

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*Icon of the Holy Apostle Thomas -- October 6th*

### *St. Thomas the Apostle*

Poor Thomas! He made one remark and has been branded as “Doubting Thomas” ever since. But if he doubted, he also believed. He made what is certainly the most explicit statement of faith in the New Testament: “My Lord and My God!” (see John 20:24-28) and, in so expressing his faith, gave Christians a prayer that will be said till the end of time. He also occasioned a compliment from Jesus to all later Christians: “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed” (John 20:29).

Thomas should be equally well known for his courage. Perhaps what he said was impetuous – since he ran, like the rest, at the showdown – but he can scarcely have been insincere when he expressed his willingness to die with Jesus. The occasion was when Jesus proposed to go to

Bethany after Lazarus had died. Since Bethany was near Jerusalem, this meant walking into the very midst of His enemies and to almost certain death. Realizing this, Thomas said to the other apostles, “Let us also go to die with him” (John 11:16b).

Thomas shares the lot of Peter the impetuous, James and John, the “sons of thunder,” Philip and his foolish request to see the Father – indeed all the apostles in their weakness and lack of understanding. We must not exaggerate these facts, however, for Christ did not pick worthless men. But their human weakness again points up the fact that holiness is a gift of God, not a human creation; it is given to ordinary men and women with weaknesses; it is God who gradually transforms the weaknesses into the image of Christ, the courageous, trusting and loving one.

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

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**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040**

***Pastoral Care entrusted to:***

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

**Sunday – October 5, 2025**

**Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever + Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки**

**Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies**

**All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM**

**Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>**

<b>Sunday October 5</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b>	(For the Parish) (+Pope Francis from Cynthia Turcek)
<b>Tuesday October 8</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	(Blessings for Ruth Fedack from a Friend)
<b>Thursday October 10</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	(Deceased of the Nagurney-Medwid Family from Irene)
<b>Friday October 11</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b>	(+Cathleen Jacobson from Ruth)
<b>Sunday October 12</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b>	(For the Parish) (+Parents from the Bazarko Family)

**SUNDAY LITURGIES RETURN SUNDAY OCTOBER 5**

**СЛУЖБИ БОЖІ З ДНЕМ 5 ЖОВТНЯ**

**ENGLISH 9:00 AM АНГЛІЙСЬКА**

**UKRAINIAN 11:30 AM УКРАЇНСЬКА**

**FIRST CONFESSION 2026 PREPARATION**

Preparation for First Confession has begun and will last longer than it has in the past. Classes will still be held on Sundays. As is the tradition in our parish, First Confession will be celebrated on Lazarus Saturday (March 28, 2026). If you have children of First Confession age in your family (age 7+), who have not yet received the sacrament, please contact Olya Mulvey at [olya.kroytor@gmail.com](mailto:olya.kroytor@gmail.com) to register or learn more. All children must attend Divine Liturgy with their families on a weekly basis during their preparation. The FALL SEMESTER class schedule is as follows: October 5, October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9, November 16, December 7, December 14.

**PRAYER LIST**

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Robert Dulaine, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Boris Hlynsky, Daniel Horeczko, Oksana Horszynska, Ihor Hulawyj, Nila Iwaskiw, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Irene Nagurney, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Ivanna Richardson, Roman Rusynko, Chris Saboe, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Rose Wilson, Fr. George Worschak, and Paul Yarrish.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.