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 • Wednesday, Thursday & 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 September 30
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention: +Marge Bobick (1 year anniversary) by Fr. Michael Bezruchka

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday October 1 Tone 8
The Protection of our Most Blessed Lady, The Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
2 Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1; Hebrews 9:1-7; Luke 6:31-36; Luke 10:38-42 & 11:27-28.
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday October 4
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Patronal Feast: St. Thomas the Apostle
Thursday October 5
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Vesper Readings: (1) 1 John 1: 1-7; (2) James 1: 1-12; (3) Jude 1-7, 17-25
1 Corinthians 4:9-16; John 20:19-31.
Intention: +Peter Broznak by Anonymous

Patronal Feast: St. Thomas the Apostle
Friday October 6
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Special Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Rule of the Theotokos

Saturday October 7
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention: +Peter Broznak by Al and Helen Ferencz
Celebrant: Fr. Diodoro Mendoza

18th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday October 8 Tone 1
Venerable Mother Pelagia
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Luke 7:11-16.
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas
Celebrant: Fr. Diodoro Mendoza
After Divine Liturgy, parish potluck

Wednesday October 11
Holy Apostle Phillip, one of the Seven Deacons
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Philippians 1:12-20; Luke 8:22-25.
Intention: Intentions of Anna Broznak by Anonymous

Thursday October 12
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Friday October 13
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Byzantine Basics class in hall 6:30 p.m.

Saturday October 14
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention: +E. James Buby by Helen and Al Ferencz

19th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday October 15 Tone 2
Memory of the Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
2 Corinthians 11:31 - 12:9; Luke 8:5-15; For the Fathers: Hebrews 13:7-16; John 17:1-13.
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday October 18
Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.
Colossians 4:5-9, 14-15, 18; Luke 10:16-21.
Intention: Intentions of Anna Broznak by Anonymous

Thursday October 19
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Byzantine Basics class in hall 6:30 p.m.

Friday October 20
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Saturday October 21
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention: Intentions of Donald and Frances Thompson by Anonymous
After Divine Liturgy, Oktoberfest

20th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday October 22 Tone 3
Holy Bishop Abercius
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Galatians 1:11-19; Luke 16:19-31.
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday-Friday October 23-27
Clergy Retreat: Fr. Michael and Deacon Michael less available

Saturday October 28
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.
Intention: +Josephine "Jo" Piazza by Fr. Doug and Nancy Lorig

21st Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday October 29 Tone 4
Holy Venerable Martyr Anastasia
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.
Galatians 2:16-20; Luke 8:26-39.
Intention - Parishioners of St. Thomas

Vigil of Feast of St. Romzha
Monday October 30
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy for St. Romzha 7:00 p.m.
Vesper readings: (1) 2 Kings 2: 9-14; (2) Isaiah 26: 7-13; (3) Sirach 2: 1-6
Philippians 3:7-11; Luke 22:24-30.
Intention: Carol and Charlie Rawlins by Gail & Jan Person

Wednesday November 1
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Thursday November 2
Matins 7:30 a.m.

Friday November 3
Matins 7:30 a.m.
Byzantine Basics class in hall 6:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BYZANTINE BASICS: Our adult catechesis classes continue with Fr. Michael. Classes will usually run every other Friday from 6:30-7:30pm. Our next scheduled classes are October 13, October 19 (note the change from Oct. 20 in last months bulletin), November 3, November 17, December 1, December 15, 2017. For 2018: January 12, January 26, February 9, March 1, March 12, April 13, May 4, May 18, and June 1. Please mark your calendars. More Christ our Pascha catechisms have been ordered and will each be available for a $30.00 donation. Homework for October 13: read up through page 21.

ECF CLASSES HAVE BEGUN: For the first time in at least two years, we are having classes for our youth (Eastern Christian Formation), instructing them in our faith. There are two classes meeting about every other week. Please see Fr. Michael for schedule information and if interested in joining.

VOCATION PRAYER PROGRAM BEGINNING! To keep our eparchy flourishing, we need to pray for a vibrant priesthood, diaconate, and monastic life within and near our eparchy. The monastic life for monks and nuns provides the reference point for all the baptized (see the Apostolic letter Orientale Lumen, 1995). Their prayers are very important for the spiritual health of the eparchy as well as for keeping the world from falling apart. The priesthood and diaconate are essential for making Jesus present to all people in the community. Without the priest, there is no Eucharist; nor is there forgiveness of sins from Christ through the priest. Without the priest, Christian communities are likely to further splinter and remain without the spine of the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments). We need to pray for vocations to all states of life: marriage, monastic, diaconate, and priesthood. We will begin distributing a Vocation icon at the beginning of October. Special prayers are prescribed for each day of the week. Please participate in this program and sign up to bring the icon to your home and pray with it for a week. Thank you.

PRIESTS' MEDICAL INSURANCE COLLECTION: Thank you very much for your great generosity in assisting those suffering from big losses from Hurricane Harvey in Texas! Bishop John is asking for your assistance again. Every year, a special collection is taken up to pay the extra cost that our health insurance premiums put on our eparchy for our priests. Each parish pays $1,100.00 per month in health insurance to the eparchy and the eparchy pays the bill for all its priests. Currently, $1,100.00 is not enough to cover the average cost of health insurance because the average age of our priests is 58 years old and also because the premiums for our

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married priests is higher in order to cover the whole family. With these considerations, our eparchy takes up a special collection each year to help pay for the extra cost. This special collection will be taken up the weekend of September 30-October 1. Envelopes are available from the Our Sunday Visitor monthly mailings or in the narthex next to the guest book.

PRAYER RULE OF THE THEOTOKOS: Please join us as we pray what is often called the "Byzantine Rosary." We will pray this on Friday, October 6 at 7pm, doors open at 6:30pm. Visitors from St. Anne's and elsewhere have been invited. As parishioners, let us represent our parish and also come to experience this form of prayer. Please bring your chotki (prayer rope) if it has sets of ten knots per section or you can bring a rosary. (October 6 is also our Patron feast of St. Thomas. Vigil Divine Liturgy is at 7pm on October 5. Please plan to attend that also so we can honor our patron who watches after us and prays for us.)

FINANCIAL PLANNING: Hoping for the best can end up in disaster or disappointment. Financial Advisor Steve Sanchez plans to give a talk to us on Saturday, October 14 at 10am about planning for retirement so that we are all ready financially. In addition, he will be discussing the next impending economic collapse and how to financially prepare for it. This riveting 90 minute class is free.

OKTOBERFEST: Remember, our Oktoberfest will be taking place on October 21. If anyone feels inspired to donate something to our silent auction, please bring your donation no later than October 15. We could still use more books and toys for children. Tickets are now available: $12.00--adults and $8.00--children ages 5-12. For parishioners only, a family rate of $40.00 is available. Please see Liz Zackowski or Martha Coonrod for more information.

EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION: Please plan to attend the Eucharistic Procession taking place on November 4 from 9am to 11:30am. If you are able, stick around for the BBQ lunch at John Allen Park and further share in company with our own parishioners as well as our neighboring St. Anne parishioners.

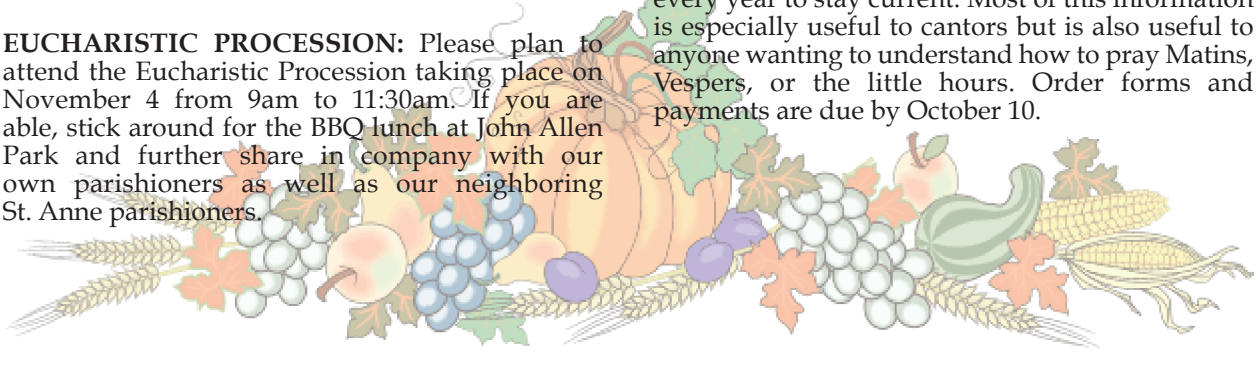
+ELEANOR SHIELDS: Our dear parishioner Eleanor Shields passed away on Thursday, August 17, 2017. We will be celebrating a Memorial Divine Liturgy for her on November 6 at 10am at St. Thomas. All attending parishioners will be treated to a luncheon at Liberty Market down the street from St. Thomas. The inurnment of Eleanor's cremains will then take place at St. Stephen's Cathedral at approximately 2pm.

OFFICE HOURS CHANGING: Typically, Fr. Michael is working at our church office Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Saturdays being spent mostly at the parish but also working on parish business from home. Tuesdays are spent at the chancery and Thursdays are his day off. Now Fr. Michael will be taking Mondays off instead of Thursdays so his office hours will be Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9am to 3pm. Fr. Michael is always in the office much later than his published hours, however, he could be running errands. It's best to make an appointment rather than simply "drop in" to speak with him.

MATINS CHANGING: In light of the above announcement, Matins will be regularly celebrated at our parish on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 7:30am and no longer on Mondays.

THE ROOF will most likely be installed October 11-20.

TYPICONS: These recipe books or how-to-manuals for celebrating the liturgical services of our Byzantine Ruthenian Catholic Church are called Typicons (also spelled Typikons). They are available by pre-ordering from our Gift Shop for the suggested donation of $20.00 each. The common typicon needs to only be purchased once until a new edition comes out which is usually between 10 and 20 years. The annual typicon needs to be purchased every year to stay current. Most of this information is especially useful to cantors but is also useful to anyone wanting to understand how to pray Matins, Vespers, or the little hours. Order forms and payments are due by October 10.



COLLECTIONS

September 2/3, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$1,637.00
Holy Day--Dormition:	$15.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$160.00
Candles:	$40.00
Coffee Social:	$9.00
Other Donations:	$54.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$1,915.00
Coins deposited 9/18/17	($1.50)++
Total for St. Thomas:	**$1,915.00**
Other deposit--not from collection	
Eparchy reimburse--conference:	$630.50

September 9/10, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$976.00
Holy Day--Birth of Theotokos	$10.00
Holy Day--Exaltation-Cross:	$10.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$30.00
Candles:	$13.00
*Sp. Collection: Hurricane H.	$500.00*
Gift Shop:	$74.00
Other Donations:	$35.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$1,648.00
Coins deposited 9/18/17	($1.50)++
*Minus: Hurricane H. aid	-$500.00*
Total for St. Thomas:	**$1,148.00**

September 16/17, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$2,090.00
Holy Day--Birth of Theotokos	$15.00
Holy Day--Exaltation-Cross:	$15.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$10.00
Candles:	$38.00
*Sp. Collection: Hurricane H.	$1,035.00*
Gift Shop:	$126.00
Other Donations:	$73.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$3,402.00
Coins deposited 9/18/17	($3.68)++
*Minus: Hurricane H. aid	-$1,035.00*
Total for St. Thomas:	**$2,367.00**

September 18, 2017

Other deposit--coins from collections, Coins deposited 9/3, 9/10, 9/17
Total Deposit to Checking: $6.68++

September 17, 2017

Other deposit--not from collection, Anaheim Loan payment ($505.46 principal, $138.05 interest) $643.51
Deposited to Money Mkt. account.
Other deposit--not from collection, Eparchy rebate: Bishop Ap.:
Congratulations! We made our Bishop's Appeal! $5,040.00

September 23/24, 2017

General parishioner tithes:	$1,396.00
Improvements/Remodeling:	$45.00
Candles:	$35.00
*Sp. Collection: Medical Ins.	$175.00*
*Sp. Collection: Hurricane H.	$35.00*
Gift Shop:	$227.00
Other Donations:	$257.00
Total Deposit to Checking:	$2,170.00
Coins to be deposited	($1.55)++
*Minus: 2 sp. collections	-$210.00*
Total for St. Thomas:	**$1,960.00**

Deposits to Checking from Collections:	$9,141.68
Plus other Deposits:	$6,314.01
Total Deposited:	$15,455.69
Minus: sp. collections sent to eparchy	-$1,745.00
Remainder	**$13,710.69**

**These funds are special collections which are remitted to the eparchy.*
+These funds are deposited to the Money Market account as the loan to our Anaheim parish is paid back to us. Final payment will be in Sept. 2029.
++During the month of September, the bank did not accept coins most weekends. They usually only accept bulk coin deposits though they are willing to make an exception for us for an indefinite period of time. They are transitioning to a coinless system



CALENDAR

Sept. 30-Oct. 1: Vocation Icon Prayer program launches. Please sign up to bring the icon home with you

October 6: PATRONAL FEAST. Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, patron of our church. Vesper/Divine Liturgy at 7pm on October 5; Matins at 7:30am and Prayer Rule of the Theotokos at 7pm on October 6

October 7/8: ECF weekend (children's catechesis classes)

October 8: Potluck Sunday

October 13: Byzantine Basics (adult catechesis class) 6:30-7:30pm

October 14: Financial planning talk in the Church hall at 10:00 am

October 19: Byzantine Basics (adult catechesis class) 6:30-7:30pm

October 21/22: ECF weekend (children's catechesis classes). October 21 will be from 3:30-4:30 in the church

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 3: Byzantine Basics (adult catechesis class) 6:30-7:30pm

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

November 4/5: ECF weekend (children's catechesis classes)

November 11: Perogi baking: 15 people needed. Please see Liz Zackowski to sign up to help

November 17: Byzantine Basics (adult catechesis class) 6:30-7:30pm

November 18/19: ECF weekend (children's catechesis classes)

December 1: Byzantine Basics (adult catechesis class) 6:30-7:30pm

December 2: Church deep cleaning: need 25 people

December 15: Byzantine Basics (adult catechesis class) 6:30-7:30pm

December 16/17: ECF weekend (children's catechesis classes) (Class on Dec. 16 from 3:30-4:30pm in the church)

December 16: Holy Supper in the hall starting at about 6:30pm

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday

Wilma Kafora	October 1
Dominic Bronson	October 5
Nathalie Antonios	October 15
Lydia Thurow	October 15
John Hratko	October 16
Mike Hrynik	October 20
Cece Forbes	October 20
Emily Holzhauer	October 20
Peter Thurow	October 21
Barb Little	October 22
Greg Bartlett	October 23
Janet Park	October 25

Happy Anniversary

Joseph and Janice Barnes	October 2
Gregory and Carole Bullock	October 7

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.

REMEMBER THOSE WHO REQUEST OUR PRAYERS

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

Stephanie & Terry Faust, Lisa Kirila Mendez, and Eileen Derevenko. Scott Karnya, Sam Karnya and all those in service to our country. "O Divine Physician of souls and bodies, rest your healing and protecting hand upon your servants."

"With the souls of the just brought to perfection, give rest, O Savior, to the souls of your servants, keeping them for the blessed life with you, for you love us all."

+Eleanor Shields, +Sr. Jean Marie Cihota, +Peter Broznak, +James Sandrock, +Fr. Wes Izer, +Cathy Simpson, +Anna Hrynik, +Joseph Hrynik, +John Hrynik, +Walter Hrynik, +Mary Perun.

Our prayer list was reset with a blank slate in September to make room for new names. Previous names can be resubmitted. Simply write an email, mail, or hand-deliver Fr. Michael a note listing names. Thank you.