

May 1

Thursday of Saint Thomas; Commemoration of the Holy Prophet Jeremiah (5th Class)

VESPERS

Stichera for Pascha (Tone 2)

6. Without leaving the bosom of the Father, O Christ, You appeared on earth bearing our flesh in Your infinite mercy, Having suffered death on the Cross, You rose on the third day and although the doors were closed, You entered, being the all-powerful God. Joyfully touching Your life-giving side, Thomas glorified You as his Lord and his God.
5. Nailed to the Cross, You were pierced by a soldier's lance. O Christ, You tasted bitterness and suffered death. You were placed in a tomb and shattered the bonds of Hades, lifting up with You all those who had been dead throughout the ages. And without breaking the locks on the doors, You appeared to Your disciples to confirm their faith in Your Resurrection.
4. O Pascha, the feast we celebrate these days! O mystical Passover, Passover of God, O Pascha of salvation! O Passover through which Christ leads us from death to eternal life! O Pascha, driving away all pain from our hearts! O Passover granting joy to the disciples! O Pascha, you made Thomas cry out: "You have despoiled the Kingdom of Hades! You are truly my Lord and my God!"

For Jeremiah (Tone 8)

3. Lord, before You formed the illustrious prophet Jeremiah in his mother's womb, before he was born, You sanctified him as a prophet, for You foresaw that he would be subject to Your call. In Your goodness and love for mankind, save us through his prayers.
2. Lord, although the wondrous Jeremiah was thrown into the mud of the foul pit, he experienced the sweet fragrance of Paradise, where he continuously dwelt in spirit. In Your goodness and love for mankind, save us through his prayers.
1. Lord, although Your servant Jeremiah sang the Lamentations, he never lost his joy in You; for in truth, his soul was united to You in love, O Christ; and now he rejoices fully and ineffably forever.
- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Dogmatikon (Tone 4)

What a wondrous mystery! Unbelief becomes a deeply committed faith as Thomas says, "Unless I see, I will not believe!" When he had touched Your side, he acknowledged You to be the Son of God, the incarnate Lord, who suffered in the flesh. He proclaimed Your Resurrection from the dead and cried out in the presence of all with a loud voice: "My Lord and my God, glory to You!"

"O Joyful Light..." Prokimenon of Wednesday evening.

APOSTICHA (*Tone 1*)

1. By Your suffering, we have been saved from suffering, O Christ; and by Your Resurrection, we have escaped corruption. O Lord, glory to You!

All: Their voice has gone forth over the whole world, and their words to the limits of the universe.

2. The harp of the Apostles is filled with sweet harmonious music as it is played by the Holy Spirit. It banished the mysteries and worship inspired by demons. As it sang of the one and only Lord, it delivered the people from the error of idolatry, teaching them to bow down in worship before the consubstantial Trinity.

All: God is wonderful among His saints, the God of Israel.

3. O martyrs worthy of all praise, although the earth did not conceal your bodies in burial, Heaven has welcomed you. The gates of Paradise were opened to you, and there you rejoice in the Tree of Life. Intercede with Christ that He grant our souls peace and great mercy!

All: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Dogmatikon (*Tone 4*)

What a wondrous mystery! That grass can touch fire and not be consumed; for Thomas put his hand into the fire of the side of Jesus Christ our God, and he was not consumed in touching Him. He changed his doubt into the fervor of faith, and shouted from the depth of his heart, "O Master who are risen from the dead, You are my God! Glory to You!"

TROPARION OF JEREMIAH (*Tone 2*)

We celebrate the memory of Your prophet Jeremiah, and through him we implore You, O Lord: Save our souls!

OR TROPARION OF JEREMIAH (*Tone 1*)

Consecrated to the Creator from the womb, you were filled with prophetic knowledge from childhood. You wept with compassion over the fall of Israel, O prophet Jeremiah, who suffered death by stoning. Venerating you, we cry aloud: "Glory to Him who inspired you! Glory to Him whom you served! Glory to Him who raised you to the fullness of His Light!"

- v. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

TROPARION OF THOMAS (*Tone 7*)

While the tomb was sealed, You shone forth from it, O Christ our Life; and while the doors remained closed, You stood among Your Disciples, O Resurrection of all; and through them You restored a new spirit in us according to Your great mercy.