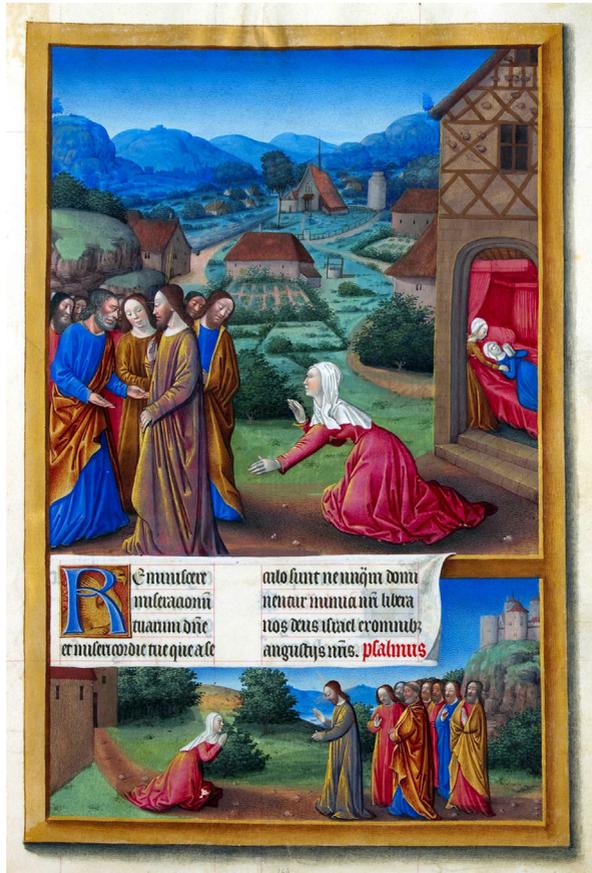


Sunday of the Canaanite

2023-01-29

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 8)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

***Apolytikion* of St. Ignatius 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 Holy Martyr among bishops Ignatius. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

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

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

***Kontakion* of the Presentation of Christ (Tone 1)**

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

Epistle

II Corinthians 6:16–7:1

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore, come out from them, and be separate from them," says the Lord, "and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters," says the Lord Almighty. Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

At that time, Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and cried, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely possessed by a demon.” But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before Him, saying, “Lord, help me.” And He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

Synaxarion

On 29 January, in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the recovery of the sacred relics of the holy Hieromartyr Ignatius the God-bearer.

O Ignatius, thanks be to the all-devouring lions,
who left to us the faithful a portion of thy body.
Ignatius returned upon the twenty-ninth..

His principal feast is celebrated on December 20, but today marks the translation of his relics from Rome, where he suffered martyrdom, to Antioch where earlier he was a bishop. When Ignatius was summoned to Rome before Emperor Trajan to account for his faith, he was accompanied on this long journey by several citizens from Antioch who were motivated by a great love toward their wonderful Arch-shepherd. Since he would never deny his faith in Christ, this saint of God, who abhorred all adulation and promises of Emperor Trajan, was condemned to death and was thrown into the Circus Maximus before wild beasts which tore him apart, and he gave up his soul to God. His companions then gathered his exposed bones and took them to Antioch and honorably buried them. When the Persians captured Antioch in the sixth century, the relics of Ignatius were again translated from Antioch to Rome.

On this day, we also commemorate the New-martyr Demetrios of Chios. By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday	<i>Paraklesis</i>	18:00	Holy Trinity
Wednesday	Great Vespers	18:00	St. Thomas
	Parish Council	19:00	St. Thomas
Thursday	Orthros & Divine Liturgy for the Presentation of Christ	08:30	Holy Trinity
Saturday	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](#).



Holy Synod to Convene 22 February to Elect Next Metropolitan

Under the presidency of His Beatitude Patriarch John X of Antioch and All the East, the Holy Synod of Antioch will convene on 22 February to elect the next Metropolitan of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America.

In their session in Balamand, Lebanon, the Holy Fathers will consider the three nominees submitted by His Eminence Metropolitan Antonios, Patriarchal Vicar, and the clergy and laity of the Special Convention of the Archdiocese on 13 January.

The nominees, in alphabetical order by first name, are:

- [His Grace Bishop John Abdalah](#)
- [His Grace Bishop Nicholas Ozone](#)
- [His Eminence Metropolitan Saba Isper](#)

Please pray that the Holy Spirit will bless the Holy Synod's deliberations and grace the next Metropolitan to lead the Archdiocese in wisdom and holiness.

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