

with the joy of the Resurrection also to the Holy Apostles, because this alone can comprise an unshakable foundation for their subsequent journey to Holy Pentecost, but also a sacred legacy for the continuation of His work "going out into all the world preach the Gospel to all creation". We can, if we wish, remember that we also are recipients of Christ's peace. All those of us who are living two thousand years after His historic presence on earth, need the peace of Christ, as never before. We are tragically living its involuntary loss from our life, wandering in the dead ends of our extraneous choices. Let us receive, my brethren, from Christ, the great gift of peace, really living and celebrating His Holy Resurrection in a god-pleasing manner.

Archim. A. A.

SUNDAY, MAY 01, 2022 THOMAS SUNDAY, *Martyrs Emmanuel, Theodore, George, Michael and the other George of Samothrace, Jeremias the Prophet, New Martyr Maria of Fournas, Mirabella in Crete Tamara (Tamar), Queen of Georgia Nikiforos the Monk of Chios Synaxis of the Three New Righteous Martyrs of the Holy Mountain, Euthymius, Ignatius, and Acacius Asaph, Bishop of Wales*

TONE OF THE WEEK :

EOTHINON : A Eothinon

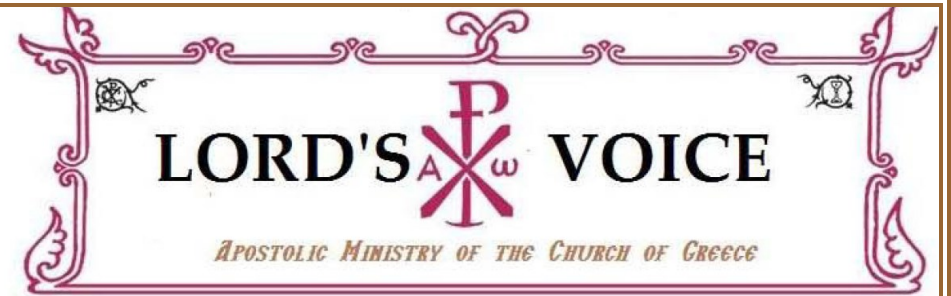
EPISTLE READING : Acts of the Apostles 5:12-20

GOSPEL READING : John 20:19-31

SUNDAY MAY 8 2022 SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN, *Synaxis of the Holy powder (or manna) which emitted from the tomb of Saint John the Theologian, Arsenios the Great.*

EPISTLE READING : St. John's First Universal Letter 1:1-7

GOSPEL READING : Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8



70TH YEAR MAY 1 2022 PAMPHLET # 18 (3596)

THE CONSECRATION OF THE RESURRECTION

Sunday of Antipascha, the first after the chosen and holy day of Pascha, the queen of feasts and days of the whole year, and we are holding the consecration of the weekly recycled celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. The center of our faith and life, but also of the life of our Church, liturgically, spiritually and ontologically, is undoubtedly the great event of the Resurrection. In older times, today's Sunday was called "new", but also the Sunday "in white", because during it, the newly-illuminated people, who were catechized during Holy and Great Lent and received the baptism on Holy Saturday, when a baptismal Divine Liturgy was celebrated brilliantly and panegyrically. They symbolically wore white robes and clothes, and they would take off these white garments eight days later, as a cloud henceforth entering into the body of the Church.

A permanent misunderstanding

We all also know this day as the Sunday of Thomas. That is, it is inextricably linked to the name of this great Apostle and disciple of our Lord, who, as we are evangelically informed, was not present when Christ appeared immediately after His Resurrection to the other Apostles. For this reason, it seems that the Apostle had doubts about the event. Desiring afterwards, the

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL (JOHN 20:19-31)

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 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

relevant information from the Apostles, with a strong desire to meet his Lord, he ached, as did the rest, for the separation, and his heart leapt from the desire to see the Teacher, to touch the wounds of His Passion in His immaculate palms and His holy side.

So behold, then, that the resurrected Jesus, eight days after His Resurrection, appears again to the group of the Holy Apostles, from which the Apostle Thomas was not missing this time, and He invites him to approach and see, but also to feel the marks of the wounds in His all holy body. Really, in this blessed communion, Thomas recognized the Teacher by confessing Him with this powerful phrase to Him: "My Lord and my God".

The lifting of the misunderstanding

But let's look for a bit and try to understand the phrase with which, as a first light-bearing and illuminating resurrectional greeting, the Master Christ chooses to address the Apostle Thomas. the rest of the Apostles and the whole universe, the one then, and hereafter, saying the "Peace be to you". Christ imparts peace to Thomas, because this, as a "perfect gift", but also as an inner state, is always given by God for man to come to know Him. This enlightens the mind of the Apostle Thomas so that he can see "the Lord as He is".

The peace of Christ is that which informed Thomas and transformed within him, the good disbelief into a saving confession both at that moment, as well as for the whole duration of the rest of his life. Thus, he was granted to live, not, of course, as an unbeliever - a nickname he unjustly carries - but as a genuine disciple of Christ, a preacher of His Gospel to the ends of the then world, and a very brave athlete and witness of His name.

Christ conveys peace, however, intricately intertwined