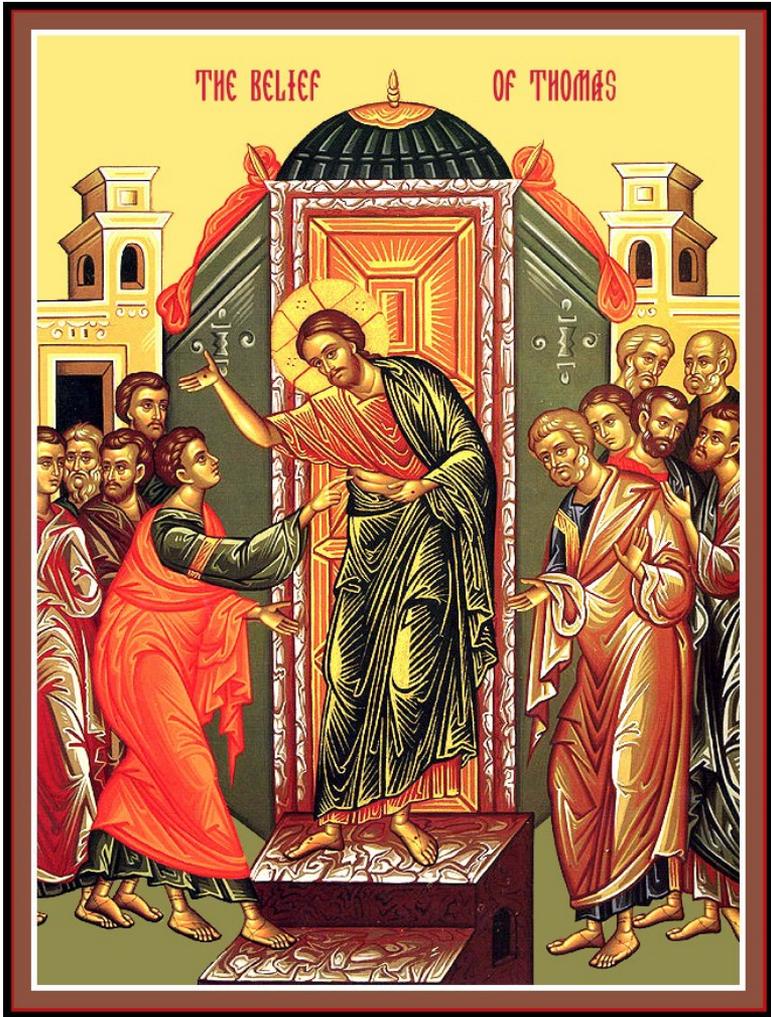


Saint Thomas Sunday



*From the sealed tomb, You did shine forth O Life! / Through
closed doors You did come to Your disciples, O Christ God! /
Renew in us, through them, an upright spirit, / By the
greatness of Your mercy, O Resurrection of all!*

Greatmartyr, Victory-bearer and Wonderworker George



George, this truly great and glorious Martyr of Christ, was born of a father from Cappadocia and a mother from Palestine. Being a military tribune, or chiliarch (that is, a commander of a thousand troops), he was illustrious in battle and highly honoured for his courage. When he learned that the Emperor Diocletian was preparing a persecution of the Christians, Saint George presented himself publicly before the Emperor and denounced him. When threats and promises could not move him from his steadfast confession, he was put to unheard-of tortures, which he endured with great bravery, overcoming them by his faith and love towards Christ. By the wondrous signs that took place in his contest, he guided many to the knowledge of the truth,

including Queen Alexandra, wife of Diocletian, and was finally beheaded in 296 in Nicomedia. His sacred remains were taken by his servant from Nicomedia to Palestine, to a town called Lydda, the homeland of his mother, and then were finally transferred to the church which was raised up in his name. (The translation of the Saint's holy relics to the church in Lydda is commemorated on November 3; Saint Alexandra the Queen, on April 21.)

Apolytikion of Great Martyr George Fourth Tone

Liberator of captives, defender of the poor, physician of the sick, and champion of kings, O trophy-bearer, Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Kontakion of Great Martyr George Fourth Tone

Cultivated by God, you became manifest as an honorable tiller gathering for yourself the sheaves of virtue. For you sowed with tears but reaped with gladness; in the contest you competed with your blood and came away with Christ. By your intercessions, O Holy One, all are granted forgiveness of sins.

St Anthony the Great Orthodox Church, Rock Hill SC

Antipascha. Second Sunday of Pascha

St Thomas Sunday Holy Glorious Greatmartyr George

April 23, 2017

Great Vespers and Confession: Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Vespers and Teaching Wednesday 5:30 pm

Divine Liturgy: Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Services and Announcement

Christ is Risen!

Today: Common meal after Divine Liturgy
Church council meeting at Cynthia's All are welcome

Upcoming Services:

Apr 26th (Wed) Vespers and teaching at 5:30pm

Apr 22nd (Sat) Great Vespers at 5:30pm

Upcoming Events:

Church School takes place during coffee hour on many Sundays. Classes will be announced after the Liturgy on the days they will be held.

If you are interested in joining the Rock Hill Fellowship Group, please contact John and Linda Chura at lindachura@yahoo.com for upcoming times and dates. If you are interested in joining the Charlotte Fellowship Group, please contact Mark and Lynn Lockyer for upcoming times and dates at marlynclng@aol.com

Volunteering at Project Hope takes place Mon-Thurs, 9-11AM. Please contact John Chura if you are interested in volunteering.

Contact Us:

Fr. Adam Horstman, Priest-in-Charge, 740-464-0438, adam.horstman@gmail.com

Fr. Paul Coats, Assistant Priest, 803-980-4695, paulcoats3@gmail.com

Today's Gospel John 20:19-31 (*Gospel*)

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." 26 And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." 30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 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.

Today's Epistle Acts 5:12-20

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. 13 Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. 14 And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. 16 Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed. 17 Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, 18 and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. 19 But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, 20 "Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life."

Visitors and the Sacrament of Holy Communion

If you are visiting today and are not a member of the Orthodox Church, your presence and prayers with us are most welcome! Yet due to the nature of the sacrament, only Orthodox Christians who are active in the Church may receive holy communion. (But don't be surprised if someone hands you a piece of the blessed bread that is taken after communion, of which all may partake, even if not a member of the Orthodox Church.) Please introduce yourself to one of the priests and tell him a little about your own faith background, if any, sign our guest book, and stay for the coffee hour meal to follow.