



ST. THOMAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1201 N. Llano Street
Fredericksburg, Texas

HIEROMARTYR HIEROTHEOS BISHOP OF ATHNES

Second Sunday of Luke

Sunday, October 4, 2026

*Antiochian Diocese of
Wichita and Mid-America*

Primate

His Beatitude, the Patriarch of
Antioch, JOHN X

Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of All North America
His Eminence, Metropolitan Saba

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Methodios Ingalls

Pastor's Email: *methodios102@yahoo.com*

Pastor's Telephone (512) 632-8188

Website: stthomasorthodoxchurch.org

Current Events on page 4

TROPARION OF ST. THOMAS

Thou wast a disciple of Christ and a member of the divine choir of Apostles, by thine unbelief thou didst make known Christ's Resurrection, and by touch thou wast assured of His holy Passion, O all-glorious Thomas, and now pray that we be granted peace and great mercy.

MEGALYNARION OF ST. THOMAS

Doubting, thou did come forth to touch His side; yet the resurrection was confirmed by thine unbelief. Henceforth, all have been taught by thee to serve Christ, O Thomas, who did end thy course well by holy martyrdom.

Sunday, October 4, 2026; Hieromartyr Hierotheos, Bishop of Athens

Hieromartyr Peter of Capitolia in Syria; Martyrs Domnina and her daughters of Syria

THE SEVENTH EOTHINON GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John (20:1—10).

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we do not know where they have laid Him.” Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, and the napkin, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the Scripture, that Jesus must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

THE SYNAXARION

On October 4 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Hierotheos, bishop of Athens. He was a friend of Dionysios the Areopagite, and received the Christian faith from the Apostle Paul a little after Dionysios. This Apostle later made Hierotheos the first bishop of Athens. At the time of the Dormition of the most holy Mother of God, Hierotheos arrived in Jerusalem, carried by the clouds, and took part in the funeral. With his divine singing, he brought heartfelt joy to many and showed himself to be greatly inspired. He labored greatly for the sake of the Gospel, brought many pagans to the truth, governed his flock well and finally ended a martyr for Christ in the first century.

Verses

Of old Hierotheos to Thee was consecrated;
Now gone hence, O Word, he hath to Thee been united.
On the fourth dawn, the grave covered Hierotheos.

SEVENTH EOTHINON EXAPOSTEILARION AND THEOTOKION IN TONE TWO

Alas, they took the Lord away; as soon as Mary said this, then Simon Peter ran in haste to the tomb with that other initiate loved by Jesus; and when they both came running, they found the linen clothes within set apart from the napkin once on His head, each abandoned, cast off, and lying sep’rate. And so again they held their peace, until they had beheld Christ.

Things great and very marvelous hast Thou performed for my sake, for Thou wast inexplicably born of a Virgin Maiden, O Christ my God, great in mercy; the Cross hast Thou accepted; and having suffered death for us, Thou art risen in glory and hast set free our whole nature both from death and corruption. To Thy great glory, glory be; glory be to Thy power.

FIRST TONE RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION

As God, Thou didst arise from the tomb in glory, and Thou didst raise the world together with Thyself. Mortal nature praised Thee as God, and death was obliterated. Adam danceth for joy, O Master, and Eve, now freed from fetters, rejoiceth as she crieth out: Thou, O Christ, dost grant resurrection to all.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:6—11)

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (6:31—36)

The Lord said: “As you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.”

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE ONE

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting the life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the heavens cried out to Thee, O Life-giver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom, Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

THEOTOKION FROM THE OCTOECHOS IN TONE ONE

While Gabriel was saying, Rejoice, to thee, O Virgin, at his voice the Master of all things took flesh within thy pure womb. He dwelt in thee as His holy ark, as spake the righteous David in the psalms. And in bearing thy Creator, thou wast shown forth more spacious than all the Heavens. Glory to Him that willed to dwell in thee. Glory to Him that came forth from thee. Glory to Him that, through thy bringing forth, hath delivered us.

RESURRECTIONAL KATHISMATA HYMNS IN TONE ONE

O Lord of Mercy, nailed to the Cross of Thine own will, as mortal Thou wast laid in a tomb, O Life-giver, destroying the reign of death by Thy death, O Omnipotent. Thou didst smite the gatekeepers of Hades with terror, raising with Thyself them that had died from all ages, since Thou alone art the Friend of man.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me!
Most holy Theotokos save us!

WELCOME TO VISITORS

If you are visiting with us today, we are glad you joined with us in prayer today. Please leave your email address with Fr. Methodios if you would like to receive this bulletin and the services. If you are interested in studying the Orthodox faith systematically, please come to the catechumen classes, and speak to Fr. Methodios at 512-632-8188, or contact him at methodios102@yahoo.com.

REGULAR SERVICES

WEDNESDAY	(7:00 p.m.) — Paraklesis	Confessions by appointment — contact the Pastor.
SATURDAY	(6:00 p.m.) — Great Vespers	
SUNDAY	(9:00 a.m.) — Orthros	
	(10:00 a.m.) — Divine Liturgy	
Sunday School — 2 nd & 4 th Sunday following Liturgy		
Catechism Class — 1 st & 3 rd Sunday following Liturgy		

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – OCTOBER 18

On October 18, the Annual Parish Meeting will be held during social hour. Please plan on being present.

WORKDAY AT UPPER LIVE OAK

On Saturday, October 10, there will be a workday at the Upper Live Oak property. We are preparing for an event there. Tentatively, Vespers may be celebrated for the first time there.

BOOK STUDY

The book study will be Wednesday, September 30, at 8:00 pm, following Paraklesis. We are reading -- Painless Blameless & Peaceful by Fr. Stavros N. Akrotirianakis, in the hall and on Zoom. Zoom Meeting ID 303 479 4823; Passcode 878497.

THANKS FROM JOHN & FRANCINE

John and Francine Zannidachis thank everyone who provided food for them after Francine's surgery. Your dishes may be picked up in the kitchen area at St. Thomas.

TEEN PROJECT FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

On October 18, the teens will be collecting donations for Special Olympics. Please support our teens. See the letter from Met. Saba with the bulletin email.

WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT

God knows you are lying once, twice, three times, but no one could lie tens or hundreds of times unless he wanted that lie to become true. And this desire will make it so we will see the true Light one day. Even more, the deep part within us already sees the true Light. The Light can be seen somewhere within ourselves, but we are not there. And so, God says: "Dare and lie, but with the desire that it cease being a lie!" And this is not hypocrisy, but an exaggeration of our relationship with God in a liturgical manner. But if I lie to myself or to others, outside of the Liturgy, that "I have seen the true Light, I am a spiritual person, I live with Christ, I love Christ," then God does not like that, for even if it has some truth, it is only of a sentimental nature. The only lie we say that gladdens God is a liturgical one, the one from the Church services, because at the very moment we say, "We have seen the true Light," with us sing billions of humans and angels who have seen the true Light; and so we too, being one of them, have seen it also. – Schemanun Siluana Vlad, *Theology of the Ordinary*, St. George Press, 2025, p. 100-101.