Great Vespers on Saturday, April 22, 2017
New Sunday or Anti-Pascha
Sunday of Thomas the Apostle, Called "The Twin"
Great-martyr George the Trophy-bearer

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Choir: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (TWICE)

THE PSALM OF INTRODUCTION—PSALM 103

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; O Lord my God, Thou hast been magnified exceedingly. Confession and majesty hast Thou put on, Who coverest Thyself with light as with a garment, Who stretchest out the heaven as it were a curtain; Who supporteth His chambers in the waters, Who appointeth the clouds for His ascent, Who walketh upon the wings of the winds, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

Who establisheth the earth in the sureness thereof; it shall not be turned back forever and ever. The abyss like a garment is His mantle; upon the mountains shall the waters stand. At Thy rebuke they will flee, at the voice of Thy thunder shall they be afraid.

The mountains rise up and the plains sink down, unto the place where Thou hast established them. Thou appointedst a bound that they shall not pass, neither return to cover the earth. He sendeth forth springs in the valleys; between the mountains will the waters run. They shall give drink to all the beasts of the field; the wild asses will wait to quench their thirst. Beside them will the birds of the heaven lodge, from the midst of the rocks will they give voice.

He watereth the mountains from His chambers; the earth shall be satisfied with the fruit of Thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and green herb for the service of men, to bring forth bread out of the earth; and wine maketh glad the heart of man. To make his face cheerful with oil; and bread strengtheneth man's heart.

The trees of the plain shall be satisfied, the cedars of Lebanon, which Thou hast planted. There will the sparrows make their nests; the house of the heron is chief among them. The high mountains are a refuge for the harts, and so is the rock for the hares.

He hath made the moon for seasons; the sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night, wherein all the beasts of the forest will go abroad; young lions roaring after their prey, and seeking their food from God. The sun ariseth, and they are gathered together, and they lay them down in their dens. Man shall go forth unto his work, and to his labor until the evening. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

The earth is filled with Thy creation. So is this great and spacious sea, wherein are things creeping innumerable, small living creatures with the great. There go the ships; there this leviathan, whom Thou hast made to play therein. All things wait on Thee, to give them their food in due season;

when Thou givest it them, they will gather it. When Thou openest Thy hand, all things shall be filled with goodness; when Thou turnest away Thy face, they shall be troubled. Thou wilt take their spirit, and they shall cease; and unto their dust shall they return. Thou wilt send forth Thy Spirit, and they shall be created; and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth.

Let the glory of the Lord be unto the ages; the Lord will rejoice in His works. Who looketh on the earth and maketh it tremble, Who toucheth the mountains and they smoke. I will sing unto the Lord throughout my life, I will chant to my God for as long as I have my being.

May my words be sweet unto Him; I will rejoice in the Lord. O that sinners would cease from the earth, and they that work iniquity, that they should be no more. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The sun knoweth his going down. Thou appointedst the darkness, and there was the night. How magnified are Thy works, O Lord! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)
O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!

THE GREAT LITANY

Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our father and Metropolitan N., (for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.), for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: (In the United States) For the President of the United States, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

(In Canada) For Her Majesty, the Queen, for the Prime Minister of Canada, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For healthful seasons, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

"O LORD I HAVE CRIED" IN TONE ONE

Choir: O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me; hear Thou me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried out unto Thee, hear Thou me. Give ear to the voice of my supplication when I cry out unto Thee: hear Thou me, O Lord.

Choir: Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as the incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice; hear Thou me, O Lord.

+ Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth, and a protecting door round about my lips.
+ Incline not my heart to evil words, to make excuses in sins.
+ With men that work iniquity; and I will not communicate with the choicest of them.
+ The just man shall correct me in mercy and shall reprove me; but let not the oil of the sinner anoint my head.
+ For my prayer also shall still be against the things with which they are well pleased; their judges falling upon the rock have been swallowed up.

+ They shall hear my words, for they are sweet; as when the thickness of the earth is broken upon the ground, their bones are scattered by the side of hell.
+ But to Thee, O Lord, Lord, are mine eyes; in Thee have I put my trust, take not away my soul.
+ Keep me from the snare which they have laid for me, and the traps of the workers of iniquity.
+ Let the wicked fall into their own nets, whilst I alone escape.
+ I cried unto the Lord with my voice, with my voice unto the Lord, did I make my supplication.
+ I poured out my supplication before Him; I showed before Him my trouble.
+ When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then Thou knewest my path.
+ In the way wherein I walked have they secretly laid a snare for me.
+ I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me.
+ Refuge failed me; no one cared for my soul.
+ I cried unto Thee, O Lord; I said: Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living.
+ Attend unto my cry, for I am brought very low.
+ Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are stronger than I.

For Thomas Sunday in Tone One

Verse 10. *Bring my soul out of prison, that I may praise Thy Name.*
Into the gathering of the Disciples while the doors were shut*, Thou didst suddenly enter, O Jesus our Almighty God. And standing in their midst, thou didst grant them peace, and filled them with a holy spirit, commanding them to tarry and not depart from Jerusalem until they were vested with power from above. Wherefore, O our Light, Resurrection and Peace, we cry unto Thee: Glory to Thee.

* *The doors to the sanctuary, open since Pascha night, are now closed.*

Verse 9. *The righteous shall wait for me until Thou recompense me.*
Eight days after Thy Resurrection, O Lord, Thou didst appear to Thy Disciples in the place where they were gathered, and cried unto them: Peace unto you; and then showed Thy hands and pure side to the doubting Disciple. Having, therefore, believed, He shouted unto Thee: My Lord and my God, Glory to Thee.

Verse 8. *Out of the depths have I cried to Thee, O Lord, Lord hear my voice.*
O good Christ, when Thou didst enter unto Thy Disciples, the doors being shut, Thomas, who was called Didymus, was not with them. Wherefore, he doubted what was told to him. But Thou didst not deem him unworthy for his lack of faith, rather assuring him of faith, by showing him Thy pure side, and the wounds in Thy hands and feet. Therefore, having sought and beheld, he confessed that Thou art an unabstract God, and an unsimple Man, crying: My Lord and my God, Glory to Thee.

Verse 7. *Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.*
As the Disciples were being doubtful, the Savior, after eight days, came to where they were gathered and granted them peace. Then He cried unto Thomas: Come, O Apostle, and probe the two palms which were pierced by the nails. O the delicacy of the beautiful unbelief of Thomas, as coming with the heart of an unbeliever to knowledge, he called out with fear: My Lord and my God, Glory to Thee.

Also for Thomas Sunday in Tone Two

Verse 6. *If Thou, O Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? For with Thee there is forgiveness.*

After Thy Resurrection, O Lord, Thou didst stand in the midst of Thy Disciples, as they were gathered together, the doors being shut, and bestowed peace on them. As for Thomas, having been convinced by beholding Thy hands and side, he confessed that Thou art Lord, God and Savior of those who put their trust in Thee, O Lover of mankind.

Verse 5. *Because of Thy Name have I waited for Thee, O Lord; my soul hath waited upon Thy word, my soul hath hoped in the Lord.*

Verily, Jesus approached the Disciples, the doors being shut, and granted them safety and the passing away of fear. Then He pointed to Thomas and said: Why believest thou not in My Resurrection from the dead? Reach hither thy hand and thrust it into My side. See and know; for Thy lack of faith shall teach everyone My Passion and Resurrection; and they shall all shout with thee: My Lord and my God, Glory to Thee.

For St. George in Tone Four (****The original melody****)

Verse 4. *From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch let Israel trust in the Lord.*

As one valiant in martyrdom, * trophy-bearer, Great Martyr George, * on this day we gather to chant thee hymns of praise; * for thou hast finished the course and hast invincibly kept the Faith, * and from God thou hast received * thy great victory's crown of light; * hence entreat the Lord * to deliver from perils and corruption them that faithfully do honor * thine ever-ven'rable memory.

Verse 3. *For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is abundant redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.*

With unflinching and steadfast mind, * thou didst go of thine own accord, * fearless as a lion, to strive in martyrdom. * While disregarding thy body as a thing soon corruptible, * thou didst wisely turn thy care * to thy precious immortal soul; * and by many kinds * of sore torments wast thou assayed like pure gold sevenfold as in a furnace, * O great and glorious Martyr George.

Verse 2. *Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people.*

As the Savior's co-sufferer, * thou didst willingly imitate * His death by thine own death; and now in majesty * with Him thou reignest, endued with the most radiant purple robe * wrought of thine own sacred blood, * and adorned with the scepter of * thy martyric deeds; * and the crown of thy triumphs doth enhance thee unto ages everlasting, * O thou all-lauded Great Martyr George.

Verse 1. *For His mercy is great toward us, and the truth of the Lord endureth forever.*

With the breastplate of ardent faith, * with the shield of resplendent grace, * with the mighty spear of the Cross girt all about, * thou didst prove unto thine enemies to be all-invincible; * as a Godlike prince in war, * thou didst vanquish the demons' troops, * and dost dance for joy * with the Angels; and caring for the faithful, thou dost hallow and preserve them, * when they invoke thee, O Martyr George.

DOXASTICON FOR ST. GEORGE IN TONE SIX

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Thou hast lived worthily of thy name, O soldier George; for taking the Cross of Christ upon thy shoulders, thou hast cultivated the earth that had become barren because of diabolic deception; and

uprooting the thorny religion of the idols, thou hast planted the vine of the Orthodox Faith. Wherefore thou gushest forth healings for the faithful throughout the world, and hast proved to be the Trinity's righteous husbandman. Intercede, we pray, for the peace of the world and the salvation of our souls.

DOXASTICON FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Thou didst come to Thy Disciples, O Christ, the doors being shut, but through design Thou didst not find Thomas with them; for he said: I will not believe until I behold the Master, view the side from which blood and water issued for baptism, observe the wound through which He healed man from the great wound, and see that He is not a ghost, but of body and bones. Wherefore, O Thou Who didst tread down death and convince Thomas, O Lord, glory to Thee.

THE HOLY ENTRANCE

(While the first Doxasticon is chanted, the following dialogue occurs QUIETLY as the clergy make the entrance.)

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Priest: In the evening and in the morning and at noonday we praise Thee, we bless Thee, we give thanks unto Thee, and we pray unto Thee, O Master of all, Lord Who lovest mankind: Direct our prayer as incense before Thee, and incline not our hearts unto words or thoughts of evil, but deliver us from all who seek after our souls. For unto Thee, O Lord, Lord, are our eyes, and in Thee have we hoped. Put us not to shame, O our God. For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Deacon: Amen.

(When the clergy reach the center of the solea, the first part of the great censing begins. After the first part of the great censing is completed, this next dialogue occurs QUIETLY.)

Deacon: Bless, father, the Holy Entrance.

Priest: Blessed is the entrance to Thy Holy Place, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(After the choir has finished, the following is said ALOUD.)

Deacon: Wisdom! Let us attend!

O GLADSOME LIGHT (CHANT) (CHORAL)

Choir: O gladsome Light of the holy glory of the immortal, heavenly, holy and blessed Father: O Jesus Christ. Lo now that we have come to the setting of the sun, as we behold the evening light, we hymn Thee: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. Meet it is for Thee at all times to be magnified by joyous voices, O Son of God and Giver of life. Wherefore the whole world doth glorify Thee.

SATURDAY PROKEIMENON IN TONE SIX

Deacon: The Evening Prokeimenon!

Choir: The Lord is King, and hath clothed Himself with majesty. (ONCE)

Verse 1. *The Lord is robed; He is girded with strength. (Refrain)*

Verse 2. *For He has established the world so that it shall never be moved. (Refrain)*

THE OLD TESTAMENT READINGS (for St. George)

The First Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (43:9-14)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Thus saith the Lord: All nations are gathered together, and princes shall be gathered out of them; who will declare these things among them? Or who will declare to you things from the beginning? Let them bring forth their witnesses, and be justified; and let them hear, and declare the truth. Be ye My witnesses, and I too am a witness, saith the Lord God, and My servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know, and believe Me, and understand that I am. Before Me there was no other God, and after Me there shall be none. I am God, and beside Me there is no savior. I have declared, and have saved; I have reproached, and there was no strange god among you. Ye are My witnesses, and I am a witness, saith the Lord God. Even from the beginning I am; and there is none that can deliver out of My hands. I will work, and who shall turn it back? Thus saith the Lord God that redeemeth you, the Holy One of Israel.

The Second Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon. (3:1-9)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be an affliction, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of men they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of Himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt offering He accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them forever. Those who trust in Him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with Him in love, because grace and mercy are upon His elect, and He watches over his holy ones.

The Third Passage

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Reading from the Wisdom of Solomon. (5:15-6-3)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The righteous live forever; and their reward is in the Lord, and the care of them is with the Most High. Therefore, shall they receive the kingdom of majesty and the crown of comeliness from the Lord's hand, for with His right hand shall He cover them, and with His arm shall He protect them. He shall take to Him His jealousy for complete armor, and make creation His weapon for the warding off of His enemies. He shall put on righteousness as a breastplate, and true judgment instead of a helmet. He shall take holiness for an invincible shield. His severe wrath shall He sharpen for a sword, and the world shall fight with Him against the unwise. Then shall the right-aiming thunderbolts go abroad, and from the clouds, as from a well-drawn bow, shall they fly to the mark. And as from a stone-bow shall hailstones full of wrath be cast forth, and the water

of the sea shall rage indignantly against them, and floods shall cruelly drown them. Yea, a mighty wind shall stand up against them, and like a storm shall blow them away; thus iniquity shall lay waste the whole earth, and ill dealing shall overthrow the thrones of the mighty. Hear, therefore, O ye kings, and understand; learn, ye that be judges of the ends of the earth. Give ear, ye that rule a multitude and vaunt yourselves in throngs of nations, for power is given you from the Lord and sovereignty from the Most High.

THE LITANY OF FERVENT SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us say with our whole soul, and with our whole mind, let us say.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: O Lord Almighty, the God of our Fathers, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great mercy, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan N., (and for our Archbishop N. or Bishop N.).

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for our brethren: the priests, hieromonks, deacons, hierodeacons and monastics and all our brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation and pardon and remission of sins for (the servants of God, [Names], and) all Orthodox Christians of true worship, who live and dwell in this community.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for the blessed and ever-memorable founders of this holy church and (for the departed servants of God, [Names], and) all our fathers and brethren, the Orthodox departed this life before us, who here and in all the world lie asleep in the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Again we pray for those who bear fruit and do good works in this holy and all-venerable temple, those who serve and those who sing, and for all the people here present, who await Thy great and rich mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE EVENING PRAYER

People: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this evening without sin. Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever. Amen.

Let Thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, even as we have set our hope on Thee. Blessed art Thou, O Lord; teach me Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Master; make me to understand Thy statutes. Blessed art Thou, O Holy One; enlighten me with Thy statutes.

Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth forever. O despise not the works of Thy hands. To Thee belongeth worship, to Thee belongeth praise, to Thee belongeth glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

THE LITANY OF SUPPLICATION

Deacon: Let us complete our evening prayer unto the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: That the whole evening may be perfect, holy, peaceful and sinless, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: An angel of peace, a faithful guide, a guardian of our souls and bodies, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Pardon and remission of our sins and transgressions, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: All things good and profitable for our souls and peace for the world, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: A Christian ending to our life, painless, blameless, peaceful, and a good defense before the fearful judgment seat of Christ, let us ask of the Lord.

Choir: Grant this, O Lord.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thou art a good God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

THE PEACE

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Let us bow our heads unto the Lord.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

- *All bow their heads as the priest says the following prayer:*

Priest: O Lord our God, Who didst bow the heavens and come down for the salvation of mankind: Look upon Thy servants and Thine inheritance; for unto Thee, the fearful Judge Who yet lovest mankind, have Thy servants bowed their heads and submissively inclined their necks, awaiting not help from men but entreating Thy mercy and looking confidently for Thy salvation. Guard them at all times, both during this present evening and in the approaching night, from every foe, from all adverse powers of the devil, and from vain thoughts and from evil imaginations.

Blessed and glorified be the might of Thy kingdom: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

- *If your parish will offer "The Service of the Litia and Artoklasia", it is performed here.*

THE APOSTICHA FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR

What a miraculous wonder, that lack of faith became conviction of faith; for Thomas exclaimed: Unless I see, I will not believe. Wherefore, when he searched the side he spoke of the Godhead of the Incarnate, Who is Son of God, and knew that He verily did suffer in the flesh, and thus cried proclaiming the Risen God, shouting in a loud voice: My Lord and my God, glory to Thee.

Verse 1. *Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem. Praise thy God, O Zion.*
What a miraculous wonder: that grass should touch fire and be safe; for Thomas cast his hand into the fire of the side of Jesus Christ our God, and was not consumed by touching Him. Verily, the obstinate soul turned with fervor to true faith, and he shouted from the depth of his spirit: Thou art my Master and my God Who didst rise from the dead; glory to Thee.

Verse 2. *Because He hath strengthened the bars of thy gates, He hath blessed thy children within thee.*
What a miraculous wonder! John did lean against the Word's bosom, yet Thomas was made worthy to probe His side. Albeit, that one drew there from the depth of theology and dread dispensation; this one was privileged to announce to us openly, and reveal the mystery of His Resurrection, crying: My Lord and my God, glory to Thee.

THE DOXASTICON FOR ST. GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Let us, O brethren, extol spiritually that noetic intelligence of diamond firmness, the ever-memorable Martyr George who, having enthusiastically declared for Christ, hardened and exercised by dangers and sufferings his perishable body, corrupted by nature, which was melted away by various torments. Albeit, love conquered nature and persuaded the lover to reach, through death, to the Beloved, Christ God the Savior of our souls.

DOXASTICON FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE FIVE

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
How great is the multitude of Thine infinite compassion, O Lover of mankind; for because of Thy long-suffering Thou wast struck by the Jews, wast examined by an Apostle, and deeply probed by those who denied Thee. How was Thou incarnated? How wast Thou crucified, O Thou Who hast not possessed sin? Albeit, make us understand, as Thomas, that we may call out to Thee: My Lord and my God, glory to Thee.

THE HYMN OF ST. SIMEON THE GOD-RECEIVER

Choir: Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

THE TRISAGION PRAYERS

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (THRICE)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.
Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SEVEN

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. GEORGE IN TONE FOUR

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY IN TONE SEVEN

Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Wisdom!

Choir: Father, bless!

Priest: Christ our God, the Existing One, is blessed, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Preserve, O God, the holy Orthodox faith and all Orthodox Christians, unto ages of ages. Amen.

Priest: Most holy Theotokos, save us.

Choir: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption bearest God the Word and art truly Theotokos: we magnify thee.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ our God and our hope, glory to Thee.

Choir: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. Lord, have mercy (*thrice*). Father, bless.

Priest: May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; *of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostle Thomas, called "The Twin"; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Great-martyr George the trophy-bearer; Martyr Alexandra the Empress; Martyr Glykerios of Nicomedia; New-martyrs George of Ptolemais and Lazarus of Bulgaria, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down Death by death, and upon those in the tombs…

People: …bestowing life!

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