



WEEKLY THOUGHTS - APRIL 10, 2020

Dearly Beloved,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

The Lord is Risen ! Indeed the Lord is Risen !

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. (John 20:1-10)

Dearly Beloved,

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ !

Emptiness is not that empty always !

The greatest symbol of Easter is the Empty Tomb which stands as the proof of Resurrection. When the women went to tomb of Jesus in the early morning, they could only see the empty space. What if we bury our beloved one and when we visit there on the next day and see it is open?! For the early visitors to Jesus' tomb, it was the assurance that He has Risen and come back to them !

We might feel sad when our hands or wallets become empty, our job gets lost, something expected not happened.... If we look for God's provisions, we would be surprised to see His mighty intervention happens and emptiness turns into blessings !

Let us never go sad over anything. Never feel disappointed over any situation in life. He is the one who created everything out of nothingness. He is capable of creating or recreating what would be good and necessary for us.

We had an empty church this time. What God might had intended of it ?

He had made it for a Real Spiritual Renewal for our homes and families. Never in life we have experienced such an intense feeling of Church worship, this time not at church but at home ! We felt that Christ has been with us all these days. It is from our desire and initiative this experiencing happens. We have realised what a wonderful tradition we have with its worship, hymns, prayers and



ST. GREGORIOS ORTHODOX CHURCH OF TORONTO

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6890 Professional court, Mississauga, Ontario, L4V 1X6, Canada



faith ! Let us be proud of it. Salute to our ancestors who had made everything in such a brilliant way, which for us living in many centuries after, could relate to our current life setting !

May we continue the home church practice on week days and come to church on Sundays with more enthusiasm and dedication ! God has taught us the value of minimalism in everything through this tiny virus. Let us be guarded by His Mercy and Grace. Wish you all a Graceful Easter !

May we sincerely thank:

- Most respected Thirumeni for consenting us to conduct the Holy Week service at Church.
- Beloved Mathew Thomas Achen and Sam Thankachen Achen for their leadership and participation. It was a real blessing for us.
- Parish Management Committee for their support and encouragement.
- The technical support team for live-streaming.
- OCYM for excellently organising the Friday Night Vigil.
- All families who participated in the vigil.
- Altar Servers for their assistance.
- Beloved members for financial support.
- All our beloved members for joining the virtual services, evening prayers and church liturgies.

May the light of resurrection illumine our lives.

Keeping you all in prayer
Yours in Christ
Thomas John Achen

fr.thomaspjohn@gmail.com

+1 (416) 570 5610