EXCITING NEWS: On January 24th we are starting IN PERSON SUNDAY SCHOOL for our Toddler 2’s - 6th Grade. These classes will be conducted right AFTER Holy Communion, every Sunday, for the remainder of the School Year!! Of course we understand that you may not be ready to return to church quite yet. For that reason we will continue to send out our VIRTUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL lessons every week.

We will not have classes for our 7th - High School students, but we do expect them to attend church in person or virtually, complete the weekly lesson on the Gospel Reading provided by Fr. Stavros, and attend GOYA meetings.

CALENDAR FOR MAY:

Sunday, May 9th: St. Thomas Sunday, May 16th: Saints of the Orthodox Church
It is easy, perhaps, to think less of the Disciple named Thomas. When we hear of him, we often think of the well-known phrase “Doubting Thomas.” We remember the story of how he doubted the other disciples when they told him that Jesus was alive! We wonder what kind of man would doubt the Resurrection of Christ, even after his friends had told him they had actually seen Jesus alive again. We hear him stubbornly saying “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” We forget that just a few chapters earlier in the Gospel of John, it had been Thomas who showed great courage by insisting that all the disciples go with Jesus to Bethany, although it was dangerous for them to do so. John credits Thomas with having said “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” This is a far cry from the more familiar “Unless I see the nail marks... I will not believe.”

What holiday have we just celebrated? (Pascha!)

Jesus died on the cross and been buried in the tomb. That Sunday morning the women found His Tomb was empty! Then Mary Magdalene saw Jesus! Jesus was alive again! Some of the women told the disciples that they had seen Jesus, but the disciples didn’t believe them because “their words seemed to them like nonsense.” Luke 24:11)
Some of the disciples ran to the tomb and also found it empty, but they didn’t know yet what it meant. They had not seen Jesus for themselves.

Later that night when all the disciples (except Thomas) were in a locked room together, Jesus appeared to them Jesus said “Peace be with you.” After this He showed them His hands and His side. The Disciples were overjoyed when they saw Him. The Disciples tried to tell Thomas about it later. Thomas doubted what they said. He said, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

"A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.' Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!' Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed (John 20:26–29).
Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)

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