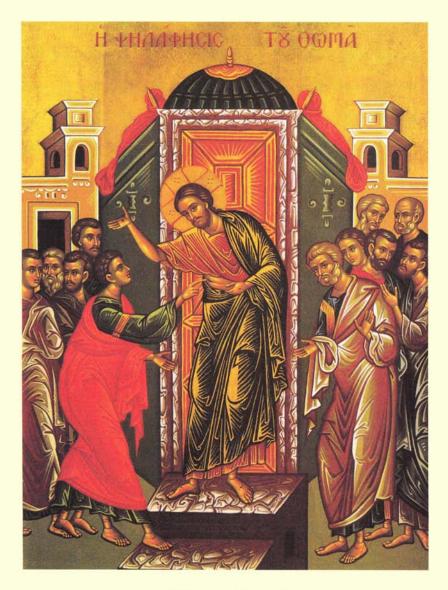
# THOMAS SUNDAY



Icon of Christ and Saint Thomas

# April 11, 2010 Thomas Sunday

Festal Tone

Xpucmoc Bocкpec! Christ is Risen! Boicmuну Bocкpec! Truly He is Risen!

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12 - APRIL 18

TUESDAY, APRIL 13 – ARTEMON, PRIEST MARTYR 9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY

- **BOHDAN (40TH DAY) REQ: OLENA BANKSTON**
- ♣ ROMAN REQ: OLGA FEDUNYAK

SATURDAY, APRIL 17
6:00 PM GREAT VESPERS
SUNDAY, APRIL 18 – SUNDAY OF MYRRHBEARING WOMEN
9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY
FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

### & Remember in your prayers ≪ ≪



Please remember in your prayers those members of our parish, our family and friends who are ailing, are in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join actively in their community. Remember

especially the following: Katherine Andrus, Walter & Isabella Bachynsky, Susie Boyko, Sonya Cronin, Helen Davis, Stephen Hricko, Bohdanchik James, Lorene Lagrone, Maria Laszok, Maria Leskiw, Lesya Loznycky, Alice Melnyk, Shawn Moore, Sophia Skop and Ariadna Wall. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone else who should be remembered.

**Please Join Us:** Following Today's Divine Liturgy is the annual parish *Sviachenne* meal. Adults: \$12.00; Youth (15-18) \$6.00. Children under 15: Free.

Everyone is invited as we continue to celebrate the Glorious feast of Pascha.

## 50th Anniversary Celebration

Preparations are underway for the celebration of our Parish's 50th anniversary. There is lots of work to be done in the way of planning, sending out of invitations and various other tasks.

#### Remember Those In The Armed Forces

Let us especially remember in our prayers those family members and friends who are actively serving their countries in the Armed Forces: Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Elizabeth Heltsley,



Oksanna Hirniak, Andrew Hrynkiw, Zenon and Susan Keske, Michael Lopes, Vasyl Lylak, Thomas Orr, Paul Richelmi and Brian Tuthill. Please give any names of those you would like remembered in the Liturgies to Fr. James.

#### Cards for sale

Various Greeting Cards are available for sale in the church hall following each Divine Liturgy. See Mary Kitt to purchase.

### On Entering Into the Resurrection

"Keep the Feast of the Resurrection. Be a Peter or a John; hasten to the Tomb, running together, running against one another, vying in the noble race (cf. Jn. 20:3-4). And even if you be beaten in speed, win the victory of zeal; not simply looking into the tomb, but boldly going in."

- St. Gregory the Theologian

### Mark your calendars!

On Sunday, May 9, we will celebrate Mothers' Day with a special Luncheon following the Divine Liturgy. The women will not be allowed in the kitchen since the Luncheon will be prepared and served by the Gentlemen of the parish! Let us all come together and celebrate that essential role in the Christian Family – the Mother. (Don't worry Fathers... your day is coming on June 20!)

#### Parish Rummage Sale

There will be a rummage sale on May 1 to benefit the parish. It will feature a special Ukrainian craft section! We will start accepting donations two weeks prior to the event. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Olena Bankston at (619) 567-6967.

#### **ARTOS**



In our Church, there is the custom for a single loaf of blessed bread (Artos in Greek), to lie before the Iconostasis throughout Bright Week in memory of the Risen Lord. Jesus Christ.

before it is shared among the whole congregation. Depicted on the top of the *Artos* are either the symbol of Christ's victory over death – the Cross, surmounted by a crown of thorns, or the icon of the Resurrection of Christ. On the first day of Pascha, during the Holy and Divine Liturgy, after the Prayer Before the Ambo, the *Artos* is blessed by a special prayer and sprinkling with the Holy Water. On the Saturday of Bright Week it is distributed as a blessing of the Arch-Pastor (that is to say Christ) to the congregation (sometimes after Sunday Holy and Divine Liturgy, on Saint Thomas Sunday).

The significance of the Artos is that it serves to remind all Christians of the events connected with the Resurrection of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ. While still living on earth, the Lord called Himself the Bread of Life, saying: I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst (John 6:35). After His Resurrection, more than once Jesus appeared to His disciples, ate

before them, and blessed their own food. For example, as evening fell on the first day of His resurrection, He was recognized in Emmaus by two of His disciples as He blessed and broke bread (Luke 24:13-35).

On the 40th day after His Resurrection, the Lord ascended into heaven, and His disciples and followers found comfort in their memories of the Lord: they recalled His every word, His every step and His every action. When they met for common prayer, they would partake of the Most Holy Body and Most Precious Blood of Christ, remembering the Last Supper. When they sat down to an ordinary meal, they would leave a place at the head of the table empty, for the invisibly present Lord and would lay bread on that place.

Remembering this custom of the Apostles', the Fathers of the Church made it their custom to put out the *Artos* at the Paschal Feast in memory of the appearances of the Risen Lord to His disciples, and also in memory of the fact that the Lord Who suffered and was resurrected for our justification has made Himself the true Bread of Life and is invisible present in His Church always, to the close of the ages (Matthew 28:20).

Whereas special Paschal breads, called *babka* or *paska* are broken and eaten on the first day of Pascha, the *Artos* is kept whole throughout the whole of Bright Week as a reminder of the presence of the Risen Saviour in the midst of those who believe in Him and is only divided and distributed on the end of the Bright Week. In this way, the Bright Week begins and ends with the eating of especially baked and blessed bread.

The *Artos* may also be compared to the unleavened bread of the Old Testament, of which ancient Israel, delivered from their captivity in the land of Egypt, ate during the week of the Passover (Exodus 12:15-20). As Cyril, the Bishop of Turov, who lived during the 12th century, said in a sermon for the Sunday after Pascha: "Even as the Jews bore the unleavened bread upon their heads out of Egypt through the desert (Exodus 12:34), until they had crossed the Red Sea, after which they dedicated the bread to God, divided it amongst all their host, and having all eaten thereof, became ... terrible to their enemies, even so do we, saved by our Resurrected Lord from the captivity of that Pharaoh of the mind, the Devil, bear the blessed bread – the Artos – from the day of the Resurrection of Christ and, finally, having dedicated this bread to God, we eat of it and preserve it to the health of body and soul."

# Святкуємо 50-років! Celebrating 50 Years!

# Українська Католицька Церква Святого Йоана Хрестителя St. John the Baptizer Ukrainian Catholic Church

4400 Palm Avenue La Mesa, CA 91941 Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

Website: stjohnthebaptizer.org

Pastor: Fr. James Bankston
Парох: о. Яків Бенькстон
frjames@mac.com

Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

## The Wound of Thomas

So you, too, come up, Thomas. Come forth from your cave of sorrows. Put your finger here and see My hands. Extend your hand and place it in My side. And do not think that your blind suffering is more perceptive than My grace. But since you are so wounded and the open torment of your heart has opened up to the abyss of your very self, put your hand to Me and, with it, feel the pulse of another Heart: through this new experience your soul will surrender and heave up the dark gall which it has long collected. I must overpower you. I cannot spare exacting from you your melancholy - your most-loved possession. Give it to Me, even if it costs you your soul and your inner self thinks it must die. Give Me this idol, this cold stony clot in your breast, and in its place I will give you a new heart of flesh that will beat to the pulse of My own Heart. Give Me this self of yours, which lives on its not being able to live, which is sick because it cannot die. Let it perish, and you will finally begin to live. You are enamored of the sad puzzle of your incomprehensible ego. But you have already been seen through and understood, for look: if your heart accuses you, I am nevertheless greater than this your heart, and I know everything. Dare to make the leap into the Light! Do not take the world to be more profound than God! Do not think that I cannot make short work of you! Your city is besieged, your provisions are exhausted: you must capitulate. What could be simpler and sweeter than opening the door to love? What could be easier than falling to one's knee and saying: 'My Lord and My God!?'

Father Hans Urs von Balthasar