

# 12th Sunday after Pentecost

2022-09-04

St. Thomas Orthodox Church  
A Parish of the [Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America](#)



## To our visitors...

Welcome! We hope your time with us is healing and worshipful. Please note that, although we have much respect for other Christian traditions, Holy Communion is reserved for properly prepared members of the Orthodox faith. Everyone is invited to partake of the blessed bread after the conclusion of the Liturgy. May God's blessing be upon you!

# Hymns in Today's Liturgy

## **Resurrectional *Apolytikion* (Tone 3)**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

## ***Apolytikion* of St. Babylas of Antioch (Tone 4)**

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, thou hast succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the Word of Truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith to the very shedding of thy blood, O Hieromartyr Babylas. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

## ***Apolytikion* of St. Thomas (Tone 3)**

O Holy Apostle Thomas, intercede to the merciful God, that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of sins.

## ***Kontakion* of the Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone 4)**

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

## **Epistle**

### **I Corinthians 15:1–11**

Brethren, I would remind you in what terms I preached to you the Gospel, which you received, in which you stand, by which you are saved, if you hold it fast—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He rose on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. Then He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the Apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also

to me. For I am the least of the Apostles, unfit to be called an Apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God, which is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

## **Gospel**

### **Matthew 19:16–26**

At that time, a young man came up to Jesus, kneeling and saying, “Good Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?” And He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which?” And Jesus said, “You shall not kill, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not bear false witness, honor your father and mother, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.” The young man said to Him, “All these I have observed; what do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this, he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions. And Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly, I say to you, it will be hard for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

## **Synaxarion**

On September 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Holy Hieromartyr Babylas, Bishop of Antioch; the Three Children who were with him: Urban, Prilidian and Epolonios; and their mother, Christodula.

Babylas, who sacrificed Christ Himself aforetime,  
Is sacrificed by the sword unto Christ most gladly.

On the fourth, Children and Babylas the sword together slew.

One day, holy Babylas was at prayer with the people. He heard that Emperor Numerian was coming with his entourage and intended to

enter the church. Babylas stopped the service, went outside and boldly told the emperor that, as an idolater, he was not permitted to enter the holy church where the one, true God was worshipped. The following day, the angry Emperor summoned Babylas, and ordered him offer sacrifice to idols, which the saint steadfastly refused to do. Numerian then bound him with chains and threw him into prison. He also tortured three of Babylas' spiritual children: Urban, age 12, Prilidian, age 9 and Epolonios, age 7. Their Christian mother, Christodoula, also suffered for Christ. The emperor ordered that each child be beaten with the number of blows that totaled his age. Babylas was present at their beheading, giving them courage, and then laid his honorable head under the sword. Their holy souls flew off to Heaven in the year 283, and their wonderworking relics remained in support of the faithful.

On this day, we also commemorate the holy Prophet Moses the God-seer; and Martyrs Jerusalem, Sekendos, Sekendios and Kegouros in Aleppo. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

## Upcoming Events

<b>Tuesday</b>	Ladies Club	18:30	Glen Oaks
<b>Wednesday</b>	Great Vespers	18:00	St. Thomas
	Parish Council	19:00	St. Thomas
<b>Thursday</b>	Orthros & Divine Liturgy for the Nativity of the Theotokos	08:30	Holy Trinity
<b>Saturday</b>	Great Vespers	18:00	St. Thomas

We will stream services live and post updates on [our Facebook page](#), on [our Twitter feed](#), and on [our YouTube channel](#).

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