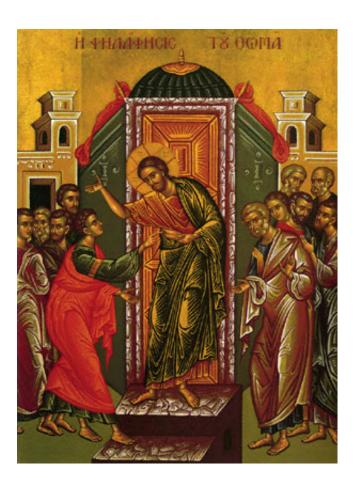


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## Thomas Sunday (Doubting Thomas) the end of the bright Paschal Week

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Today in the Orthodox Church, we commemorate the great miracle of our saviour Christ appearing to st. Apostle Thomas, who failed to believe to the rest of the holy apostles that they have seen our saviour alive.

Thomas wanted said that he won't belief if he doesn't touch and see the incorruptable risen body of our saviour Jesus.

Our Lord by his great mercy has appeared once again to the pupils dinnering with them.

Thomas was with the teachers and the door was locked (as the fear of persecution for Christ's testimonial was among the aposltes).

Suddenly our Saviour entered the room where all the pupils were gathered through the locked door (a Glorious miracle inconceivable for our minds).

As the Lord knew about Thomas weak belief and his disbelief in his prophecised Resurrection in the third day, when Christ entered he has addressed Thomas and told him to come forth and see and touch his wounds and see that a spirit has no bones and flesh, (obviously Thomas erroneously thought that the

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resurrection from the death would be in spirit and no physical body will be present (this kind of belief today is also wide-spread inside many heretical christian groups)).

The Lord continued on and told Thomas, "Thomas you have seen and believed, now blessed is those who haven't seen me and believed"!

Here is part of the daily troparion:

Touch my rib with a hand, Thomas, speaks Christ, and come and touch (feel) the scars from the nails. With faith do test it, and be a believer and not a non-believer. Thomas has touched with a finger to the Master and loudly shouted:

"You are my Lord and my God, most merciful Glory to you!"

This Sunday is also the day marking the end of the bright week of the Resurrection.

Let we all the Orthodox Christians be a believers as Thomas and be blessed in accordance to our saviour's word, as we haven't seen the Lord's Risen glorified body as Thomas and the rest of the holy apostles did.

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