

**SAINT JAMES ORTHODOX CHURCH, MODESTO, CALIFORNIA**  
**VARIABLE READINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**MAY 12, 2024**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**THIS WEEK AT SAINT JAMES**

- Today, 1:00 to 2:00 PM—“**Our Faith**” class for inquirers and catechumens.
- Today, 12:30 to 2:00 PM—**Kid’s Club**.
- Tuesday, May 14, 7:00 AM—**First Hour Prayers and breakfast potluck**, at Casa Cielo.
- Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 PM—**St. Theophan Men’s Group meeting**, at Casa Cielo.
- Wednesday, May 15, 6:00 to 8:00 PM—**Family Night** (*see details below*). At Vespers, there will be an opportunity to venerate the holy relics of the Martyrs of Mar Saba Monastery. This week’s dinner will be a potluck-style meal. Please bring something light and easy to clean up to share!
- Friday, May 17, 6:00 PM—**Teen SOYO Event at Funworks Mini Golf**.
- Saturday, May 18, 6:00 PM—**Great Vespers**.

**FAMILY NIGHTS EACH WEDNESDAY NIGHT BETWEEN PASCHA AND PENTECOST:**

Each Wednesday night during the Paschal Season St. James will be hosting Family Night. The evenings will begin with a short service (the Paschal Office during Bright Week; Daily Vespers or Small Compline on usual weeks). A simple dinner will be offered, followed by break-out classes for different age groups and interests. Some of the options for your family will include:

- **Studying the Saints:** This youth-based series will study the OCA curriculum titled “*Saints In Times of Trouble*.”
- **Grieving:** Healing a broken heart: Examining the Orthodox path towards healing through times of deep sorrow and loss.
- **The Ladder of Divine Ascent:** The first “Step” of the Ladder was covered during the April Women’s retreat at Liuba’s home, but you do not need to have been at the retreat to benefit from these weekly discussions. Join “The Ladder Ladies” in an ongoing discussion of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. Note: If you have a copy of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, or a copy of *Thirty Steps to Heaven* by Vassilios Papavassiliou, please bring it. (The books aren’t totally necessary, as there will be hand-outs with the major quotes we’ll be discussing each week, as well as discussion questions.)
- **The Epistle of St. James:** This study will be cover the context of our beloved patron’s epistle using the newly-translated commentary by St Nikodemus of the Holy Mountain.
- **Fun and Fellowship:** This group will enjoy games and fellowship!

**OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**July 3–7—2024 Parish Life Conference.** This year’s conference, hosted by Holy Resurrection Church, will take place in beautiful Tucson, Arizona at the Westin La Paloma Resort and Spa. Follow the link to the event page for registration and event details: [www.antiochianevents.com/la](http://www.antiochianevents.com/la)

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE NEW INFANT ORPHANAGE RECENTLY OPENED UP BY PROJECT MEXICO:**

Project Mexico opened up a new infant orphanage last year, called Casa Cuna. The national Antiochian Women’s group has chosen the orphanage as its “Shared Act of Mercy” for 2024. You can learn more about the orphanage here: <https://www.projectmexico.org/casa-cuna-infant-orphanage> Rather than having one or two special fundraisers for this cause, our St. Thekla group has decided to have people in our parish donate directly to the orphanage. You can do this at: <https://projectmexico.org/AW>.

## TEEN SOYO INSTAGRAM

If you have an Instagram account, make sure to follow our Teen SOYO @st.james\_soyo!

### BIRTHDAYS, FEAST DAYS, AND ANNIVERSARIES:

Today—Happy Mother’s Day to all the mothers in our parish!

May 12—Deacon David Diaz and Colt Crabtree’s birthdays

Thomas Sunday (*this year, May 12*)—Fr. Thomas Zell, Julian Johnson De-Graft, and Austin Souza’s feast day (St. Thomas)

May 16—Kh. Carla Zell’s birthday

May 18—Danny Mitchell’s birthday

Second Sunday after Pascha (*this year, May 19*)—The Younathan’s family feast day (St. Ananias) and Kh. Carolyn Tanguay’s feast day (St. Suzanna)

May 19—Rameel Johne and Mary Ann Baskett’s birthdays

May 21—Dimitry (Jacobs) Pachenko’s feast day (St. Dimitry of the Don)

May 21—Shannon Hartley’s birthday

May 21—Lyla Hartely, Elena Mitchell, Elena Taveres, Elena Malygina, and Helen Johne’s feast day (St. Helen)

May 22—Luna Mary Alskaff and Victoria Panarina’s birthdays

May 23—Memorial of Anahid Shallow’s repose (2018)

May 23—Larissa Harm’s birthday

### PROSPHORA & FELLOWSHIP LUNCH SPONSORSHIP:

*Please be in touch with Stephanie Collins if you would like to change scheduled dates, or have questions about the schedule. Note: Fellowship lunch sponsors are responsible for clean-up unless otherwise noted.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Prospora</b>	<b>Fellowship lunch sponsor</b>
Sunday, May 12	Nicholas Wright	Potluck prepared by fathers in honor of Mother’s Day
Sunday, May 19	The Younathans	The Younathan family, in honor of their family feast day (St. Ananias)

### CANDLE MAKING TEAM:

Sunday, May 12                      Candle threading

Sunday, May 19                      Candle dipping

### PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE PSALMS:

Use the readings for week 4 on the master schedule (see pages 6 and 7).

**SYNAXARION FOR SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024**  
**NEW SUNDAY OR ANTI-PASCHA**  
**SUNDAY OF THOMAS THE APOSTLE, CALLED “THE TWIN”**  
GERMANOS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE,  
EPIPHANIOS, BISHOP OF CYPRUS

On May 12 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Germanos, patriarch of Constantinople; and Epiphanius, bishop of Cyprus.

On this day, the second Sunday of Pascha, we inaugurate the celebration of Christ’s Resurrection, and the occasion whereon the Holy Apostle Thomas touched the Savior’s side.

*Verses*

If the seals of the Virgin’s womb and of the grave did not hinder Thee,  
How could the seals of the doors hinder Thy might, O Savior?

This day is called New Sunday, Thomas Sunday or Anti-Pascha. The last term means “in place of Pascha” because Thomas did not immediately hear of Christ’s Resurrection and disbelieved it. Starting with this day, the Church dedicates Sunday to the celebration of the Resurrection.

As the Disciples were gathered on Pascha, Jesus entered and greeted them in His usual way, saying, “Peace be unto you.” Then He showed them His hands, feet and side. Jesus ate with His Disciples and reassured them of His Resurrection. However, Thomas was not with them at that time, and insisted upon seeing the Savior’s wounds—the print of the nails in His hands and feet, and the spear in His side—before he would believe that Jesus was risen. Eight days later, Christ appeared again to the Disciples, this time with Thomas present. The Master told Thomas to see and feel His wounds. Then Thomas immediately cried out, “My Lord and my God!” But Jesus tells His Disciples, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.” This event also clearly illustrates the human and divine Natures of Christ.

By the intercessions of Thine Apostle Thomas, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

**TODAY’S VARIABLE HYMNS**

*The Priest begins Divine Liturgy with “Blessed is the Kingdom” and the choir responds “Amen.” Bearing the Paschal Candle, the Priest then leads the singing of the Paschal Apolytikion:*

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

People: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (*Twice*)

**THE FIRST ANTIPHON**

- Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

- Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. (**Refrain**)
- Glory... Both now... (**Refrain**)

**THE SECOND ANTIPHON**

- May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

**Refrain:** Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee. (*Refrain*)
- May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (*Refrain*)
- Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

### THE THIRD ANTIPHON

- Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let them that hate Him flee from before His face. *Refrain*: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!
- As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (*Refrain*)
- So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (*Refrain*)
- This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (*Refrain*)

### ENTRANCE HYMN OF PASCHA

In the gathering places bless God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

### APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 7)

From the sealed tomb You shone forth O Life! Through closed doors You appeared to Your disciples, O Christ God! Through them, renew in us an upright Spirit, by the greatness of Your mercy, O Resurrection of all.

*WE do NOT sing the apolytikion of the patron saint of the temple.*

### THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA (TONE 8)

You descended into the tomb, O Immortal. You destroyed the power of death. In victory You arose, O Christ God, proclaiming rejoice to the myrrhbearing women, granting peace to Your Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

## THE EPISTLE

### PROKEIMENON

*Great is our Lord, and great is His strength. Praise ye the Lord, for the Lord is good.*

### THE READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE HOLY APOSTLES (5:12-20)

In those days, many signs and wonders were done among the people by the hands of the apostles; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. None of the rest dared to join them, but the people magnified them. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the cities around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. But the chief priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the sect of the Sadducees, and filled with jealousy they laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said: "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

## THE GOSPEL

### THE READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. 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 to 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 to 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 to 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, "Thomas, you have 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.

#### **MEGALYNARION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (TONE 1)**

O most radiant lamp, the Theotokos, the immeasurable honor, which is more exalted than all creatures, with praises do we magnify thee.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN OF THOMAS SUNDAY (PSALM 147:1)**

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion. Alleluia.

*Instead of "We have seen the true light," we sing "Christ is Risen" ONCE.*

#### **AT THE END OF THE DISMISSAL:**

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

Notes about the **Pilgrimage through the Psalms Project**.

- Sunday, April 14 through Saturday, April 20, use the readings for Week Nine.
- Sunday, April 21 through Saturday, April 27, use the readings for Week One.
- Sunday, April 28 through Saturday, May 4, use the readings for Week Two.
- Sunday, May 5 through Saturday, May 11, use the readings for Week Three.
- Sunday, May 12 through Saturday, May 18, use the readings for Week Four.
- Sunday, May 19 through Saturday, May 25, use the readings for Week Five.
- Sunday, May 26 through Saturday, June 1, use the readings for Week Six.
- Sunday, June 2 through Saturday, June 8, use the readings for Week Seven.
- Sunday, June 9 through Saturday, June, 15, use the readings for Week Eight.
- Sunday, June 16 through Saturday, June 22, use the readings for Week Nine.

If you are reading from an Eastern Orthodox or Greek translation of the Psalms, such as *The Orthodox Study Bible*, *The Psalter According to the Seventy* (published by Holy Transfiguration Monastery) or *The Ancient Faith Psalter* (published by Ancient Faith Publishing), use the following Septuagint numbering.



**Pilgrimage Through  
The Psalms**


LXX/ Septuagint	Week 1*	Week 2*	Week 3*	Week 4*	Week 5*	Week 6*	Week 7**	Week 8**	Unit 9**
	Stasis 1	Stasis 2	Stasis 3	Stasis 1	Stasis 2	Stasis 3	Stasis 1	Stasis 2	Stasis 3
<b>Sunday</b>	9-10 Kathisma 2	11-13 Kathisma 2	14-16 Kathisma 2	17 Kathisma 3	18-20 Kathisma 3	21-23 Kathisma 3			
<b>Monday</b>	24-26 Kathisma 4	27-29 Kathisma 4	30-31 Kathisma 4	32-33 Kathisma 5	34-35 Kathisma 5	36 Kathisma 5	37-39 Kathisma 6	40-42 Kathisma 6	43-45 Kathisma 6
<b>Tuesday</b>	46-48 Kathisma 7	49-50 Kathisma 7	51-54 Kathisma 7	55-57 Kathisma 8	58-60 Kathisma 8	61-63 Kathisma 8	64-66 Kathisma 9	67 Kathisma 9	68-69 Kathisma 9
<b>Wednesday</b>	70-71 Kathisma 10	72-73 Kathisma 10	74-76 Kathisma 10	77 Kathisma 11	78-80 Kathisma 11	81-84 Kathisma 11	85-87 Kathisma 12	88 Kathisma 12	89-90 Kathisma 12
<b>Thursday</b>	91-93 Kathisma 13	94-96 Kathisma 13	97-100 Kathisma 13	101-102 Kathisma 14	103 Kathisma 14	104 Kathisma 14	105 Kathisma 15	106 Kathisma 15	107-108 Kathisma 15
<b>Friday</b>	134-136 Kathisma 19	137-139 Kathisma 19	140-142 Kathisma 19	143-144 Kathisma 20	145-147 Kathisma 20	148-150 Kathisma 20	119-123 Kathisma 18	125-128 Kathisma 18	129-133 Kathisma 18
<b>Saturday</b>	109-11 Kathisma 16	112-114 Kathisma 16	115-117 Kathisma 16	118:1-72 Kathisma 17	118:73-131 Kathisma 17	118:132-176 Kathisma 17	1-3 Kathisma 1	4-6 Kathisma 1	7-8 Kathisma 1

\*Liturgically at Matins/Orthros.

\*\*Liturgically at Vespers.

Note: If you wish to pray the full cycle of the Psalms as done in monasteries then read all of the “weeks” (1-6 for Morning, 7-9 for evening) for the given day.

If you are reading from the Masoretic or Hebrew translation of the Psalms, such as the King James Version (KJV), the New International Version (NIV), or the Revised Standard Version (RSV), use the Masoretic / Western numbering.



**Pilgrimage Through  
The Psalms**

Hebrew/ Masoretic	Week 1* Stasis 1	Week 2* Stasis 2	Week 3* Stasis 3	Week 4* Stasis 1	Week 5* Stasis 2	Week 6* Stasis 3	Week 7** Stasis 1	Week 8** Stasis 2	Unit 9** Stasis 3
<b>Sunday</b>	9-11	12-14	15-17	18	19-21	22-24			
<b>Monday</b>	25-27	28-30	31-32	33-34	35-36	37	38-40	41-43	44-46
<b>Tuesday</b>	47-49	50-51	52-55	56-58	59-61	62-64	65-67	68	69-70
<b>Wednesday</b>	71-72	73-74	75-77	78	79-81	82-85	86-88	89	90-91
<b>Thursday</b>	92-94	95-97	98-101	102-103	104	105	106	107	108-109
<b>Friday</b>	135-137	138-140	141-143	144-145	146-147	148-150	120-124	125-129	130-134
<b>Saturday</b>	110-112	113-116:9	116:10-118	119:1-72	119:73-131	119:132-176	1-3	4-6	7-8

\*Liturgically at Matins/Orthros.

\*\*Liturgically at Vespers.

Note: If you wish to pray the full cycle of the Psalms as done in monasteries then read all of the “weeks” (1-6 for Morning, 7-9 for evening) for the given day.