GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST! *GLORY FOREVER!*





ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

19 W. Bruce Ave. Gilbert, AZ 85233
Mailing Address: *P.O. Box 667 • Gilbert, AZ 85299-0667*
Office Hours 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM • Monday, Wednesday & Friday
Please give a courtesy call or send an email before coming to the parish to make sure someone is in the office.
Office: (480) 497-6726 • Fax: (480) 907-7819 • Pastor's Email: saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com
If you have a sacramental emergency, dial the office phone and press 2.
PARISH WEBSITE: www.stabcc.org
For parish bulletin and announcements sent by email, contact Kathy Richards: krichard2003@yahoo.com

Served by:
Father Michael Bezruchka, Pastor • Deacon Michael Sullivan

Parish Advisory Board:
Vince Antonios • Danny Forbes • Emma Gilsdorf • Cal Karnya
Cathy McCormick • Charlie Rawlins • Jeff Sims • Liz Zackowski

Sunday Divine Liturgy:
Vigil Vesper Liturgy (Saturday) at 5:00 PM
Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM • Divine Praises at 9:45 AM

Matins/Morning Prayer:
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 7:30-8:30am unless noted otherwise in bulletin.

Holy Mystery of Penance:
Confessions are heard starting one hour before the scheduled Divine Liturgy
is to begin for a total of 30 minutes. Confessions also available by appointment.

Chaldean Catholic Holy Liturgy: Sunday at 6:00 PM

Welcome to St. Thomas the Apostle!

Our parish community welcomes all those visiting with us today. We thank you for joining our community in praising the Lord as we remember His great love and mercy for us. We hope that you will join us again soon and bring a friend. If, per chance, you are looking for a spiritual home based on the Sacred Scriptures, the teaching of the Apostles, the ancient Church Traditions in the context of a liturgical life and fellowship, please consider our parish! Speak with Father Michael or Deacon Michael if you would like more information.

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday July 29
Honor Guard Ceremony 9:30 a.m.
Memorial Divine Liturgy
with Panahida for +Peter Broznak 10:00 a.m.
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention - Fr. Michael and Betty Kirila by Peter and Anna Broznak

8th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday July 30 Tone 7
Holy Apostles Silas and Silvanus and Their Companions
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 14:14-22.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday July 31
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Little Blessing of Water
Tuesday August 1
Procession of the Wood of the Venerable and Life-creating Cross
Divine Liturgy with Little Blessing of Water 7:00 p.m.
1 Corinthians 12:12-26; *for the Procession of the Cross:* 1 Corinthians 1:18-24; *for the Holy Martyrs:* Hebrews 11:33-40; *for the Little Blessing of Water:* Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 18:18-22 & 19:13-15; *for the Procession of the Cross* John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35; *for the Holy Martyrs:* Matthew: 10:32-40; *for the Little Blessing of Water*: John5:1-4
Intention - +Wilma Ihnat by the Ferencz family

Wednesday August 2
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Friday August 4
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Saturday August 5
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention - +Peter Broznak by Doreene Stacy

Transfiguration of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ
Sunday August 6 Festal Tone
Blessing of Fruit
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
2 Peter 1:10-19; Matthew 17:1-9.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas
Please Bring Fruit to be Blessed.

Monday August 7
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday August 9
Postfestive Day of the Transfiguration. Holy Apostle Matthias
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Acts 1:12-17, 21-26; Luke 9:1-6.
Intention - Anna and +Peter Broznak by Donald and Fran Thompson

Friday August 11
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Saturday August 12
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention - Gail and Jan Person by Doreene Stacy

10th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday August 13 Tone 1
Otdanije (Leave-taking) of the Feast of the Transfiguration.
Venerable Father Maximos the Confessor.
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
1 Corinthians 4:9-16; Matthew 17:14-23.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas
After Divine Liturgy, parish potluck and parish anniversary celebration

Monday August 14
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Vigil of Holyday of Obligation: Vesper Divine Liturgy
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
OT Readings: 1) Genesis 28: 10-17; 2) Ezechiel 43: 27 - 44:4; 3) Proverbs 9: 1-11: Philipians 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas
Please Bring Flowers to be Blessed

Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady The Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
Tuesday August 15
Holyday of Obligation - 35th Anniversary of Parish
Festal Matins 9:00 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Philipians 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28.
Intention - +Wilma G. Ihnat by the Ferencz family
Please Bring Flowers to be Blessed

Wednesday August 16
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Friday August 18
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Saturday August 19
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention - Gail Person by the Bullock family
11th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday August 20 Tone 2
Postfestive Day of the Dormition. Holy Prophet Samuel Holy King Stephen of Hungary
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
1 Corinthians 9:2-12; Matthew 18:23-35.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday August 21
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Wedneday **August 23**
Otdanije (Leave-taking) of the Feast of the Dormition
Holy Martyr Lupus
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
2 Corinthians 6:11-16; Mark 1:23-28.
Intention - Helen and Al Ferencz by the Ferencz family (wedding anniversary)

Friday **August 25**
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Saturday **August 26**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention - Special intention by the Bullock family

12th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday **August 27** **Tone 3**
Venerable Father Pimen
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Matthew 19:16-26.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday **August 28**
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John
Tuesday **August 29** **Holyday**
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Acts 13:25-33; Mark 6:14-30.
Intention - +Frank Park by Florence Park

Wednesday **August 30**
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Beginning of Church Year 7526 in ByzantineReckoning
Friday **September 1**
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Saturday **September 2**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention - +Wilma G. Ihnat by the Ferencz family

13th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday **September 3** **Tone 4**
Holy Martyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
1 Corinthians 16:13-24; Matthew 21:33-42.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A NEW ROOF FOR OUR CHURCH. I mentioned how much our new roof will cost during my announcements but forgot to mention it in the bulletin. The total cost of the roof replacement for St Thomas church will be $36,100.00, and will be installed by the roofing company, Vertex. Structural engineer consultations will add further expenses, though it is not clear yet how much.
More than three quarters of this cost has been raised from restricted donations for the roof ($10,000 from the Ihnats) and building/remodel purposes ($10,000 from Marge Bobick and donations collected monthly from parishioners). In July, we received $10,075 in donations designated for the roof. For the remaining $6,025+, we plan to use our parish savings account. If you would like to designate a donation to help pay for the new roof, that would be gratefully received. Simply write "Roof Fund" on a blank envelope with your name and address. ***Please also write "Roof Fund" in the memo line of your check.***

2016 FINANCIAL REPORTS ARE HERE! Financial summary reports from the eparchy and from St. Thomas are now available in the church narthex during the months of August and September. If you are interested in further reviewing the parish financial records of 2016, please ask Fr. Michael to see the detailed balance sheet report and profit and loss report.

MINISTRIES SHEETS. A big thank you and many blessings to all who filled out the ministry sheet and submitted it to Fr. Michael. Your help for the parish in the past and your willingness to help in the same or new capacities in the future is greatly appreciated. If you did not turn in a ministry sheet but still want to do so, it will be gratefully accepted. Feel free to drop it in the collection basket, mail it, or give it to Fr. Michael personally.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING ON AUGUST 5. Boys 8-17 and men 18-75 who are interested in serving at the altar with the priest and deacon are strongly encouraged to participate in the altar server training on Saturday, August 5 from 2:30-4pm. (See July bulletin for more information).

PILGRIMAGE TO SAN XAVIER DEL BAC MISSION & ST. MELANY's, TUCSON: There will be a day pilgrimage to San Xavier del Bac Mission and St. Melany Byzantine Catholic Church in Tucson. We will depart from Gilbert at 7:30 AM and arrive back at approximately 9:00 PM. There will be a donation which will be used for the mission tour and to help defray the cost of gasoline for trip. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Flyers are on the table at the entrance to church. To register, sign up with Diane Hvasta at deehvasta@gmail.com or (602) 743-7768.

PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITIES: Besides the pilgrimages to Olympia and Tucson, there is the Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Perpetual Help during the Labor Weekend in Uniontown, PA. There is also a Byzantine Catholic retreat to Fatima from October 26-November 2. Flyers for these can be found in the narthex and hall.

ATTENTION PROSPECTIVE CANTORS. Interested in learning how to cantor? The Metropolitan Cantor Institute is offering two sets of classes during the remainder of 2017 – the first set from August 14 to October 6 and the second set from October 16 to December 8. For more information, visit http://mci.archpitt.org. The website also contains resources on how to chant the epistle. People interested in cantoring at St Thomas are invited to speak with our head cantor Patrick Murphy, or send him an email: patrick.j.k.murphy@gmail.com

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION: Please bring fruit to be blessed when you come to celebrate the glorious feast of Our Lord's transfiguration on Mount Tabor on August 6. (Matthew 17) May you behold Christ's radiance, if not with your physical eyes, then certainly with your spiritual eyes.

+PETER BROZNAK (1933-2017): Peter passed away on July 22. Peter and his wife, Anna, have been long-time parishioners of St. Thomas. Peter was suffering from various health problems since April. Peter was a veteran from the U.S. Air Force. He is survived by his wife Anna, daughter Kathy, and son Peter nicknamed Skip. His Memorial Divine Liturgy was July 29, 2017. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. May the Lord grant to His servant Peter, blessed repose and Eternal Memory!

FEAST OF DORMITION OF MARY, THE THEOTOKOS ON AUGUST 15: Every year we celebrate the holy death of Mary, the Mother of God. Her death was special. The Archangel Gabriel revealed to her that she would die in three days prior. Mary desired to see the apostles one last time and the Lord granted her wish. They were miraculously brought from many locations to be with her. She encouraged and counseled them and then reposed in the Lord without pain or sickness. The apostles continued praying around her tomb for three days. Our patron saint, St. Thomas, was the only apostle absent of course. When he finally arrived, the other apostles opened the tomb to allow him to venerate her body. It was empty; only the grave wrappings. Thanks to our beloved patron, our forefathers in the faith were brought to the realization that Mary had been bodily assumed into heaven.

The feast day is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please bring flowers with you to be blessed.

DORMITION FAST FROM AUGUST 1-14. Fasting is a traditional way to prepare to do something important. Athletes prepare for a contest through exercise and eating lightly. Couples fast before marriage. Candidates for the diaconate or priesthood have a period of fasting and a retreat before ordination. Fasting in honor of Our Blessed Lady prepares us to respond to the voice of Our Lord. This bodily renunciation retunes our heart and soul to remember that we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. (Matthew 4:4)

Fasting prepares us for the gifts God wants to give - something we may not be attuned to receiving if we continue to live our usual lives for the two weeks before the feast. The traditional fast calls for strict abstinence from meat and dairy products during the full two weeks, with the usual mitigation from wine and oil on the weekends and on the feast of the Transfiguration. It is defined as a penitential season in our Metropolia (Canon 882.2). Let each of us determine to go beyond the minimal abstinence of meat on Fridays. Let us prepare for this great feast by taking this Fast seriously. May the Mother of God bless and encourage you.

The feast day on August 15 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please bring flowers with you to be blessed.

COLLECTIONS

Note: Ever since October 2014, there have been monthly deposits of $643.51 to St. Thomas as the Anaheim parish in our eparchy repays its loan to us and other parishes. The final payment is due in September 2029. These monthly payments go into our general Money Market account. We will publish these amounts starting with July 2017.

July 2, 2017:

General parishioner tithes:	$1,035.00
*Peter's Pence:	$100.00
HolyDay--Sts. Peter & Paul:	$80.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$50.00
Other Donations:	$65.50
Total Deposit to Checking:	$1,330.50
Total for St. Thomas:	**$1,230.50**

July 9, 2017:

General parishioner tithes:	$1,165.00
HolyDay-- Sts. Peter & Paul:	$5.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$60.00
Gift Shop:	$15.00
Coffee Social:	$31.00
Other donations:	$77.50
Total deposit to checking:	$1.353.50
Total for St. Thomas:	**$1.353.50**

July 16, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$1,739.00
Coffee Social:	$9.00
Gift Shop:	$52.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$55.00
Other Donations:	$158.75
*Peter's Pence:	$10.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$2,023.75
Anaheim loan--payment:	$643.51
minus $10.00 Peter's Pence	
Total for St. Thomas:	**$2,657.26**

July 23, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$917.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$120.00
Coins gift to parish liquidated:	$1,106.00
Gift Shop:	$39.00
Other Donations:	$99.50
Rent:	$240.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$2,521.50
Roof donation:	$10,000.00
deposited to Roof Money Market acct.	
Total for St. Thomas:	**$12,521.50**

July 30, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$1,503.00
HolyDay--Dormition:	$20.00
Coin gift to Parish liquidated:	$100.00
Gift Shop:	$58.00
Coffee Social:	$2.00
Other Donations:	$132.50
Rent:	$300.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$2,115.50
Roof donation:	$75.00
deposited to Roof Money Market acct.	
Total for St. Thomas:	**$2,190.50**

**These funds are special collections which are remitted to the eparchy.*

CALENDAR

August 1-14: Dormition Fast

August 5: Altar server training at 2:30pm.
August 6: Sunday and **HOLY DAY** of the Feast of Transfiguration of Our Lord.
Please bring fruit to be blessed
August 13: Parish potluck and 35th anniversary celebration. (August 15 is the real anniversary)
August 15: HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Dormition of the Mother of God: Vigil Vesper Divine Liturgy on August 14 at 7pm. On August 15, Festal Matins at 9am and Divine Liturgy at 7pm. Either one of these three services fulfills your obligation though you can absolutely come to all three if you like.
Please bring flowers to be blessed.

September 8: HOLY DAY: Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos
September 14: HOLY DAY: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

October 6: PATRONAL FEAST. *Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, patron of our church. Vesper Divine Liturgy at 7pm on October 5; Festal Matins at 9am and Divine Liturgy at 7pm on October 6.*
October 21: Oktoberfest celebration at Church hall at approximately 6:30pm.
October 23-27: Clergy Retreat in Carefree, AZ. (Fr. Michael & Dcn. Michael less accessible)

November 4: Eucharistic Procession beginning at 9am from St. Anne's to St. Thomas and back

REMEMBER THOSE WHO REQUEST OUR PRAYERS

O Divine Physician of Souls and Body, rest your healing and protecting hand upon your servants:

✝Peter Broznak, ✝Sr. Jean Marie Cihota, OSBM, ✝James Sandrock, Connie Morrissey,Betty Kirila, Fr. Michael Kirila, Linda Morasca, Robert Hernandez, Teresa Smith, ✝Mary Perun, Joan Lucas, ✝Joseph & Anna Hrynik, ✝Walter Hrynik, ✝John Hrynik, Luisa Garcia, Linda Garcia, Nena Desantos, Russell Hook, Deacon Michael Melnick, ✝Wilma Ihnat, Jason & Joshua Kowalczyk, Beth Hicks, ✝Patty Prestash, Olga Silva, Ted Bronson, Ana Maria Olvera ✝ Msgr. Michael Nestor and Lawrence Ybarra, ✝Fr. Wes Izer, Art Krueger, Ilija Seat, Elaine E. and Fr. John Coleman & Carrie Thornton, ✝Barbara Bronson, Eleanor Shields, Teresa Rojero, Rosemary Ziarkowski, Helen Fellin, Lou Fellin, James Devlin, ✝Pete Nelson, Terence J. Faust, Clementina Mendoza, James Young, ✝Cathy Simpson, ✝Marge Bobick, William Glenn, Dorothy Imlej, ✝Rev. Michael T. Bell, Mark Stefanski, Helen Dinegar, Paul John Hetherington, Hannah Joes, Fr. Fausto, Eric Shark, Kay William, Mary Ada, OFM, B.K. Burnette, Bob Sherman, Mary Kowalczyk, Kevin McBride, Lisa Kirila Mendez, Jonathan Coonrod, Sylvia Gutierrez, Elaine Brown, Linskey Family, Viviana Rodarte, Renata Paloian, OSBM, Monica Harris, Mike Little, Olga Chapkevich, Jerrine Sauntry, Alwyne Holder, Fr. Phil Acquaro, Fr. Chris Zugger, Alexandra, ✝John Bacovcin, Anita Batean, Bonnie Bennett, Mark D. Chapa, Michael Chapa, Ed Corwin, Gerald & Helen Dunn, Elizabeth Glenn, Nikki Heminway, Virginia Hill, Sonny Hopkins, Jaclyn Lentz, Anne-Marie Krytiuk, Erica Lupe, Richard Marchant (Al & Helen Ferencz' son-inlaw), Alice Posivy (Bullock), Lara Sparling-Ott, Carley Spears, Lorraine Teeling, Henry Zugger, Yoshiko, and all in the service of our country, especially from our parish family: Scott Karnya, Sam Karnya, Adam Young, Brandon Eyres (Michael & Anne Bacovcin's grandson), Patrick Whalen (Doreene Stacy's grandson), and the Mother of Reg Parker

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday

Joseph Barnes	August 5
Sofia Maria (Isabela) Corey	August 8
Marilyn Reiling	August 9
Jeff Sims	August 10
Cathy Mccormick	August 11
Christie Bronson	August 21
Debra Hratko	August 23

Happy Anniversary

Mike and Barb Little	August 3
Jeff and Yellow Schreiber	August 15
Al and Helen Ferencz	August 23
Aaron and Mignon Thurow	August 24

Happy Anniversary

July Anniversaries
(we missed publishing these last month)

Jeff and Yvonne Corey	July 16
Dcn. Michael and Donna Sullivan	July 20
Grant and Cassy Holzhauer	July 25

Did we forget your birthday or anniversary? Please let us know so we can update our records and include this in our bulletin next year. Talk to Liz Zackowski or send her an email: lizzack74@gmail.com. Thank you.

PARISH E-MAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS
If you would like to be placed on the St Thomas list for receiving the parish bulletin and announcements via email, please contact Kathy Richards: krichard2003@yahoo.com.