

**Sunday, October 6, 2013**  
**Octoechos Tone 3**  
**Holy and Glorious Apostle Thomas**

**GREAT VESPERS**

**Kathisma reading**

*"Blessed is the man..." is sung.*

**At Psalm 140**

*In Tone 3*

10. By Your Cross, O Christ our Saviour,  
the power of Death has been vanquished  
and the deceit of the devil has been destroyed.  
Therefore, mankind, saved by faith,  
offers You hymns of praise forever.

9. O Lord, all creation has been enlightened by Your resurrection,  
and Paradise has been reopened;  
therefore, all creation extols You  
and offers You hymns of praise forever.

8. I glorify the powers of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;  
and I praise the dominion of the undivided Divinity,  
the consubstantial Trinity,  
Who reigns forever and ever.

7. We adore Your precious Cross, O Christ,  
and with hymns of praise we glorify Your Resurrection;  
for by Your wounds we have all been healed.

*In Tone 4*

6. Your hand probed the side of the Lord,  
finding the perfection of all goodness and joy.  
Like a sponge you have thirsted for the water of life,  
the fount of blessing and everlasting gladness.  
Now you wash away ignorance from the minds of men  
giving us to drink of the knowledge of the Lord.

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giving us to drink of the knowledge of the Lord.

4. By your doubt overcome by faith,  
you have strengthened our faintheartedness.  
You proclaim to all men: behold my Lord and my God!  
He took flesh and came to earth for us, enduring crucifixion and death!  
We take refuge in His side pierced with the lance  
joyfully drawing the water of life from the spring of salvation.

3. By your doubt overcome by faith,  
you have strengthened our faintheartedness.  
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joyfully drawing the water of life from the spring of salvation.

2. Most blessed Thomas,  
for the Godly-minded you are a fountain of divine knowledge:  
you have touched the side of the Master of all:  
an act of boldness taught you that He is two natures in one person.  
You cried out: You are both my Master and my eternal God!  
The Lord of glory who took flesh for my sake.

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*In Tone 6, Glory...*

Apostle Thomas, faithful servant of the Lord,  
witness of His wondrous incarnation,  
you have sounded the depths of divine wisdom  
with the Cross as your staff and measure;  
you have rescued us from the abyss of delusion.  
The net of your teachings has captured many souls:  
enlightening the inhabited earth with the knowledge of God  
radiantly illuminating the Indies.  
Now you delight in the glory of Christ our God:  
pray that He may have mercy on our souls!

*In Tone 3, Now...*

O Lady most honourable,  
how can we but be rapt in wonder  
at you giving birth to the Incarnate God  
who, without a mother, was born of the Father before all ages?  
You gave Him birth in the flesh without a father,  
without a man instrumentality.  
He is God and man whose two natures are intact,  
neither one losing any of its properties.  
Therefore, O Virgin Mother,  
intercede with Him to save the souls  
of those who believe and confess in true faith  
that you are the Mother of God.

***Readings***

1 John 1:1-7; James 1:1-12; Jude 1-7, 17-25

***Aposticha***

*In Tone 3*

O Christ, Who darkened the sun by Your passion  
and enlightened all creation by Your resurrection,  
accept our evening prayer; for You love mankind.

*The Lord reigns, He is clothed in majesty. Robed is the Lord, and girt about with strength.*

O Lord, Your life-giving Resurrection has enlightened the entire universe  
and has revived Your creation which lay in corruption.  
Therefore, we, who have been released from the curse of Adam, cry out to You:  
Almighty Lord, glory to You!

*For He has made the world firm, which shall not be moved.*

O God, although in Your divine nature You are unchangeable,  
yet in Your human nature You underwent change by suffering in the flesh.  
All creation was prostrate with fear  
when it saw You hanging on the Cross,  
and it groaned in sorrow as it sang the praises of Your long-suffering.  
But You descended into Hades and arose on the third day,  
granting life and great mercy to the world.

*Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, for length of days.*

You suffered death, O Christ, to deliver mankind from death.  
And when You arose from the dead on the third day,  
You enlightened the world  
and resurrected all who acknowledge You as God.

*In Tone 6, Glory...*

You gazed on the divine mysteries of Christ, Apostle Thomas,  
and mystically you have been declared to be a spiritual mixing bowl,  
in which the souls of believers rejoice;  
for with the divine net of the Spirit  
you drew peoples from the deep of ignorance;  
therefore you came from Sion as a river of grace,  
welling up with your inspired doctrines into the whole creation.  
And so, imitating the passion of Christ,  
you were pierced in the side and entered the darkness of incorruption;  
implore Him to have mercy on our souls.

*Now...*

Christ the Lord, our Creator and Redeemer,  
came forth from your womb, O most pure Virgin.  
He clothed Himself in our human flesh  
to set us free from the original curse of Adam.  
Therefore, O Mary, we praise you, without ceasing,  
as the true Virgin Mother of God,  
and we sing with the angels:  
Rejoice, O Lady, advocate, protector, and salvation of our souls.

## Troparia

*In Tone 3*

Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,\* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.\* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;\* He saved us from the abyss of Hades\* and granted great mercy to the world.

*In Tone 2, Glory...*

O disciple of Christ and member of the apostolic council,\* your lack of faith proclaimed Christ's resurrection,\* and your touch confirmed His holy passion.\* O Thomas, worthy of all praise,\* pray even now that He grant us peace and great mercy.

*Now...*

O Mother of God, the mysteries which surround you are exceedingly glorious,\* and beyond the power of understanding.\* For you retained the seal of purity,\* and your virginity remained

inviolate;\* yet you are acknowledged, without doubt,\* to be the Mother who gave birth to the true God.\* We beg you, therefore, to entreat Him to save our souls

## DIVINE LITURGY

### ***Troparia and Kontakia***

*Troparion, Tone 3:* Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice,\* for the Lord has done a mighty deed with His arm.\* He trampled death by death. He became the first-born of the dead;\* He saved us from the abyss of Hades\* and granted great mercy to the world.

*Troparion, Tone 2:* O disciple of Christ and member of the apostolic council,\* your lack of faith proclaimed Christ's resurrection,\* and your touch confirmed His holy passion.\* O Thomas, worthy of all praise,\* pray even now that He grant us peace and great mercy.

*Kontakion, Tone 3:* You rose from the tomb, O compassionate Lord,\* and led us out from the gates of death.\* Today Adam exults and Eve rejoices,\* and the prophets together with the patriarchs\* unceasingly acclaim the divine might of Your power.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

*Kontakion, Tone 4:* Filled with the grace of wisdom,\* Your apostle and genuine servant, O Christ,\* cried out to You in his change of heart: You are my God and Lord.

Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

*Theotokion, Tone 4:* By your birth, O immaculate one,\* Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness,\* and Adam and Eve\* from the corruption of death.\* And your people, redeemed from the guilt of their sins,\* celebrate as they cry out to you: "The barren one gives birth to the Mother of God\* and nourisher of our life."

### ***Prokeimenon, Tone 3***

Sing to our God, sing; sing to our King, sing.

*verse:* Clap your hands, all you nations; shout unto God with the voice of joy. (Psalm 46:7,2)

### ***Prokeimenon, Tone 8***

Their utterance has gone forth into all the earth, and their word unto the ends of the world.  
(Psalm 18:5)

### ***Epistle***

Galatians 1:11-19; 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

### ***Alleluia, Tone 3***

*verse:* In You, O Lord, have I hoped that I may not be put to shame for ever.

*verse:* Be a protector unto me, O God, and a house of refuge to save me. (Psalm 30:2,3)

*verse:* The heavens shall confess our wonders, O Lord, and Your truth in the church of the saints.

*verse:* God is glorified in the assembly of the saints. (Psalm 88:6,8)

***Gospel***

Luke 7:11-16; John 20:19-31

***Communion Hymn***

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest. (Psalm 148:1)\* Their utterance has gone forth into all the earth,\* and their word unto the ends of the world.\* Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia. (Psalm 18:5)