

Saturday of Souls

2021-03-13

St. Thomas Orthodox Church

A Parish of the [Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America](#)



To our visitors...

Welcome! We hope your time with us is healing and worshipful. Please note that, although we have much respect for other Christian traditions, Holy Communion is reserved for properly prepared members of the Orthodox faith. Everyone is invited to partake of the blessed bread after the conclusion of the Liturgy.

May God's blessing be upon you!

Hymns in Today's Liturgy

Apolytikion of Souls Saturday (Tone 8)

O Thou Who by the depth of Thy wisdom dost provide all things out of love for man, and grantest unto all that which is profitable, O only Creator: Grant rest, O Lord, to the souls of Thy servants; for in Thee have they placed their hope, O our Creator and Fashioner and God.

Apolytikion of St. Thomas (Tone 3)

O Holy Apostle Thomas, intercede to the merciful God, that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of sins.

Kontakion for the Departed (Tone 8)

With the saints give rest, O Christ, to the souls of Thy servants, where there is neither sickness, nor sorrow, nor sighing, but life everlasting.

Epistle

I Thessalonians 4:13–17

Brethren, we would not have you ignorant, concerning those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the Archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord.

Gospel

Luke 21:8–9, 25–27, 33–36

The Lord said, "Take heed that you are not led astray; for many will come in My Name, saying, 'I am He!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified; for this must first take place, but

the end will not be at once. And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare; for it will come upon all who dwell upon the face of the whole earth. But watch at all times, praying, that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man.”

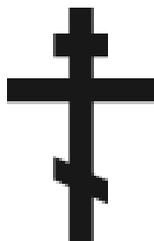
Synaxarion

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the divine Fathers ordained a memorial for all those who have fallen asleep throughout the ages in true worship and in hope of life everlasting.

Remember not concerning the dead their transgressions, O timeless Word;
Show not Thy good emotions and compassion as inactive.

Today is the Saturday of Souls, the day in the Lenten Triodion period that precedes Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare). Today, we commemorate all of our parents, brothers, sisters, and all those of true worship who have fallen asleep in the Lord from time immemorial. The Church of Christ conducts funeral services for all of her departed children. Since many have died at sea, in the mountains or wilderness, in the air, or, because of their poverty have died without the prescribed services, the divine Fathers, moved by their zeal and love for mankind, instituted a universal funeral liturgy in their honor. Further, in remembrance of the Second Coming of Christ on the Day of Judgment, the Church performs these funerary services today for the souls who have fallen asleep, remembering them, and imploring God to have compassion on them. Finally, in remembering all those who have gone before us, this Saturday of the Souls will remind us also of our own mortality, arousing us to remorse and repentance.

Grant repose, O Christ our Master, to the souls of those who have preceded us in slumber, and have mercy upon us, for Thou alone art deathless. Amen.



Upcoming Events

Saturday	National Orthodox Youth Lenten Retreat	12:00 CST	Online
	Great Vespers	18:00 CST	St. Thomas
Daylight Saving Time begins			
Sunday	Orthros, Divine Liturgy, and Forgiveness Vespers	09:00 CDT	St. Thomas
Monday	Great Compline	18:00 CDT	Holy Trinity
	<i>The Relationship Project</i>	19:30 CDT	Online
Tuesday	Great Compline	18:00 CDT	St. Thomas
Wednesday	Presanctified Liturgy	18:00 CDT	Holy Trinity
	<i>The Relationship Project</i>	19:30 CDT	Online
Thursday	Great Compline	18:00 CDT	St. Thomas
Friday	Little Compline with Akathist Hymn	18:00 CDT	Holy Trinity
	<i>The Road Back to Christ</i>	19:30 CDT	Holy Trinity
Saturday	Orthros and Divine Liturgy for the Miracle of the Kollyva	08:30 CDT	Holy Trinity
	Great Vespers	18:00 CDT	St. Thomas

We will stream services live and post updates on [our Facebook page](#), on [our Periscope channel](#), and on [our YouTube channel](#).



The Most Rev. Metropolitan JOSEPH,
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

The Right Rev. Bishop BASIL,
Auxiliary Bishop of Wichita and Mid-America

The Rev. Fr. Peter Cox,
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