

**FESTAL ORTHROS ON OCTOBER 06**  
**THOMAS THE APOSTLE; INNOCENT, APOSTLE TO THE AMERICAS**

VENERABLE KENDEAS OF CYPRUS; VENERABLE-MARTYR MAKARIOS OF ST. ANNE SKETE ON ATHOS

Priest: Blessed is our God always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

People: Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (THRICE)  
*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

All-holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins. Master, pardon our iniquities. Holy God, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Priest: For Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. (Choir continues.)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will wast lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O Champion dread, who cannot be put to confusion, despise not our petitions, O Good and All-praised Theotokos; establish the way of the Orthodox; save those who have been called upon to govern us, leading us to that victory which is from heaven, for thou art she who gavest birth to God, and alone art blessed.

LITANY

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: Again we pray for all pious and Orthodox Christians.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: Again we pray for our father and Metropolitan PHILIP, for our Archbishop JOSEPH, and for all our Brotherhood in Christ.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Priest: For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen. Bless, Father, in the Name of the Lord.

Priest: Glory to the Holy, Consubstantial, Life-giving and Undivided Trinity, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will toward men. (THRICE)

O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. (TWICE)

### PSALM 3

O Lord, why are they multiplied that afflict me? Many rise up against me. Many say unto my soul: There is no salvation for him in his God. But Thou, O Lord, art my helper, my glory, and the lifter up of my head. I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy mountain. I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that set themselves against me round about. Arise, O Lord, save me, O my God, for Thou hast smitten all who without cause are mine enemies; the teeth of sinners hast Thou broken. Salvation is of the Lord, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

I laid me down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord will help me.

### PSALM 37

O Lord, rebuke me not in Thine anger, nor chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are fastened in me, and Thou hast laid Thy hand heavily upon me. There is no healing in my flesh in the face of Thy wrath; and there is no peace in my bones in the face of my sins. For mine iniquities are risen higher than my head; as a heavy burden have they pressed heavily upon me. My bruises are become noisome and corrupt in the face of my folly. I have been wretched and utterly bowed down until the end; all the day long I went with downcast face. For my loins are filled with mocking, and there is no healing in my flesh. I am afflicted and humbled exceedingly, I have roared from the groaning of my heart. O Lord, before Thee is all my desire, and my groaning is not hid from Thee. My heart is troubled, my strength hath failed me; and the light of mine eyes, even this is not with me. My friends and my neighbors drew nigh over against me and stood, and my nearest of kin stood afar off. And they that sought after my soul used violence; and they that sought evils for me spake vain things, and craftiness all the day long did they meditate. But as for me, like a deaf man I heard them not, and was as a speechless man that openeth not his mouth. And I became as a man that heareth not, and that hath in his mouth no reproofs. For in Thee have I hoped, O Lord; Thou wilt hearken unto me, O Lord my God. For I said: Let never mine enemies rejoice over me; yea, when my feet were shaken, those men spake boastful words against me. For I am ready for scourges, and my sorrow is continually before me. For I will declare mine iniquity, and I will take heed concerning my sin. But mine enemies live and are made stronger than I, and they that hated me unjustly are multiplied. They that render me evil for good slandered me, because I pursued goodness. Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

Forsake me not, O Lord my God, depart not from me. Be attentive unto my help, O Lord of my salvation.

PSALM 62

O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn. My soul hath thirsted for Thee; how often hath my flesh longed after Thee in a land barren and untrodden and unwatered. So in the sanctuary have I appeared before Thee to see Thy power and Thy glory, For Thy mercy is better than lives; my lips shall praise Thee. So shall I bless Thee in my life, and in Thy name will I lift up my hands. As with marrow and fatness let my soul be filled, and with lips rejoicing shall my mouth praise Thee. If I remembered Thee on my bed, at the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me. But as for these, in vain have they sought after my soul; they shall go into the nethermost parts of the earth, they shall be surrendered unto the edge of the sword; portions for foxes shall they be. But the king shall be glad in God, everyone shall be praised that sweareth by Him; for the mouth of them is stopped that speak unjust things.

At the dawn I meditated on Thee. For Thou art become my helper; in the shelter of Thy wings will I rejoice. My soul hath cleaved after Thee; Thy right hand hath been quick to help me.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)  
Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

PSALM 87

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication, for filled with evils is my soul, and my life unto Hades hath drawn nigh. I am counted with them that go down into the pit; I am become as a man without help, free among the dead, like the bodies of the slain that sleep in the grave, whom Thou rememberest no more, and they are cut off from Thy hand. They laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness and in the shadow of death. Against me is Thine anger made strong, and all Thy billows hast Thou brought upon me. Thou hast removed my friends afar from me; they have made me an abomination unto themselves. I have been delivered up, and have not come forth; mine eyes are grown weak from poverty. I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, the whole day long; I have stretched out my hands unto Thee. Nay, for the dead wilt Thou work wonders? Or shall physicians raise them up that they may give thanks unto Thee? Nay, shall any in the grave tell of Thy mercy, and of Thy truth in that destruction? Nay, shall Thy wonders be known in that darkness, and Thy righteousness in that land that is forgotten? But as for me, unto Thee, O Lord, have I cried; and in the morning shall my prayer come before Thee. Wherefore, O Lord, dost Thou cast off my soul and turnest Thy face away from me? A poor man am I, and in troubles from my youth; yea, having been exalted, I was humbled and brought to distress. Thy furies have passed upon me, and Thy terrors have sorely troubled me. They came round about me like water, all the day long they compassed me about together. Thou hast removed afar from me friend and neighbor, and mine acquaintances because of my misery.

O Lord God of my salvation, by day have I cried and by night before Thee. Let my prayer come before Thee, bow down Thine ear unto my supplication.

PSALM 102

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all that He hath done for thee, Who is gracious unto all thine iniquities, Who healeth all thine infirmities, Who redeemeth thy life from corruption, Who crowneth thee with mercy and compassion, Who fulfilleth thy desire with good things; thy youth shall be renewed as the eagle's. The Lord performeth deeds of mercy, and executeth judgment for all them that are wronged. He hath made His ways known unto Moses, unto the sons of Israel the things that He hath willed. Compassionate and merciful is the Lord, long-suffering and plenteous in mercy; not unto the end will He be angered; neither unto eternity will He be wroth. Not according to our iniquities hath He dealt with us, neither according to our sins hath He rewarded us. For according to the height of heaven from the earth, the Lord hath made His mercy to prevail over them that fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our iniquities from us. Like as a father hath compassion upon his sons, so hath the Lord had compassion upon them that fear Him; for He knoweth whereof we are made, He hath remembered that we are dust. As for man, his days are as the grass; as a flower of the field, so shall he blossom forth. For when the wind is passed over it, then it shall be gone, and no longer will it know the place thereof. But the mercy of the Lord is from eternity, even unto eternity, upon them that fear Him. And His righteousness is upon sons of sons, upon them that keep His testament and remember His commandments to do them. The Lord in heaven hath prepared His throne, and His kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, all ye His angels, mighty in strength, that perform His word, to hear the voice of His words. Bless the Lord, all ye His hosts, His ministers that do His will. Bless the Lord, all ye His works, in every place of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

In every place of His dominion, bless the Lord, O my soul.

PSALM 142

O Lord, hear my prayer, give ear unto my supplication in Thy truth; hearken unto me in Thy righteousness. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant, for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified. For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath humbled my life down to the earth. He hath sat me in darkness as those that have been long dead, and my spirit within me is become despondent; within me my heart is troubled. I remembered days of old, I meditated on all Thy works, I pondered on the creations of Thy hands. I stretched forth my hands unto Thee; my soul thirsteth after Thee like a waterless land. Quickly hear me, O Lord; my spirit hath fainted away. Turn not Thy face away from me, lest I be like unto them that go down into the pit. Cause me to hear Thy mercy in the morning; for in Thee have I put my hope. Cause me to know, O Lord, the way wherein I should walk; for unto Thee have I lifted up my soul. Rescue me from mine enemies, O Lord; unto Thee have I fled for refuge. Teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God. Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness; for Thy name's sake, O Lord, shalt Thou quicken me. In Thy righteousness shalt Thou bring my soul out of affliction, and in Thy mercy shalt Thou utterly destroy mine enemies. And Thou shalt cut off all them that afflict my soul, for I am Thy servant.

O Lord, give ear unto my supplication and enter not into judgment with Thy servant. (TWICE)  
Thy good Spirit shall lead me in the land of uprightness.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Glory to Thee, O God. (THRICE)  
O our God and our Hope, glory to Thee!*

## THE GREAT LITANY

- Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For the peace from above, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For the peace of the whole world, for the good estate of the Holy Churches of God, and for the union of all men, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For this Holy House, and for those who with faith, reverence, and fear of God, enter therein, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For our father and Metropolitan PHILIP, for our Archbishop JOSEPH, for the venerable Priesthood, the Diaconate in Christ, for all the clergy and the people, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: (In the United States) For the President of the United States, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.  
(In Canada) For Her Majesty, the Queen, for the Prime Minister of Canada, for all civil authorities, and for our Armed Forces everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: That He will aid them and grant them victory over every enemy and adversary, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For this city, and for every city and land, and for the faithful who dwell therein, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For healthful seasons, for abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For travelers by sea, by land, and by air; for the sick and the suffering; for captives and their salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: For our deliverance from all tribulation, wrath, danger, and necessity, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the Saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For unto Thee are due all glory, honor, and worship: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

### “GOD IS THE LORD” IN TONE THREE

Choir: God is the Lord Who hath shown us light. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

*Verse 1.* O give thanks unto the Lord and call upon His Holy Name. (*Refrain*)

*Verse 2.* All nations compassed me about: but in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them. (*Refrain*)

*Verse 3.* This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. (*Refrain*)

### APOLYTIKION OF ST. THOMAS IN TONE THREE

O holy Apostle Thomas, intercede with our merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

### APOLYTIKION OF ST. INNOCENT IN TONE FOUR

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

O Holy Father Innocent, in obedience to the will of God, thou didst accept dangers and tribulations, bringing many peoples to the knowledge of truth. Thou didst show us the way; now by thy prayers help lead us into the Kingdom of Heaven.

### THEOTOKION IN TONE FOUR

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

The Mystery which was hidden from everlasting and was unknown of the angels, O Theotokos, wast revealed through thee, to those who dwell upon earth. In that God, having become incarnate—in unconfused union—of His own good will accepted the Cross for our sake. Whereby He raised again the first created, and hath saved our souls from death.

### THE LITTLE LITANY

Deacon: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.

Choir: To Thee, O Lord.

Priest: For Thine is the majesty, and Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

### KATHISMATA OF THE COMMEMORATIONS (Plain Reading)

#### First Kathisma for St. Innocent

Taught as a child the wisdom of the world, O Innocent, thy teaching of a childlike People of America began by building with thy hands a temple to the Lord, then lifting up their hearts, their minds and their reasoning to worship One True God in the Trinity.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

In a temple built with his own hands, Innocent gathered a simple flock, that by hearing the Preaching of Christ, the Son of God, and about His loving Father Who sent Him into the world to deliver our race from the bonds of hell, and sanctify us by water and His Spirit, they might become a living temple of God the Word, and in their own tongue lift their hearts to Him.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O most-holy Virgin, whose arms held our Creator in the flesh, stretch now thine arms in supplication that He may deliver from temptations, passions and distress all of us who sing in faith and love: Glory to Him Who took abode in thee! Glory to Him Who came to us from thee! Glory to Him Who by being born of thee redeemed us from the curse of death!

#### Second Kathisma for St. Thomas

Let us all praise with hymns on his holy memory Thomas, the fervent Apostle and wise disciple of Christ; for in God-befitting manner, he confirmed our minds and made them steadfast in the Lord, when in seeking certain faith he handled the prints the nails left; and he unceasingly pleadeth with God to show His mercy on our souls.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Ever earnestly plead with our God and Sovereign Lord, Who was incarnate of thee for us, who were ruined through sin; intercede with Him to show compassion to us all and turn away His wrath from us who extol thee ceaselessly and honor thee with sincere faith, O hallowed Lady, while praising thy great dominion and thy sovereignty.

#### Third Kathisma for St. Innocent

Peoples across the Northern lands, rejoice today and exalt thy wise pastor and enlightener, through whose vigilance and ready word the demonic darkness was made to flee as thou wast led to the Kingdom of Light and Grace. All of America, now join our celebration, remembering the Apostle to our Holy Faith, as we ask Christ through the prayers of our Holy Father Innocent to grant us forgiveness and Great Mercy for our souls.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O spotless Bride of our Creator, O pure Mother of the Redeemer, O Sure Helper and Comforter of those in distress, hear the petitions of us thine unworthy servants, and through thy prayers and those of our Holy Father Innocent, hasten to deliver us from the snares of the evil one. Drive far from us the darkness of ignorance. Grant to us the knowledge of all things good, and lead us into the eternal Kingdom of light and grace prepared for us on High by thy Son our God.

#### FESTAL ANABATHMOI IN TONE FOUR

- + From my youth up many passions have warred against me. But do Thou help and save me, O my Savior. (REPEAT)
- + Ye who hate Zion shall be put to confusion of the Lord; like grass in the fire shall ye be withered up. (REPEAT)
- + *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*
- + Through the Holy Spirit is every soul quickened and exalted in purity, and made resplendent by the Triune Unity in mystic holiness.
- + *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*
- + Through the Holy Spirit the channels and streams of grace overflow showering all creation with invigorating Life.

#### PROKEIMENON FOR ST. INNOCENT IN TONE FOUR

The steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord. (TWICE)

*Stichos: The Lord knows the way of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever.*

The steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord.

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: For Holy art Thou, O our God, Who retest in the Holy Place, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. (TWICE)

*Praise ye God in His saints; praise Him in the firm foundation of His power.*

Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

#### THE FESTAL ORTHROS GOSPEL (For St. Innocent)

Deacon: And that we may be accounted worthy to hear the Holy Gospel, let us pray to the Lord God.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (THRICE)

Deacon: Wisdom! Attend! Let us hear the Holy Gospel.

Priest: Peace be to all.

Choir: And to thy spirit.

Priest: The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint John (10:1-9).

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: The Lord said: “Truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. Then Jesus said to them again, “Truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”

Choir: Glory to Thee, O Lord, glory to Thee.

#### PSALM 50

Reader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy Great Mercy; and according to the multitude of Thy compassions blot out my transgression. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know mine iniquity, and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned and done this evil before Thee, that Thou mightest be justified in Thy words, and prevail when Thou art judged. For behold, I was conceived in iniquities, and in sins did my mother bear me. For behold, Thou hast loved truth; the hidden and secret things of Thy wisdom hast Thou made manifest unto me. Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be made clean; Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me to hear joy and gladness; the bones that be humbled, they shall rejoice. Turn Thy face away from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and with Thy governing Spirit establish me. I shall teach transgressors Thy ways, and the ungodly shall turn back unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou God of my salvation; my tongue shall rejoice in Thy righteousness. O Lord, Thou shalt open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Thy praise. For if Thou hadst desired sacrifice, I had given it; with whole-burnt offerings Thou shalt not be pleased. A sacrifice unto God is a broken spirit; a heart that is broken and humbled God will not despise. Do good, O Lord, in Thy good pleasure unto Zion, and let the walls of Jerusalem be build up. Then shalt Thou be pleased with a sacrifice of righteousness, with oblation and whole-burnt offerings. Then shall they offer bullocks upon Thine altar.

#### FESTAL TROPARIA AFTER PSALM 50 IN TONE TWO

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

Through the intercessions of Thine Apostles, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out all the multitudes of our transgressions.

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Thou Who art merciful, blot out all the multitudes of our transgressions.

(TONE SIX—FOR ST. INNOCENT) *Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy loving-kindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.*

O Sower of the good seed of faith, and Enlightener of Peoples across the North, we exalt thee, O Holy Father Innocent, as the Wise Apostle of our land, a beacon of godliness and true piety, a model of humility and self-denial, an example of missionary zeal and charity. O Chief Architect of the Orthodox Church in America, pray for the flock thou didst gather throughout the world, who in faith and love celebrate thy memory.

#### THE INTERCESSION

Deacon: O God, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance. Visit Thy world with mercies and bounties. Exalt the estate of Orthodox Christians, and send down upon us Thy rich mercies. Through the intercessions of our all-immaculate Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary; by the protection of the honorable bodiless Powers of heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious prophet, forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious, all-laudable apostles Peter and Paul, and of all the holy apostles; of our fathers among the saints, great hierarchs and ecumenical teachers, Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom; of our fathers among the saints, Athanasios, Cyril and John the Merciful, patriarchs of Alexandria; Nicholas of Myra, Spyridon of Trimythous and Nektarios of Pentapolis, the Wonderworkers; Nicholai of Zhicha, who labored in America, Innocent, Evangelizer of Alaska and Enlightener of North America—whose memory we now celebrate—John, Wonderworker of Shanghai and San Francisco, and Raphael, bishop of Brooklyn; of the holy, glorious, great-martyrs, George the Trophy-bearer, Demetrios the Myrrh-streamer, Theodore the Soldier, Theodore the General, and Menas the Wonderworker; of the hieromartyrs Ignatios the God-bearer of Antioch, Charalampos and Eleutherios, Tikhon, patriarch of Moscow and Enlightener of North America, and Juvenaly of Iliamna; of the holy, glorious great women martyrs, Thekla, Barbara, Anastasia, Katherine, Kyriaki, Photini, Marina, Paraskeva and Irene; of the holy, glorious, right-victorious martyrs, especially Peter the Aleut; of our venerable and God-bearing fathers who shone in the ascetic life, Anthony the Great, Seraphim of Sarov, and Herman of Alaska; (*of Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community;*) of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostle Thomas, called “The Twin”; Venerable Kendeas of Cyprus; and Venerable-martyr Makarios of St. Anne Skete on Athos, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: we beseech Thee, O most merciful Lord, hearken unto the petitions of us sinners who make our supplications unto Thee, and have mercy upon us.

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (*Twelve times*)

Priest: Through the mercies and compassions and love for mankind of Thine Only-begotten Son, with Whom Thou art blessed, together with Thine all-holy, and good, and life-giving Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

- *Note: Use the Kontakion/Oikos applicable to the patron saint of your parish. If your parish is named after neither, use the Kontakion/Oikos for St. Thomas.*

#### KONTAKION AND OIKOS FOR ST. THOMAS (Plain Reading)

Christ’s Apostle, who was filled with God’s divine grace, he who was His genuine and faithful servant in all truth, all-lauded Thomas exclaimed aloud in deep repentance: Thou art both my Lord and God.

Unto Thomas, Christ's disciple, the initiate great and elect, the God-proclaimer, did Peter cry out: We have seen the Lord. But Thomas said: Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and touch His side, I will not believe. But the Creator and Master of all came as a servant, wishing to save all men, and said unto Thomas: Touch the prints in My hands and My side, and do not disbelieve; for I am the Lord thy God. And in repentance Thomas exclaimed: Thou art both my Lord and God.

**KONTAKION AND OIKOS FOR ST. INNOCENT (Plain Reading)**

Thy life is a true celebration of the Providence and Grace of God, O Holy Father Innocent, the Apostle to our land. For in hardships and toiling for the Gospel's sake, thou wast preserved unharmed and often delivered, while from obscurity thou wast highly exalted as an example to the faithful everywhere that the Lord truly guides a man in the way he should go.

Examining the chronicle of thy holy life, the marvelous deeds which fill it—thy birth in poverty deep in Siberia, thy coming in obedience in Alaska, thine elevation while in grief to its episcopal throne, thy building of churches across two continents, and thine election in ripe old age to the great see of a third—who can still fail to comprehend the profound truth of the saying that “The Lord guides a man in the way he should go”?

**THE SYNAXARION (Plain Reading)**

On October 6 in the Holy Orthodox Church we commemorate the holy Apostle Thomas.

*Verses*

Thomas, who sought to thrust his hand in Thy side,  
Is now pierced in his side for Thy sake, O Word.  
On the sixth with long spears they undid Didymus.

Thomas was also called “The Twin”, one of the original Twelve Apostles. Through his doubt in the Resurrection of Christ the Lord, a new proof was given of that wonderful and saving event. The Lord said to Thomas: Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas replied: My Lord and my God (John 20:27-28). After the descent of the Holy Spirit, when the apostles cast lots to see where they would each go to preach, the lot fell to Thomas to go to India. Thomas converted many to the Christian Faith, and established the Church there, appointing priests and bishops. Before his martyric death, he and the other apostles were miraculously brought to Jerusalem for the burial of the Most-holy Theotokos. Arriving too late, he wept bitterly, and the tomb of the Holy Most-pure One was opened at his request. The Theotokos' body was not found in the tomb: the Lord had taken His Mother to His heavenly habitation. Thus, in his tardiness Thomas revealed to us the wondrous glorification of the Mother of God, just as he had once confirmed faith in the Resurrection of the Lord by his unbelief.

On this day, we also commemorate Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow, Enlightener of the Aleuts and Apostle to America (in the world John Popov-Veniaminov). He was born in 1797 in the village of Anginsk in the Irkutsk diocese, into the family of a sacristan. The boy mastered his studies at an early age and by age seven he was reading the Epistle in church. In 1806 they sent him to the Irkutsk seminary. The missionary service of the future Apostle of America and Siberia began with the year 1823. Father John spent 45 years laboring for the enlightenment of the peoples of Kamchatka, the Aleutian Islands, North America, Yakutsk, the Khabarov frontier, performing his apostolic exploit in severe conditions and at great risks to life. Innocent baptized ten thousand people, built churches, taught the fundamentals of the Christian life and translated

the holy services into the native tongues of the various lands he served. In 1840, after the death of his wife, Father John was tonsured a monk with the name Innocent by St. Philaret, the Metropolitan of Moscow, in honor of St. Innocent of Irkutsk. Archimandrite Innocent was consecrated Bishop of Kamchatka, the Kurile and Aleutian Islands. In 1868, Innocent succeeded Metropolitan Philaret on the Moscow cathedra. He fell asleep in the Lord in 1879, on Holy Saturday, and on October 6, 1977, St. Innocent was glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church.

On October 6, we also commemorate Venerable Kendeas of Cyprus; and Venerable-martyr Makarios of St. Anne Skete on Athos. By their intercessions, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

#### THE KATAVASIAS OF THE AKATHIST CANON IN TONE FOUR

**Ode 1.** I shall open my mouth and it will be filled with the Spirit; and I shall speak forth to the Queen and Mother. I shall be seen joyfully singing her praises, and I shall delight to sing of her wonders.

**Ode 3.** As a living and copious fountain, O Theotokos, do thou strengthen those who hymn thy praises, and are joined together in spiritual company for thy service; and in thy divine glory make them worthy of crowns of glory.

**Ode 4.** He Who sits in clouds of glory upon the throne of the Godhead, Jesus the most high God, came with mighty hand and saved those who cried out unto Him: Glory to Thy power, O Christ.

**Ode 5.** All creation was amazed at thy divine glory, for thou, O unwedded Virgin, didst hold in thee the God of all, and didst bear the Eternal Son, Who rewards with salvation all those who hymn thy praises.

**Ode 6.** As we the Godly-minded, celebrate this divine and all-honorable feast of the Mother of God: come, let us clap our hands together and glorify the God Whom she bore.

**Ode 7.** The Godly-minded children worshipped not the creature rather than the Creator, but trampling upon the threat of fire in manly fashion, they rejoiced and sang: O All-praised Lord and God of our Fathers, blessed art Thou.

*We praise, we bless, and we worship the Lord.*

**Ode 8.** The three holy children in the furnace the Child of the Theotokos saved; then was the type, now is its fulfillment, and the whole world gathers to sing: All ye works praise the Lord and magnify Him unto all ages.

Deacon: The Theotokos and Mother of the Light let us honor and magnify in song.

#### MAGNIFICATIONS IN TONE FOUR

Choir: My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

*Refrain:* More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, thou who without corruption barest God the Word, and art truly Theotokos, we magnify thee. (*Repeat after each Verse.*)

+ For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. (*Refrain*)

+ For He that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His Name; and His mercy is on them that fear Him, throughout all generations. (*Refrain*)

+ He hath showed strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. (*Refrain*)

- + He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the empty with good things, and the rich hath He sent empty away. (*Refrain*)
- + He remembering His mercy hath helped His servant Israel, as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever. (*Refrain*)

**Ode 9.** Let all the earth-born mortals rejoice in the Spirit, bearing their lamps. And let the nature of bodiless Minds celebrate with honor the holy festival of the Mother of God, and cry out: Hail! All-blessed, pure, and ever-virgin Theotokos!

#### THE LITTLE LITANY

- Deacon: Again and again, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: Help us; save us; have mercy on us; and keep us, O God, by Thy grace.
- Choir: Lord, have mercy.
- Deacon: Calling to remembrance our all-holy, immaculate, most-blessed and glorious Lady Theotokos and ever-virgin Mary, with all the saints: let us commend ourselves and each other, and all our life unto Christ our God.
- Choir: To Thee, O Lord.
- Priest: For all the powers of heaven praise Thee, and unto Thee do we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages.
- Choir: Amen.

#### THE EXAPOSTEILARIA FOR ST. THOMAS IN TONE TWO

(\*\**Hearken, ye women*\*\*)

Apostle and eye-witness of Christ God, the all-compassionate, give lasting peace to the whole world; and to the Christ-loving people grant victory over enemies. And as we laud thee as the Lord's disciple speaking things divine, O Thomas, ask our salvation and that our failings be pardoned.

Christ God, the great majestic Sun, to India doth send thee forth, a ray of manifold brightness, that thou shouldst mightily drive off all gloomy error from the land, enlightening peoples to adore the Holy Trinity, by Whom we all are guarded, O Thomas, thou wise Apostle and teacher.

#### THE EXAPOSTEILARION FOR ST. INNOCENT IN TONE TWO

Today, we the faithful gather to celebrate in joy the memory of our Holy Enlightener, through whom to many peoples languishing in darkness, there dawned salvation's radiant light. O Innocent, wise Apostle of our land, confirm in thy flock the true faith in Christ and guard our lives in peace.

#### THE THEOTOKION FOR ST. INNOCENT IN TONE TWO

Great and most glorious is the mystery of the manner in which thou didst give birth, O Virgin and Mother of God, the Source of thy joy: Of whom the prophets foretold, of whom the apostles preached, to whom the martyrs bore witness, of whom the angels boast, and whom all mankind rightly magnifies.

## AINOI (PRAISES) IN TONE TWO

Choir: Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise Him in the heights. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

Choir: Praise ye Him, all His angels: praise ye Him, all His hosts. To Thee, O God, is due our song.

For St. Thomas in Tone Two

*Verse 1. This glory shall be to all His saints.*

Thou didst follow Christ, O Apostle Thomas, and didst disdain the world; and having hidden His teachings in thy treasury, thou wast shown forth as an Apostle. Wherefore, thou wentest among the heathen, and with the commandments of the Savior thou didst enlighten their souls, which were benighted by error and the passions, that they might believe in the consubstantial Trinity.

*Verse 2. Praise the Lord in His sanctuary. Praise ye Him in the firmament of His power.*

Thou didst follow Christ, O Apostle Thomas ... *(repeat above)*

Also for St. Thomas in Tone Four

*Verse 3. Praise ye Him for His mighty acts. Praise ye Him according to the multitude of His greatness.*

Illumined in soul with the divine fire of knowledge, O Apostle Thomas, as a lawful disciple thou becamest an imitator of the Master in all things. For with the fishing rod of the Cross thou caughtest the souls of the pious, and drewest them out of the abyss of ignorance; wherefore, with the hook of the Divine Spirit thou didst also catch the darkened minds of the Hindus. Ever beseech Christ God that we also be rescued from the gloomy countenance of the enemy, and that our souls be saved.

*Verse 4. Praise Him with the sound of trumpet. Praise Him with the psaltery and harp.*

Foresaking the fishing of the deep, thou rannest with faith to the fishing rod of the Cross, with which thou caughtest all men, O Apostle Thomas. Therefore, thou wast deemed worthy both to touch the immaculate side of the Word with thy hand, and to inspect with thy finger the wounds of the piercing nails. Ever intercede fervently with Christ God that our souls be saved.

For St. Innocent in Tone Four

*Verse 5. Praise Him with the timbrel and dance; praise Him with stringed instruments and organs.*

How wonderful, the psalmist declares, is the coming of the messengers who carry the good news of salvation throughout the world. In obedience to the Lord's command that His disciples forget themselves and bear His Cross, thou, O Innocent, didst forsake the comforts of thy native land to journey in danger to distant shores and enlighten the peoples there in the Name of the Holy Trinity, to bring light and life to those dead in darkness. Thereby, thou didst earn for thyself a good reward from the Master Who promised that those who leave all and follow Him will receive eternal life in the age to come.

*Verse 6. Praise Him upon the loud cymbals: praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.*

Grace as a flood from heaven covered our land when thou didst appear in answer to a truly apostolic call to a country whose people thou madest thine own. Enduring great dangers in wilds and on the seas, hunger and thirst, work and toil, like the great Apostles to the Gentiles thou didst

labor for the sake of the Son of the Living God. Therefore, we rightly honor thee, O Innocent, through whom the Light has dawned on us.

*Verse 7. The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.*

Like the beloved Apostle of Christ, whose name thou didst bear from thy mother's womb, until thy birth to the monastic life, thy voice didst thunder across the wilderness proclaiming to untaught peoples that the Word Who was in the beginning came in the flesh to save mankind, and will surely come again in judgment, Christ, the Son of the Living God didst send thee, O Innocent, to our land that light might dawn on it.

*Verse 8. The Lord knows the way of the upright, and their inheritance shall be forever.*

As a faithful servant of the Master, thou, O Holy Innocent didst labor in all humility. Thou didst wander from place to place like the Apostles, a spectacle to the world. Thy hunger for righteousness fed thy flock; thy thirst for the Kingdom led a siege on it. In all things thou didst endure and bless, teaching the churches everywhere, bringing Good News to the New World. Therefore, we exalt thee as our Father in Christ. Pray that we may follow the example that thou didst leave for us.

- *Note: Use the Doxasticon applicable to the patron saint of your parish. If your parish is named after neither, use the Doxasticon for St. Thomas.*

#### THE DOXASTICON OF ST. THOMAS IN TONE SIX

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

As a seer of divine mysteries, thou hast been mystically revealed to be a noetic wine-bowl of the wisdom of Christ, wherewith the souls of the faithful make merry, O Apostle Thomas; for with the divine net of the Spirit, thou drewest peoples out of the deep of despair. Wherefore, thou didst issue from Zion like a river of grace, flooding the whole creation with thy God-inspired doctrines. Since thou wast pierced in thy side in imitation of the Passion of Christ, and hast entered the dark cloud of incorruptibility, entreat Him that our souls find mercy.

#### THE DOXASTICON OF ST. INNOCENT IN TONE SIX

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

O Holy Apostle Innocent of our land, and venerable hierarch of our Mother Church, pray that thy flocks across three continents may, in peace and tranquility, glorify the Lord Who in His love saved the world from the darkness of godlessness.

#### THE THEOTOKION IN TONE SIX

*Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

O Theotokos, thou art the true vine that hath blossomed forth the Fruit of life. Thee do we supplicate: Intercede, O Lady, together with the Apostles and all the Saints that our souls find mercy.

#### THE GREAT DOXOLOGY IN TONE SIX

- + Glory to Thee, Who hast shown us the Light; Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men.
- + We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee; we give thanks unto Thee for Thy great glory.

- + O Lord, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty; O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.
- + O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, Who takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; O Thou Who takest away the sins of the world.
- + Receive our prayer, O Thou Who sittest at the right hand of the Father, and have mercy on us.
- + For Thou only art holy, Thou only art the Lord, O Jesus Christ, to the Glory of God the Father. Amen.
- + Every day will I bless Thee, and I will praise Thy Name forever; yea, forever and ever.
- + Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our Fathers, and praised and glorified be Thy Name forever. Amen.
- + Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we do put our hope in Thee.
- + Blessed art Thou, O Lord: teach me Thy statutes. (THRICE)
- + Lord, Thou hast been our refuge in all generations. I said: Be merciful unto me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against Thee.
- + Lord, I have fled unto Thee: teach me to do Thy will, for Thou art my God.
- + For with Thee is the fountain of life: in Thy light shall we see light.
- + O continue Thy loving-kindness unto them that know Thee.
- + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us. (THRICE)
- + Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
- + Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.
- + Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.
- + Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal: have mercy on us.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. THOMAS IN TONE THREE

O holy Apostle Thomas, intercede with our merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. INNOCENT IN TONE FOUR

O Holy Father Innocent, in obedience to the will of God, thou didst accept dangers and tribulations, bringing many peoples to the knowledge of truth. Thou didst show us the way; now by thy prayers help lead us into the Kingdom of Heaven.

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