

# St. Thomas Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian  
Archdiocese of North America

1100 Jones Street Sioux City, IA 51105  
(712) 258-7166 [www.stthomassiouxcity.org](http://www.stthomassiouxcity.org)

Fr. Lucas Rice, Pastor

Sunday: Matins 9:00 am  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am  
Wednesday: Daily Vespers 6:30 pm  
Saturday: Great Vespers 5:00 pm

Confessions are heard before and after Great Vespers and during Matins.  
Counseling and consultation are available by appointment.

SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT  
(MEATFARE SUNDAY)

**FEBRUARY 19, 2012**

### To Our Visitor's Praying with us Today

Welcome! We hope your time with us is healing and worshipful. For those guests who are not Orthodox, please note that although we have much respect for other Christian traditions, Holy Communion is reserved for properly prepared members of the Orthodox faith. Everyone is invited to partake of the blessed bread at the end of the Liturgy

### Typical Weekly Lenten Schedule

Sundays	9:00am	Sunday Matins and Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
Wednesdays	6:30pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Fridays	6:30pm	Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos
Saturdays	5:00pm	Great Vespers

### Announcements

- ❖ **Photographers Wanted** – Do you have a digital camera? Like to take pictures? We need the following photos emailed to Fr. Lucas for the Website: (1) unposed photos of our people in worship and fellowship; (2) photos of our liturgical services; (3) the baptistry with icon of Theophany; (4) iconostasis – both as a whole and each icon individually; (5) icons along the side wall. Please email to [frlucas@stthomassiouxcity.org](mailto:frlucas@stthomassiouxcity.org).
- ❖ **Home Blessings!** Fr. Lucas will be contacting each household to schedule home blessings. The goal is for *everyone's* home to be blessed before Sun, Feb 26. Please email or call if you would like to request a specific date or time.
- ❖ **Learn how to bake Holy Altar Bread in one easy session!** On Sat, Mar 24 at 9:00am, Barb and Paul Lammers, Carol Borders, Judy Stevens and Cathy Corey will host a class on the Ancient art making *prosphora* (Holy Bread). Sign-up in the Parish Hall today!

### **DID YOU KNOW?** - AKATHIST TO THE THEOTOKOS

An *akathist* is a hymn dedicated to a saint, holy event, or one of the persons of the Holy Trinity. The word *akathist* itself means "not sitting" because in the ancient tradition, there were no times appointed for the faithful to sit. The *akathist par excellence* is the sixth century composition dedicated to the Mother of God. During Great Lent, this hymn is split into four parts each of which has its own theme: the Annunciation, the Nativity, Christ, and the Theotokos herself. All parts of the Akathist are then sung on the fifth Friday evening. Although this service is fixture of Lenten worship, it may be celebrated year-round.

## Epistle

### 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 (Sunday of the Last Judgment)

**B**rethren, food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care, lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you—a man of knowledge—at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.



## Gospel

### Matthew 25:31-46 (Sunday of the Last Judgment)

**T**he Lord said, "When the Son of man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at His right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at His right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave Me food, I was thirsty and you gave Me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed Me, I was naked and you clothed Me, I was sick and you visited Me, I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry and feed Thee, or thirsty and give Thee drink? And when did we see Thee a stranger and welcome Thee, or naked and clothe Thee? And when did we see Thee sick or in prison and visit Thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave Me no food, I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome Me, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see Thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to Thee?' Then He will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to Me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."



## Today

- ❖ **Altar Bread** - Today's altar bread is offered by the Theresa and Jim Muhe.

## Upcoming Services and Events

- ❖ **Adult Education** - This Wednesday after Daily Vespers (6:30 - 7:00pm), we will have the final session of our study on the Prayer of St. Ephraim. The class will be from 7:00-8:00 pm.
- ❖ **Liturgy for the St. Polycarp** - We will celebrate a morning Divine Liturgy for the feast of the St. Polycarp on Thur, Feb 23 at 7:00am.
- ❖ **Forgiveness Vespers** - We will celebrate the service of Forgiveness Vespers on Sun, Feb 26 at 12:30 pm—directly after coffee hour. This early time should allow for fuller participation in this beautiful—and vitally important—service. Please see the schedule below for the rest of Clean Week:

<u>Clean Week Schedule</u>		
Mon, Feb 27	6:30pm	Great Compline with the Great Canon of St. Andrew
Tue, Feb 28	6:30pm	Great Compline with the Great Canon of St. Andrew
Wed, Feb 29	6:30pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Thu, Mar 1	6:30pm	Great Compline with the Great Canon of St. Andrew
Fri, Mar 2	6:30pm	Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos

- ❖ **Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers** - Our brothers and sisters from Holy Trinity Church will join us at our church for the celebration of vespers with the procession of icons and the reading of the *synodikon* (statement of a council of bishops) of the 7th Ecumenical Council on Sun, Mar 11 at 6:00pm.
- ❖ **2012 Lenten Retreat** - On March 18, all of the children, teens, and adults are invited to attend out 2012 Lenten Retreat. See the insert for more details.

## Variable Hymns of the Divine Liturgy

### **Resurrectional Troparion** - Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and became the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

### **Troparion of our Patron, St. Thomas** - Tone 3

O holy Apostle Thomas, intercede with the merciful God that he grant unto our souls, forgiveness of offences.



### **Kontakion of the Sunday of the Last Judgment** - Tone 1

When Thou comest, O God, to earth with glory, and all creatures tremble before Thee, and the river of fire floweth before the Altar, and the books are opened and sins revealed, deliver me then from that unquenchable fire, and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O righteous Judge.



## 2012 LENTEN RETREAT

**SPEAKER: FR. DON HOCK**

with breakout groups for children, teens, and adults.

**WHAT:** A refreshing evening of learning, healing and growth.

**WHERE:** Parish Hall

**WHEN:** Sunday, March 18th, 2012 - 5:00pm - 8:00pm