



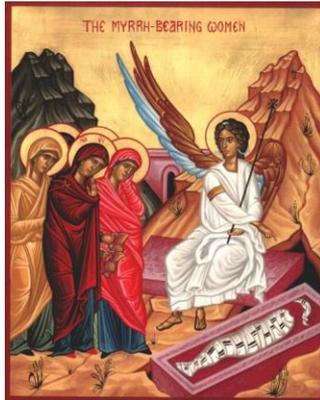
**SAINT  
INNOCENT**

**ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pascha**

**Holy Myrrhbearing Women**

**Ven. Theodosius, Abbot of the Kiev Caves  
Monastery and Founder of Coenobitic  
Monasticism in Rus'**



**7301 Rivoli Road, Macon, GA 31220  
478-994-1648, [www.st-innocent.org](http://www.st-innocent.org)  
Priest Theophan Buck**

## *Troparion and Kontakion*

### **Tone 2            Troparion            (*Resurrection*)**

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out:// “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

### **Tone 2            Troparion            (*from the Pentecostarion*)**

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the Tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. But Thou didst arise on the third day, O Lord,// granting the world great mercy.

### **Tone 2            Troparion            (*from the Pentecostarion*)**

The Angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: “Myrrh is fitting for the dead; but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! So proclaim: “The Lord is risen,// granting the world great mercy.”

### **Tone 2            Kontakion            (*from the Pentecostarion*)**

Thou didst command the Myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ God. By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, the first mother. Thou didst command them to preach to Thine Apostles:// The Savior is risen from the tomb!”

### **Tone 8            Kontakion            (*Pascha*)**

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women,// granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

## *Epistle and Gospel Readings*

### *Epistle: Acts 6:1-7*

<sup>1</sup> Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup> Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; <sup>4</sup> but we will give

ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”<sup>5</sup> And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,<sup>6</sup> whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.<sup>7</sup> Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

### ***Gospel: Mark 15:43-16:8***

<sup>43</sup> Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. <sup>44</sup>Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. <sup>45</sup>So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. <sup>46</sup>Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. <sup>47</sup>And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James observed where He was laid. <sup>1</sup>Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. <sup>2</sup>Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. <sup>3</sup>And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” <sup>4</sup>But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. <sup>5</sup>And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.” <sup>8</sup>So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

### **The Myrrhbearing Women**

“And they said among themselves: “Who shall roll away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?” This was the subject of the Myrrh-bearing Women’s conversation as they climbed up to Golgotha, looking for nothing unexpected. The women’s weak hands were not strong enough to roll the stone away from the tomb’s entrance, for it was very great. Those poor

women! They did not remember that the labour to perform which they were hastening so zealously to the tomb had already been performed during the Lord's earthly life. At Bethany, at supper in the house of Simon the Leper, a woman had poured precious spikenard over Christ's head. The omniscient Lord said at the time about this woman: "In that she hath poured this ointment on My body, she did it for My burial" (Matthew 26:12). He had a clear foreknowledge that His body would, in death, receive no other anointing. You may ask: then why did Providence allow these devout women to be so bitterly disappointed? To buy precious myrrh, to come fearfully through the dark and sleepless night to the tomb and not to perform that loving act for which they had sacrificed so much? But did Providence not reward their efforts in an incomparably richer way, in giving - in place of the dead body - the living Lord?" St. Nikolai Velimirovich, 22. [The Second Sunday After Easter: The Gospel on the Myrrh-Bearing Women, \*Homilies Volume 1: Commentary on the Gospel Readings for Great Feasts and Sundays Throughout the Year\*](#)

## ***Many Years!***

<b><i>Birthdays</i></b>	2	Oliver Hough Quintin Curington
	10	Lee Olson
<b><i>Anniversaries</i></b>	2	Paul & Kimberly Guest

## ***Announcements for Sunday, May 3, 2020:***

- **Virtual Coffee Hour:** We will have a virtual coffee hour at **12:00pm** after the live-streamed Liturgy. Please check email or Realm for details and a link to access via Zoom.
- **Effective Christian Ministry Group:** meets Wednesday evening **7pm** on Zoom.

*We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy this morning.*

There are green service booklets in the entrance area of our Church that will help you follow along with the service if you like. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the cross and receiving the Holy Bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

Please join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall!