

Thomas is most known for his role in the Gospel of John, which earned him the moniker “Doubting Thomas.” And while the nickname is often used as a critique of his lack of faith, the reality is that he wasn’t the only one who had doubts about Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. According to Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the other disciples doubted the resurrection, too: “When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.” —Luke 24:9-11 Unfortunately for Thomas, he’s the only one the church labeled a “doubter,” thanks to the account in the Gospel of John. The Anchor Yale Bible Dictionary suggests John focused on Thomas to illustrate the doubt all the disciples shared: “Thomas has been chosen from among the Twelve to dramatize the disbelief of the group. The refusal of the disciples to believe the testimony of those who had seen the risen Lord is a common feature of the gospel tradition; the fourth Evangelist alone has chosen Thomas to represent and symbolize this doubt.” But even if Thomas was the only apostle who doubted the resurrection, there’s little reason for Christians to wield doubt as some sort of insult. Even though Jesus repeatedly revealed his plans to the disciples, they never understood the cross and resurrection until after the fact. And as Jewish men, the apostles had no reason to believe the Messiah would rise from the dead. Jesus’ resurrection defied everything the apostles understood and believed about the Messiah—and death—since they were children. It flew in the face of their tradition. And despite everything the apostles saw and heard that proved Jesus was unlike anyone who ever lived, he died just like everyone else. So it’s no wonder Thomas—and Jesus’ other followers—doubted the resurrection until they saw the evidence for themselves. And Jesus’ willingness to engage Thomas in the midst of his doubts encourages Christians today to bring their doubts to him, too. It’s important to recognize that in Jesus’ response to Thomas, he recognized how much harder it would be for those who had never seen his miracles to believe.



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Anyone wishing to be a member of the parish, contact Fr. Andriy

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# Our Weekly Bulletin

## Welcome to our Parish

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

### Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week

|                       |                             |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Sunday, Apr 7</b>  | Thomas Sunday               |   |
| <b>Apr 8</b>          | No Liturgy                  |   |
| <b>Apr 9</b>          | No Liturgy                  |   |
| <b>Apr 10</b>         | No Liturgy                  |   |
| <b>Apr 11</b>         | No Liturgy                  |   |
| <b>Apr 12</b>         | No Liturgy                  |  |
| <b>Apr 13</b>         | No Liturgy                  |   |
| <b>Sunday, Apr 14</b> | Sunday of the Myrrh-bearers | ✠ Charles Lutak<br>from Marlene Bernat  |

*If you are looking for a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and are looking for a home, you are welcome to be part of our kid friendly family in Christ. You have found your way home.*

## Thomas Sunday

Acts 5:12-20

John 20:19-31

### *Troparion (Tone 7)*

While the tomb was sealed, O Christ God, You dawned as life from the sepulcher, and while the doors were shut, You came to Your disciples, the Resurrection of all, renewing a right spirit in us through them, according to Your great mercy.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and for ever and ever. Amen.

### *Kondakion (Tone 8)*

With his searching hand, Thomas explored Your life-giving side, O Christ God. For when You entered while the doors were shut, he called out to You with the rest of the Apostles: You are my Lord and my God!

### *Prokeimen (Tone 3)*

Great is our Lord and great is His strength; and of His knowledge there is no end.

*verse:* Praise the Lord, for a psalm is good;  
may praise be sweet to our God.

Great is our Lord and great is His strength; and of His knowledge there is no end.

### *Alleluia*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*Verse* Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord,  
let us acclaim God, our Savior.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*Verse* For God is the great Lord  
and the great king over all the earth.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

### *Communion Verse*

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem. Praise your God, O Sion. Alleluia. (3)

**Weekly Collection** - March 31, 2024 - \$1,910.00. Thank you for your generosity.  
Easter - \$1,710.00 Holy Day - \$25.00 Seminary - \$25.00 Misc.- \$85.00 Paska - \$65.00  
**Relief for Ukraine** - Amount collected to date \$6,483.00.

## PARISH NEWS

**Saturdays with Jesus** - Catechism classes will be April 13

Adults class from 10 to 12 and Children 1:30 to 3:00PM

**50th Anniversary** - April 28 will mark the 50th anniversary of the dedication of our current church building. There will be a dinner following the Divine Liturgy.

**Bus Trip to Sight & Sound** - Payments are due: first half by May 5th and remainder by June 2nd

**Vacation Bible School** - July 29 through August 2 for all school age children. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help, please see Fr. Deacon Chris or Edna.

### **Prayer List**

**Parishioners:** Millie & Steve Deskevich, Connie Butkus, Kathy Ott, Sarah Kelt, Gary Maurer, the Lutak family, Jeremiah Hunt, Margaret Reighard.

**Friends of the Parish:** Jennifer Maurer, Breanna Borlie, Tom and Kris, Richard Shonk, Ryder McDermitt, Steve Helsel, Patricia Dragani, Eugene, Sonya Kohan, Kevin Rogers, Darla Tishok, the Williams family, Patty Hunt, Kevin Blem, Linda Kusmierski. *To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.*

