

# THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

## HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

[www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org](http://www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org)

### Antipascha: St Thomas Sunday

April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

“The soul perishes, if you do not defend your faith, and if you perish, defending your faith, the gates of the Kingdom of Heaven open before you.”

*St. Gabriel Urgebadze*



**ST. LEO OF SAMOS.** Leo was born a pagan in the sixth century. He was humble, pious, and philanthropic. He converted to Christianity and later served as the Bishop of Samos. He was a wonderworker during his life and after his death, for those who approached his grave with faith. Five hundred years later, a ship from Venice was docked at Samos on St. Leo's feast day. On two occasions severe thunderstorms prevented the ship from leaving. The crowds took this as a sign from heaven. After the crowds left, a sailor suggested that the Venetians should take St. Leo's relics with them. By night they went to the church that housed the saint's relics and the doors miraculously unlocked, which confirmed for them that this was God's will. Many miracles happened along the way. Once in Venice, St. Leo's relics were placed in several churches over time, ending up in the Church of Santa Maria dell'Uilta, but from there it somehow disappeared and was never sent again.

## **DIOCESAN RESOURCES**

Please visit the diocesan web site:

<https://www.nynjoca.org/>

On the home page you will find:

- Updates on the quarantine/situation
- Statements from His Eminence, Archbishop Michael
- Resources for home prayer -- Reader's Vespers, Typika Service, and Home Prayer rule information (updated regularly)
- Links to online streamed services

## **Keeping Your Offerings Current**

Remember to keep your offerings current by sending your check to:

**Holy Spirit Orthodox Church**  
**102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461**  
(make check payable to "Holy Spirit Orthodox Church".)

Sincere thanks for continuing to support your church during these difficult times.

## Announcements

### **Memorial Offerings**

Sincere thanks to James and Barbara Brabston for their offerings to Holy Spirit Orthodox Church in memory of the departed +Pighi Mardaloescu and +Carol Lynn Benda.



I waited patiently for the Lord;  
He inclined to me,  
And heard my cry.

Psalm 40:1



### **Project Self-Sufficiency opens food pantry**

Thanks to generous donations from the NORWESCAP Food Bank, the Sussex County Board of Social Services, and numerous kind-hearted individuals, the food pantry at Project Self-Sufficiency is open and available to residents of Sussex and Warren counties, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The agency has launched a new initiative, "The Food Project: Nourishing Our Neighbors", which is open to the public; those interested in obtaining free food and personal care products need not be agency participants.

For more information or to make a donation, visit:

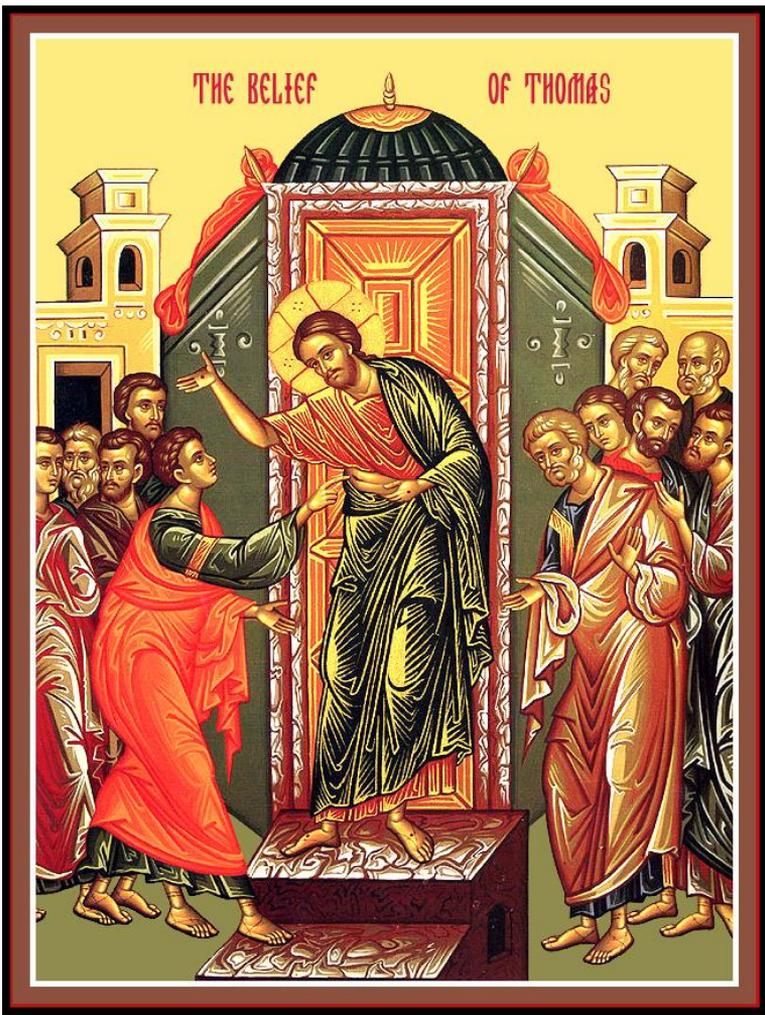
[www.projectselfsufficiency.org](http://www.projectselfsufficiency.org).

Follow us on



And remember to use:





Some icons depicting this event are inscribed “The Doubting Thomas.” This is incorrect. In Greek, the inscription reads, “The Touching of Thomas.” The Slavonic inscription is, “The Belief of Thomas.” When Saint Thomas touched the Life-giving side of the Lord, he no longer had any doubts.

This day is also known as “Antipascha.” This does not mean “opposed to Pascha,” but “in place of Pascha.” Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord’s Resurrection. Sunday is called “Resurrection” in Russian, and “the Lord’s Day” in Greek. (Source: [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org))



# Antipascha: St Thomas Sunday



## Troparion & Kontakion

### Troparion — Tone 7

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!

### Kontakion — Tone 8

Thomas touched Your life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God, / When You did come to Your apostles through closed doors. / He cried out with all: You are my Lord and my God!



We pray for our entire church family and those who do not have a family or church family, but our special prayers are for the sick and suffering:

The Archpriests Samuel, Joseph & John, the priest Gregory, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance & Elaine Engelsman, Nadine Olsen, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Ellen, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Joseph Belli, Bonnie Shaffner. Amen!!!

\*\*\* To amend the prayer list, speak with Mary Osinski\*\*\*

We also pray for all those affected by the Corona virus: First responders, doctors, nurses, health care workers, and all essential workers who are under the impending threat of the Coronavirus, as well as those who are suffering and those who are recovering from this affliction.

Download the Reader's Service of Prayer for Protection  
from the Coronavirus  
(This service takes place in front of our Icon Corner)

<https://www.nynjoca.org/files/2020/covid-19/covid-19-prayer-service.pdf>

**Holy Spirit Orthodox Church**  
102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461

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