

St. George the Great Martyr Eastern Orthodox Church, Hesperia, California

Diocese of the West, Orthodox Church in America

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**Afterfeast of the Dormition
Apostle Thaddaeus of the Seventy
10th Sunday after Pentecost, August 21st**

Tone 1: Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding thy most pure body, thou rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven, therefore, cried to thee, O giver of life: Glory to thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to thy Kingdom. Glory to thy dispensation, O lover of mankind.

Tone 1: Troparion *(Afterfeast)*

In giving birth thou preserved thy virginity. In falling asleep thou did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. Thou were translated to life O Mother of Life, and by thy prayers thou dost deliver our souls from death.

Tone 3: Troparion *(St. Thaddaeus)*

Holy Apostle Thaddeus, entreat the merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of our transgressions.

Troparion to Saint George: You were bound for.... Glory to The Father....

Tone 1: Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

As God, thou rose from the tomb in glory, raising the world with thyself. Human nature praises thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master, Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to thee: Thou are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ.

Tone 4: Kontakion *(St. Thaddaeus)*

The Church sees thee as a shining star, O Apostle Thaddaeus, and is enlightened by thy wonders. Save those who honor thy memory in faith.

Tone 2: Kontakion *(Feast)*

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos, who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions. For being the Mother of Life, she was translated to life by the One who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Kontakion Saint George: God raised thee.... Now and ever....

Tone 1: Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Let thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on thee *(Ps. 32:22)*

V. Rejoice in the Lord, O thou righteous. Praise befits the just. (Ps. 32:1)

Tone 3: Prokeimenon *(Song of the Theotokos)*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit doth rejoice in God my Savior. *(Lk. 1:46-47)*

Epistle: (131) 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

Tone 1: *V. God gives vengeance unto me and subdues people under me. (Ps. 17:48).*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

V. He magnifies the salvation of the king and deals mercifully with David, his anointed, and his seed forever. (Ps. 17:51)

Tone 8: *V. Arise, O Lord, into thy rest, thou and the ark of thy sanctification. (Ps. 131:8)*

Gospel:(72) Matthew 17:14-23

(Instead of "It is truly meet," we sing:)

The Angels, as they looked upon the dormition were struck seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven. The limits of nature are overcome in thee, O Pure Virgin; for birth-giving remains virginal, and life is united to death; a virgin after childbearing and alive after death, thou dost ever save thy inheritance, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymn: Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the highest *(Ps. 148:1)*

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

DOES A CHRISTIAN NEED A STUDY?

Fr. Alexander

We often hear, "I go to church, light a candle, say my prayer, participate in the liturgy, listen to the sermon. Why do I need a study?"

As Christians, we believe that the truth sets people free, but do Christians agree on what freedom is or how far it extends? At weddings, couples vow to love and cherish each other until "death do us part," but how long do these vows last? Does Christ approve of how we see racial matters? Does he allow the use of "occasional recreational marijuana"? What about living with an abusive spouse, and so on?

The answers to such questions rest on spiritual principles. The Bible does not contain a "Thus saith the Lord," on modern issues, neither are these matters left to each person's discretion. We must be able to work with spiritual principles and dissect problems correctly.

The Christian, then, needs to look inside God's words and mighty acts, extract valuable principles, and cherish them as monuments of wisdom. They are like lamps at our feet. They show the way we should live in a constantly changing world. If we do not participate, our Christianity suffers. The early church valued its studies ("continued steadfastly in the teaching of the apostles"), and God "added to the church daily" (Acts 2:42, 47).

Without a study, then, where do we go for the spiritual principles that we need to direct our daily lives?

CHURCH ACTIVITIES IN AUGUST

On August 27th at 10 a.m.

St. George Maintenance Day: those willing to participate, please give thy name to anyone on the parish council. The team will paint and clean the Sunday-school room. Lunch will be served.

Donations for supplies will be appreciated