, Anna, Margarita Maximova, Gayle Anne,

Our Parish

Nick Davidovich.

Lea Ann (Leah) Bochnak

Laura Bochnak

Vladimir

Anya

Victoria Wilson

Bernie Wilson

Laura, Eladia

Manya Prybyla

Matthew, Alison.

Thaddeus Wojcik

Mildred Sturmer, Susan

Sturmer family

Martha Yarbrough

Yarbrough family

Margaret Banescu, Vona Leslee Christie, Hope Peacock and family.

Banescu family

Euphemia Marie Cox

John Ambrose Cox

George. Mihai

Maria Caratás

Mary, George Laurentiu, cancer treatment.

Florentina

Barbara, Steve

Scott & the Thompson family

Angela Apostol

Constantine Apostol

Yekaterina

Lydia

Lydia

Manya Prybyla

Hieromonk Ambrose (Young), Nicholas Juried & Amy. Archriest Michael Carney, Maria Cox

Fr. Yousuf

Vladimir Boldireff

Fr. Nicholas Boldireff

Matushka Sophia Haloulakos

Protodeacon George Haloulakos

Christina Dudchenko, Dcn. Sergius Miller, Kevin, Cecilia Gonzalez-Andrieu.

Deacon Nicholas Denysenko & family

Michael Rogozik

Yulia.

Lya, Marie, Yvonne

Gay Butu

Timofey

Dilaria

Kristina DeBree

Kevin Patrick DeBree

Reader John, Catherine, Dianna Bowen.

Danks family

Ruben

Richard & Yolanda Durham

Walter

Irina

Larry & Emma

Abbe Kulhanek

Anna

Elena

Pearl Ruggiero. Sheena Wickens, Veronica Clarkson, Anna Cruz, Anna Rossiter; Ward; Griselda Leon.

Diane Rhodes

Bruce Anderson, Audrey Anderson.

Subdeacon Polycarp Anderson & family

Larry McHargue; Laura; Robert; Kenny; Bill & Sara Love

Anne McHargue Witz & family

Those Serving in the Armed Forces

Peter, Elijah Hoffberg, Ronnie (Barnabas) Austin, Basil, Shae, Ian & Henry.

For the Health and Salvation of the servants of God:

Catechumen: Dalen, Kelly, & Jamie, & Timothy Muster; Cameron; Melanie; Emma.

newly Illumined Basil Bryce ;

New born Orion

Igor & Luda

newly Illumined Nikolina

Jovanna & Ilja

Zlata Okunev, Artemi & Erica

Chelsea Claire Nordstrom

Matthew & Chloe Nordstrom

Sebastian James Siskos

Presvytera Wiborada Vickie Hoffberg Siskos & Priest Christian Siskos

Charlotte, parents Jonathan & Michaela Durham

Vitaly, Lyubov, Ella, Karen, Oksana, Valentina, Irina, Sofiya, Vladimir, Olga, Natalya, Tatyana, Irina, Elena, Evgeny.

Tikhvin icon donors

Alla, Dmitriy Jr., Dmitriy, Igor, Elena, Juliya, Tamara, Fredi.

Alla Slobdskaya

Elena, Marisa, Dimitrios (Jimmy), Nicholas, Alexander, Dimitrios, Dionisius.

+ Lola Macrina

Sherri, Nathanael, & Christopher, Amelia Marie.

Aiden Frederick Parrish, Micah Parrish, new born Chloe

Alyssa & Cyprian Parrish

New born Thomas John Martin Lawman. Verity Annabelle Mary; Constance Alexandra.

Alicia & Joshua Lawman

Newly illumined Matthew; Nicholas Damiano, Magdalena Elizabeth.

Stephen & Marisa Thompson

Elijah, parents Aika & Dmitri Goudkov

new born Rowan. Galina.

Yelena, Anna, Wolfgang

Margarita, Christopher, John, Lauren, Ekaterina.

Margarita Maximova

Catalina, Sofia, Florentina, Doina.

Calugaru family

Of our charity, remember in your prayers:

For the repose of the souls of the departed servants of God:

April 23rd, 2023

Newly Departed Protodeacon Oleg
Newly Departed Oleg
Newly Departed Peter, + April 1, 2023;
Newly Departed Basil Rosiczka
Newly Departed Alan Furman
Newly Departed Eleni Steliani Billis, + March 26, 2023
Newly Departed Lubov, + March 24, 2023
Newly Departed Ekaterina Malykina, + March 22, 2023
Newly Departed Blake, + March 22, 2023
Newly Departed Aleksei
Newly Departed Georgis Adavekyan, + March 21, 2023
Newly Departed Hieromonk Vonifaty, Schemanun Savva
Newly Departed Galina
Newly Departed Gradimir, + Mar 24, 23
Newly Departed Fedor; Aleksandr
Newly Departed Miroslav
Newly Departed Antonia
Newly Departed Boris
Newly Departed Bob Fisher
Newly Departed Eugenia Kalfayants + Jan 18, 2023
Mitred Archpriest Sergei Glagolev, +Sep 1, 2021, Matushka Gerry (Evgenia) Glagolev. +May 23, 2022.
Matushka Anisia Boldireff +Sep 1, 2021
Matushka Tresja Denysenko
+Apr 16: Hierodeacon Constantine (Shwed), 1970; Archpriest Gregory Malisheff, 1976; Mitred Archpriest Leonid Kasperski, 1993; Proteasa
Juliana Marinescu 2018. +Apr 20: Metropolitan Platon (Rozhdestvensky), 1934. +Apr 28: Archimandrite Roman (Braga), 2015
Germogen & Olga Stephanenko
Valentina
Cor Brevet Delabruinene
Rodney Lake + May 20, 2021.
Paul Prybyla. +Jan, 10, 2021
Barbara Johnson
Stanislava
Hormuzd (Emmanuel) Rassam, + Dec 21, 2022.
Nun Seraphima (Anna Kremenetskaya)
Nun Nonna (Verna Harrison)
Igor
Lola Macrina
Edward Michael & Joan Sutyak
Leon & Claudine Snyder
Dmitri
David
Deacon Hennok Soot
Evdokiya, Anatoliy, Domnikiy, Semen, Feodosiy, Ella, Grigoriy, Nadejda, Konstantin, Svetlana,
Valentina, Anna, infant Anatoliy, Olga, Anna, Peter.
Anne Lewandowski
Marina, Alexandra, Petr, Boris, Tatiana.
Priest Anatoly + Sep 9.
Rebecca Svetlana (Photini) Gushard

Nina Kaplan
Ben Furman
Andonia
Inessa
Dmitriy
Gayle Anne Robison
Leonid, Nina
Marina Adavekyan
Lyudmyla
Marko
Vesna & Marko
Subdcn. Polycarp & Marquelle Anderson
mother Antonina, sister Anastasia
SFV AA
son Artur & Inna Kalfayants
Christia, Marina, John & family
Archpriest Nicholas, Nathalie, Tamara, Marina, Michael & family
Deacon Nicholas & Sofia Denysenko & family
OCA
Larissa, Tatiana
Irina Jackson
Natalya Slusar Nosa & family
son-in-law & daughter Thaddeus & Jacqui Wojcik
Manya & family
daughter Nancy Smollen
daughter Milena; family
wife Kaye Rassam, son Fr Yousuf Rassam, daughter Najma Fowner & family
Konstantin, Taissia, Vladimir, Ioann Kremenetsky
Tamara, Christina, Michael, Anne & family
daughters Laura & Carol, & family
Boris
Mitred Archpriest Ian & Matka. Nina MacKinnon, DOW
DoW, Matushka Mariamna Soot, Fr Stephen Soot family, Mark & Olga Soot family
Alla Slobdoskaya
+ Raissa Dulian
Margarita Maximova
son Wade Aiden Greer, Fr Yousuf

Exapostilarion - Tone 1

Having touched the wounds of My members with Thy hands, O Thomas,
believe in Me who was wounded for thy sake.

Become wise as the others disciples, and preach the Living God. (2)

verse: **Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

Today Spring sends forth its sweet fragrance,
and new creation rejoices.

Today the keys of the doors are taken away,
as is the unbelief of Thomas the friend,
who cries out, "My Lord and my God!"

for St Thomas Sunday, from the Pentecostoarion

Tone 1

The disciples were gathered, the doors being closed, / and suddenly Thou didst enter, O Jesus our Almighty God. / Standing in their midst Thou didst grant them Thy peace / and fill them with the Holy Spirit. / Thou didst command them to wait and in no wise to depart from Jerusalem, / until they be vested with power from on high. / Wherefore we cry to Thee, / "O our Enlightenment and Resurrection and Peace, // Glory to Thee!"

Eight days after Thy Resurrection, O Lord, / Thou didst appear to Thy disciples in the place where they were gathered / and didst exclaim to them, "Peace be unto you!" / Thy most pure side and hands didst Thou show to Thine unbelieving disciple. // And he, believing, cried out, "My Lord, and my God, glory to Thee!"

When the doors were closed and Thou didst enter, O Christ, / Thomas, called Didymus was not with them. / And he believed not the tidings of faith which were brought to him. He doubted. / Yet Thou didst not deem him unworthy, O Good One, / to be shown Thy most pure side and the wounds on Thy hands and feet. / And He, having touched and seen, / confessed Thee to be not only God and not simply man, // crying out, "My Lord, and my God, glory to Thee!"

The Savior appeared on the eighth day where the doubting disciples were gathered, / and granting them peace, He cried out to Thomas, / "Approach Me, My apostle, and touch the hands, pierced with nails." / What great good there was in the unbelief of Thomas, / bringing the hearts of the faithful to knowledge. // And he cried out in fear, "My Lord, and my God, glory to Thee!"

for St Thomas Sunday, from the Pentecostoarion

Tone 2

After the Resurrection, O Lord, / when the disciples were gathered together, the doors being closed, / Thou didst stand in their midst, granting them peace. / At the sight of Thy hands and side Thomas also believed and confessed Thee to be Lord and God, / Who dost save all who put their trust in Thee, // the Lover of Mankind.

The doors being closed, / Jesus appeared to His disciples, granting peace and dispelling fear. / He said to Thomas, / "Why dost thou not believe in Me, as I am risen from the dead? / Bring hither Thy hand and touch my side and see. / Through thine unbelief all have learned of My Passion and Resurrection // to call out with Thee, 'My Lord and my God, Glory to Thee!' "

Doxastikhon for St Thomas Sunday, from the Pentecostoarion

Tone 6

The doors being closed, / Thou didst come to Thy disciples, O Christ, / when by design Thomas was not with them. / For he said "I will not believe, until I see the Master, / until I see His side from which flowed the baptism of water and blood, / until I see the wounds that healed the great wound of mankind, / until I see that He is not a spirit but flesh and bone". / O Lord, Who didst destroy death and confirm the faith of Thomas, // Glory to Thee!

The Apostikha

for St Thomas Sunday, from the Pentecostoarion

Tone 4

O glorious wonder! / Unbelief gives birth to great belief. / For Thomas said, "If I do not see, I will not believe". / Having touched His side, he blesses the Incarnate Son of God, / Recognizing His Passion in the flesh / and preaching His Resurrection from the dead, / crying out in a joyful voice, // "My Lord, and my God, glory to Thee!"

verse: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem, praise thy God O Zion. (Psalm 147: 1 [147: 12])

O glorious wonder! / The straw that touched the fire remained unconsumed. / For Thomas, placing his hand into the fire of the side of Jesus Christ our God, was not burned. / The unbelief of his heart was changed to belief, / and he cried out fervently from the depth of his soul, / "Thou art my Master and my God, risen from the dead, // glory to Thee!"

verse: For He strengthens the bars of thy gates; He blesses thy sons within thee! (Psalm 147: 2 [147: 13])

O glorious wonder! / John lay on the bosom of the Word, / and Thomas was deemed worthy to touch His side. / John drew from this an awesome and profound understanding of the ology; / Thomas was vouchsafed to teach us the mysteries. / For he presents clear proof of His resurrection, crying out, // "My Lord, and my God, glory to Thee!"

*verse: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Doxastikhon for St Thomas Sunday, from the Pentecostoarion

Tone 5

O Lover of mankind, / incomparable and vast is the greatness of Thy compassion. / For Thou hast suffered long the torment of Israel, / the denial of the Apostle, / and the great torture of those that cast Thee away. / I ask Thee how Thou didst become incarnate? / And how wast Thou crucified, O Sinless One? / But teach me like Thomas to cry out to Thee: // My Lord, and my God, glory to Thee!