



## St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

*"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"*

Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543  
The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: [byzantinemilwaukee.com](http://byzantinemilwaukee.com)  
Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee)

**April 7, 2024 — St. Thomas Sunday**



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### Divine Liturgy

#### Hymns

**Troparion:** Christ is risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon death; and has given life to those who were in the tomb.

Christos anesti ek nekron thanato thanaton patissas; kai tis en tis mnimassis zoin charisamenos. (Greek)

Al Meseehu qam im bainil amwat wa wati al mawt a bil mawat; Wa wahhab el hayat li ladeena fil kubur. (Arabic)

**Troparion of St. Thomas:** While the tomb was sealed You shone forth from it, O Christ our Life, and while the doors remained closed, You stood among your Disciples, O Resurrection of all, and through them You restored a new spirit in us according to your great Mercy.

**Prokimenon:** Great is our Lord, and great is his power, and to his wisdom there is no limit.

*Stichon:* Praise the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

**Apostolic Reading:** Acts 5:12-20

In those days by the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people (and with one accord, they all would meet in Solomon's portico; but of the rest, no one dared to associate with them, yet the people made much of them. And the multitude of men and women who believed in the Lord continued to increase), so that they carried the

**Kontakion:** Though You went down in the tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God. You greeted the ointment bearing women, saying "Rejoice!" You gave peace to Your apostles, and to those who had Fallen resurrection.

**Anti-Trisagion:** All of you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ, Alleluia.

**Hirmos:** O shining light, Mother of God, honorable without compare; you are higher in dignity than any other human being. We magnify you with hymns.

**Kinonikon:** Exalt the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, Zion! Alleluia!

sick into the streets and laid them on beds and pallets, in order that, as Peter went by, at least his shadow would fall upon some of them. And crowds also came to Jerusalem from neighboring towns, and they brought the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits—and all of them were healed.

But the High Priest rose up, and all his supporters (that is, the members of the Sadducean sect), and being filled with hatred, they laid their hands upon the apostles and threw them into the public jail.

But during the night, an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, and led them out, saying: "Go, and standing in the temple, speak to the people all the words of this life."

**Alleluia:** Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, let us sing gladly to God our Savior!

*Stichon:* For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**Gospel:** "Peace to you! Be not unbelieving", Jn 20:19-31

When it was late, that same day, the first of the week, though the doors where the disciples gathered had been closed for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them, "Peace be to you!" And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples therefore rejoiced at the sight of the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you." When he had said this, he breathed upon them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into

the place of the nails, and put my hand into his side I will not believe." And after eight days, his disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being closed, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be to you!" Then he said to Thomas. "Bring here your finger, and see my hands; and bring here your hand, and put it into my side; and be not unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed." Many other signs also Jesus worked in the sight of his 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.

### Paschal Greeting

The Paschal greeting is a custom among Eastern Christians, consisting of a greeting and response. Instead of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with "Christ is risen!" The response is "He is truly risen!" This greeting is used during liturgical services and informally at other times, starting with the feast of Pascha and lasting until Ascension, the period known as Paschaltide:

English	Christ is risen! He is truly risen!
Greek	Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
Arabic	Al-Maseehu Qam! Haqqan Qam!

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Church Slavonic Hristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!

### Stewardship

Last Sunday: ordinary collections=\$737.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated February 4, 2024): \$\$25,348.10.

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: [byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate](https://byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate). Use your bank's **online billpay** (payee information): St. George's Syrian Congregation · 1617 W State St · Milwaukee, WI 53233-1246; phone: (414) 342-1543; email: [info@byzantinemilwaukee.com](mailto:info@byzantinemilwaukee.com).

### Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: M.J. Harden and Ken Schmidt (sister and brother-in-law of Brian Harden), Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Sandy Rabuse (godmother of Katerina Lessard), the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Dan Sylvester (neighbor of Benjamin Neumann), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz and John Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor). For the people of the Middle East.

### Schedule for This Week

**Saturday:** *Leave-taking of St. Thomas*

**Sunday:** *Third Sunday of Easter*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

### COVID-19

According to the Milwaukee Health Department, the best way to stop the community spread of COVID-19 is to take preventative action to protect yourself and others: get vaccinated and boosted ([city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax](https://city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax)) when you are eligible, wear a mask ([city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus/masks](https://city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus/masks)) in public spaces, wash your hands often and practice physical distancing.

More information is available from the health department: [city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus](https://city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus)

### Incorruptible but Touchable

The Lord's body that made its entrance to the disciples through closed doors was the same as that which issued before the eyes of people from the Virgin's closed womb at His birth.

Is it surprising that He who was now going to live forever made His entrance

through closed doors after His resurrection, who on His coming in order to die made His appearance from the unopened womb of a virgin?

But because the faith of those who beheld it wavered concerning the body they could see, He showed them at once His hands

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and His side, offering them the body that He brought in through the closed doors to touch.

By this action He revealed two wonderful and, according to human reason, quite contradictory things. He showed them that after His resurrection His body was both incorruptible and yet could be touched ....

By showing us that it is incorruptible, He would urge us on toward our reward, and by offering it as touchable He would dispose us toward faith.

He manifested Himself as both incorruptible and touchable to show us that His body after His resurrection was of the same nature as ours but of a different sort of glory.

*St. Gregory the Great*

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