



ST. THOMAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

1201 N. Llano Street
Fredericksburg, Texas

THE HOLY APOSTLE AND EVANGALIST LUKE

Sunday, October 18, 2026

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.

*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

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Sunday, October 18, 2026; The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

Martyr Marinos the Elder at Anazarbos; Venerable Theodore, Simeon and Euphrosyne

THE NINETH EOTHINON GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint 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.

THE SYNAXARION

On October 18 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke. He was born in Antioch. In his youth, he excelled in his studies of Greek philosophy, medicine and art. During the ministry of the Lord Jesus on earth, Luke came to Jerusalem, where he saw the Savior face to face, heard His saving teaching and was witness to His miraculous works. Coming to believe in the Lord, Luke was numbered among the Seventy Apostles, and was sent out to preach. With Cleopas, he saw the resurrected Lord on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24). After the descent of the Holy Spirit, Luke returned to Antioch and there became a fellow worker of the Apostle Paul and traveled to Rome with him, converting Jews and pagans to the Christian Faith. At the request of Christians, he wrote his Gospel in about the year 60. Following the martyrdom of the great Apostle Paul, Luke preached the Gospel throughout Italy, Dalmatia, Macedonia and other regions. He painted three icons of the Most-holy Theotokos—one of which is protected by the nuns of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Convent of Our Lady of Saydnaya in Syria. He also painted icons of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. Hence, Luke is considered to be the founder of Christian iconography. In old age, he visited Libya and Upper Egypt. From Egypt he returned to Greece, where he continued to preach and convert many with great zeal despite his old age. In addition to his Gospel, Luke wrote the Acts of the Apostles and dedicated both works to Theophilus, the governor of Achaia. Luke was 84 years old when the wicked idolaters tortured him for the sake of Christ and hanged him from an olive tree in the town of Thebes, in Boethia. The miracle-working relics of this wonderful saint were transported to Constantinople in the reign of Emperor Constantius, the son of Constantine.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (4:5—11, 14—18)

Brethren, conduct yourselves wisely toward outsiders, making the most of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone. Tychicus will tell you all about my affairs; he is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, and with him Onesimus, the faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place. Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, receive him), and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you. Give my greetings to the brethren at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you read also the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry which you have received in the Lord.” I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. Remember my fetters. Grace be with you. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (10:16—21)

The Lord said, “He who hears you hears Me, and he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him who sent Me.” The Seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Thy Name!” And Jesus said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” In that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the spirit and said, “I thank Thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou hast hidden these things from the wise and prudent and revealed them to babes; yea, Father, for such was Thy gracious will.”

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE THREE

Let the heavens rejoice; let earthly things be glad; for the Lord hath wrought might with His arm, He hath trampled upon death by death. The firstborn of the dead hath He become. From the belly of Hades hath He delivered us, and hath granted great mercy to the world.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST IN TONE THREE

O holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke, intercede with the merciful God, to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

THE EXAPOSTEILARION FOR ST. LUKE IN TONE TWO

O Luke, Apostle of Christ God, and teacher of the nations, thou knower of things past all speech, with the divine and blest Paul and the all-pure Theotokos, whose fair and godly image thou didst record with fervent love, intercede, O all-wise one and seer of God, for us who revere thy divine dormition and call thee blest in songs of praise, O thou elect initiate.

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.

TEEN COLLECTION FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Today, the Teens will be collecting for Special Olympics. This is a long-standing ministry for teenagers across our Archdiocese. Please bring cash or a check to make a donation.

BOOK STUDY

The new book for study is *On the Acquisition of the Holy Spirit* by St. Seraphim of Sarov, available on Amazon. Meeting Wednesday, 8 pm, in the hall and on Zoom. Zoom Meeting ID 303 479 4823; Passcode 878497.

PARISH PICNIC ON UPPER LIVE OAK—November 1

We are planning a picnic on November 1, following the Liturgy, at the Church property at 2204 Upper Live Oak. More details to come.

PRAYERS BY SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN

Various prayers of St. Symeon the New Theologian –

“Yea, compassionate Shepherd, good and kind, You desire to save all those who believe in You, have mercy, hear my prayer; be not angry, do not turn Your face away from me but teach me how to accomplish Your will. I do not try to do my own will but only Yours, that I may serve You O merciful One!”

“Do not exclude me now, do not hide the radiance of Your face from me again, lest I be covered by darkness, swallowed by the abyss, and the heavens are closed to me.”

“My God, who loves to show mercy, My Creator, let the radiance of your inaccessible light grow upon me to fill my heart with joy.”

“Lord, You do not desire the death of the sinner but instead You wish that he might be converted and live. You descended to earth precisely to resurrect the ones who have fallen and are dead in consequence of their sin. You enable them to see You, the true light, as far as this is possible to man. Send me a man who knows You, that by entirely submitting myself to his service as to Yours, and by fulfilling Your will by doing his, I may please You, the only God, and be awarded Your kingdom, even I, a sinner.” – Archbishop Basil Krivocheine, *St Symeon the New Theologian In the Light of Christ*, St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 1986, p. 84—86.