# St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

**Glory to Jesus Christ!** **Glory Forever!**

## Liturgical Schedule

**Saturday Vigil**
5pm – Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy

**Sunday**
10am – Divine Liturgy

**Weekdays**
Weekday Divine Liturgy: Check bulletin

**Holy Mystery of Repentance (Confession)**
Saturdays: 4:00-4:30pm
Sundays: 9:00-9:30am
(Also available by appointment)

**Chaldean Liturgy**
Sunday: 6pm
Mar Abraham parish meets at St. Thomas.
Call 480.905.1545 for more information.

## Other Information

**Church Address**
19 West Bruce Avenue
Gilbert, AZ 85233

**Mailing Address**
P.O. Box 667
Gilbert, AZ 85299-0667

**Parish phone:** 480.497.6726
- press 1 for the parish office
- press 2 for a sacramental emergency

**Website**
www.stabcc.org

**Office Hours–**
***(call ahead to confirm as the priest is often out of the office for sick calls or other parish obligations)***
Tuesday-Friday: 10:00am-4:00pm



**Father Michael Sidun** **Deacon Michael Sullivan**
Parochial Administrator

## Welcome!

St Thomas Byzantine Catholic Church is a vibrant parish community which seeks to live the liturgical year in solemnity and celebration. Our church follows the ancient Eastern traditions, while remaining in union with the Pope of Rome.

The Byzantine Catholic Church is uniquely beautiful – enhanced by the story of the life of Christ and the saints in icons. Our liturgy is rich in tradition and based in scripture. As a bonus, almost all liturgical prayers are chanted.

We welcome visitors who wish to share in our sacred worship services.

# Liturgical Schedule

**The Holy and Great Fast:** The Ruthenian Metropolia prescribes **strict abstinence from meat and dairy products on both the First Monday (Clean Monday) of the Great Fast as well as on Good Friday, and also abstinence from meat on all Wednesdays and Fridays in the Great Fast and Holy Week. These prescriptions are a *required minimum for all of the faithful.*** The traditional fast is *much* stricter.



**Saturday Evening, March 30**

**Vigil** Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

***Intention***: †Helen Ferencz (Diane Hvasta)

Men's Group meeting After Liturgy

**Sunday, March 31** **Tone 4**

**Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast**
**Commemoration of Our Holy Father John Climacus**

Third Hour 9:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Hebrews 6:13-20; Ephesians 5:9-19; Mark 9:17-31; Matthew 4:25-5:12

***Intention***: Parishioners of St. Thomas




**Wednesday, April 3**

Holy Father Andrew of Crete

Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Genesis 17:1-9; Proverbs 15:20-16:9

***Intention***: †Luke Garrison (Honora Bullock)

**Thursday, April 4**

**Great Canon of Our Holy Father Andrew of Crete** 7:00 PM



**Friday, April 5**

Commemoration of the Akathist to the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Genesis 22:1-18; Proverbs 17:17-18:5

***Intention***: Joseph Barnes (Mike & Barb Little)

**Saturday Morning, April 6**

**Akathistos Saturday**
**Akathist to the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary** 9:00 AM




**Saturday Evening, April 6**

**Vigil** Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

***Intention***: †Helen Ferencz (Karyn Marchant)

Men's Group meeting After Liturgy

**Sunday, April 7** **Tone 5**

**Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast**
**Commemoration of Our Holy Mother Mary of Egypt**

Third Hour 9:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Hebrews 9:11-14; Galatians 3:23-29; Mark 10:32-45; Luke 7:36-50

***Intention***: Parishioners of St. Thomas

# Liturgical Schedule

**Wednesday, April 10**

Holy Martyrs Terence, Pompey, & Companions

Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Genesis 43:26-45:16; Proverbs 21:23-22:4

***Intention***: Ted Bronson (Thompson family)



**Friday, April 12**

Lazarus Saturday

Venerable Father & Confessor Basil, Bishop of Parium

Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Genesis 49:33-50:26; Proverbs 31:8-31

***Intention***: Deacon Michael Sullivan & family (Bullock family)

**Saturday Morning, April 13**

**Lazarus Saturday**

Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM

***Intention***: Mike & Barb Little & family (Al Ferencz)

Hebrews 12:28-13:8; John 11:1-45



**Saturday Evening, April 13**

**Vigil** Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

Genesis 49:1-2,8-12; Zephaniah 3:14-19; Zechariah 9:9-15

***Intention***: Nicholas Kowalczyk (Little family)

Men's Group meeting After Liturgy

**Sunday, April 14** **Festal Tone**

**Palm (Flowery/Willow) Sunday**

Third Hour 9:45 AM

Blessing of palms & willows with procession & Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Philippians 4:4-9; John 12:1-18

***Intention***: Parishioners of St. Thomas



**Monday, April 15**

**Great and Holy Monday**

Bridegroom Matins 7:00 PM

**Tuesday, April 16**

**Great and Holy Tuesday**

Bridegroom Matins 7:00 PM

# Liturgical Schedule



**Wednesday, April 17**

**Great and Holy Wednesday**

Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts with the Holy Mystery of the Anointing of the Sick for all baptized faithful present 7:00 PM

Exodus 2:11-22; Job 2:1-10; Matthew 26:6-16

***Intention***: Father Michael & Pani Betty Kirila (Bullock family)



**Thursday, April 18**

**Great and Holy Thursday**

Vespers Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Exodus 19:10-19; Job 38:1-23;42:1-5; Isaiah 50:4-11; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32; Composite Gospel Reading (Matthew 26:2-20; John 13:3-17; Matthew 26:21-39; Luke 22:43-45; & Matthew 26:40-27:2)

***Intention***: Dr. Charles Crans (Al Ferencz)



**Friday at Noon, April 19**

**Great and Holy Friday/Good Friday**

Good Friday Matins with Reading of the 12 Passion Gospels 12:00 Noon

John 13:31-18:1; John 18:1-28; Matthew 26:57-75; John 18:28-19:16; Matthew 27:3-32; Mark 15:16-32; Matthew 27:33-54; Luke 23:32-49; John 19:25-37; Mark 15:43-47; John 19:38-42; Matthew 27:62-66



**Friday Evening, April 19**

**Great and Holy Friday/Good Friday**

Entombment Vespers 7:00 PM

Exodus 33:11-23; Job 42:12-17; Isaiah 52:13-54:1; 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:2; Composite Gospel Reading (Matthew 27:1-38; Luke 23:39-43; Matthew 27:39-54; John 19:31-37; Matthew 27:55-61)

*Burial Procession Gospel Readings:* Matthew 27:33-61; Mark 15:43-47; Luke 23:32-56; John 19:38-42

All Night Vigil

**Saturday Morning, April 20**

**Great and Holy Saturday**

Jerusalem Matins 9:00 AM

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Composite Epistle Reading (1 Corinthians 5:6-8; Galatians 3:13-14); Matthew 27:62-66




**Saturday Evening, April 20**

**Vigil** Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

Genesis 1:1-13; Isaiah 60:1-16; Exodus 12:1-11; Jonah 1:1-4:11; Joshua 5:10-15; Exodus 13:20-15:19; Zephaniah 3:8-15; 3[1] Kings 17:8-24; Isaiah 61:10-62:5; Genesis 22:1-18; Isaiah 61:1-9; 4[2] Kings 4:8-37; Isaiah 63:11-64:5; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Daniel 3:1-90 (verses 57-90 are sung with a refrain); Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-20

***Intention***: Mike & Barb Little & family (Al Ferencz)

**Sunday, April 21** **Festal Tone**

**Great and Holy Pascha: The Glorious Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ**

Resurrection Matins with procession & Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM

Acts 1:1-8; John 1:1-17

***Intention***: Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Monday, April 22**

**Bright Monday**

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Acts 1:12-17,21-26; John 1:18-28

*Procession Gospel Readings:* Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-10

***Intention***: Joseph Barnes (Bullock family)

# Liturgical Schedule




**Tuesday, April 23**

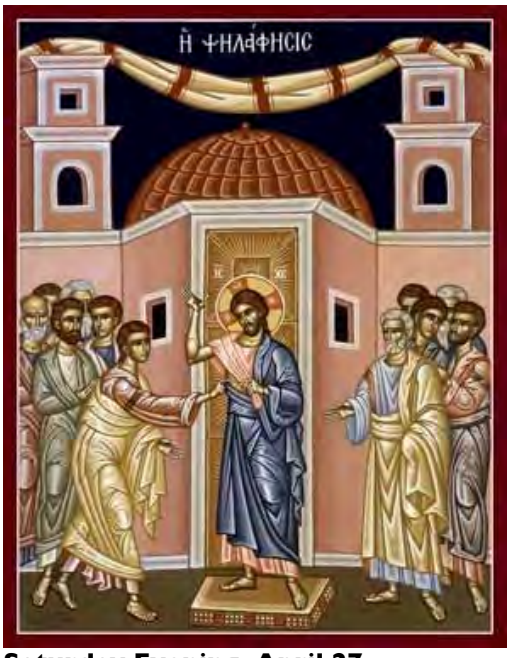
**Bright Tuesday**

**Holy, Glorious, & Victorious Great Martyr George the Wonder-worker**

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Acts 2:14-21 & Acts 12:1-11; Luke 24:12-35 & John 15:17-16:2

***Intention***: †Helen Ferencz (Anna Broznak)




**Saturday Evening, April 27**

**Vigil** Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

***Intention***: †Father Doug Lorig (Kathy Richard)

Men's Group meeting After Liturgy

**Sunday, April 28** **Tone 1**

**Thomas Sunday**

## Parish Patronal Feast

Third Hour 9:45 AM

Procession & Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Acts 5:12-20; John 20:19-31

***Intention***: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Potluck Dinner & Easter Egg Hunt after liturgy

**Wednesday, May 1**

**Thomas Week**

**Holy Prophet Jeremiah**

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Acts 4:13-22; John 5:17-24

***Intention***: Al Ferencz (Little family)




**Saturday Evening, May 4**

**Vigil** Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

***Intention***: †Helen Ferencz (Bullock family)

Men's Group meeting After Liturgy

**Sunday, May 5** **Tone 2**

**Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women**

Holy and Glorious Martyr Irene

Venerable Father Nicephor, Hegumen of the Medikion Monastery

Third Hour 9:45 AM

Procession & Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Acts 6:1-7; Mark 15:43-16:8

***Intention***: Parishioners of St. Thomas

# Prayer Requests, Calendar Highlights, Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Calendar Highlights

**Saturday, April 13—**10:00 AM (After Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy) There will be CHURCH CLEANING: oiling of the Icon Screen, cleaning the Chandelier, pews, etc. We want to beautify our church for PASCHA. All are needed to help. Please come if only for an hour or two. Volunteers are also needed to put the pussy willow branches and palms together for Palm Sunday.

**Palm Sunday, April 14—**Baked goods: This is the last day to pick up your orders.

**Good Friday, April 19—**7:00 PM Burial Procession: If you would like your child to participate actively in the procession, please let Diane Hvasta know and to come early for instructions.

**Good Friday, April 19—**All Night Vigil: For the first time at St. Thomas there will be an All Night Vigil guarding the tomb after the Good Friday Vespers. Two people are needed for each hour. A sign up sheet will be in the church and in the hall. The guarding of the tomb will be until Jerusalem Matins on Holy Saturday morning.

**Holy Saturday, April 20—**10:30 AM (After Jerusalem Matins) There will be CHURCH DECORATING: Volunteers are needed to help set up the church for Pascha.

**Thomas Sunday, April 28—** PARISH PATRONAL FEAST: Bishop John Pazak will be attending. Additional Bishop(s) may attend. Additional clergy from St. Anne's and other Catholic Churches have been invited.

**Thomas Sunday, April 28—**Festal International Potluck Dinner: Carol Paoli is organizing the food to be brought with help from Diane Hvasta and Liz Zackowski.

**Thomas Sunday, April 28—**Easter Egg Hunt: We will be holding our annual Easter egg hunt for our children on our Patronal Feast after Divine Liturgy. There is a box of plastic eggs in the church hall. Please take some home, fill and return to church. Please no gum or chocolate! Non-candy items are great too (stickers example). Please see Diane.

## Happy Birthday!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Liubov Sidun | April | 4 |
| Grant Holzhauer | April | 5 |
| Juliet Holzhauer | April | 14 |
| Jeffrey Park | April | 14 |
| Yvonne Corey | April | 15 |
| Father Michael Kirila | April | 16 |
| Helen Fellin | April | 17 |
| Reg Parker | April | 19 |
| Tracy Aguayo | April | 20 |
| Roy Haug | April | 21 |
| Charles Rawlins | April | 23 |
| Cal Karnya | April | 23 |
| George Mahoney | April | 23 |
| Christiana Therese Corey | April | 28 |
| Donna Sullivan | April | 30 |

## Happy Anniversary!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Don & Frances Thompson | April | 14 |
| Roy & Joan Haug | April | 21 |
| George & Barbara Mahoney | April | 30 |

## Parish Advisory Board

Danny Forbes
Emma Gilsdorf
Cal Karnya
Cathy McCormick
Charlie Rawlins
Jeff Sims
Liz Zackowski

## Remember Those Who Request Our Prayers

***O Divine Physician of Souls and Body, rest your healing and protecting hand upon your servants:***
Donald Thompson, Jr., Stephanie & Terry Faust, Lisa Kirila Mendez, Eileen Derevenko, Julianne Betzold, Ted Bronson, Fr. Michael Bezruchka, and Fr. Michael Sidun.

***All those serving our country in the military including:***
Scott Karnya, Sam Karnya, Capt. Patrick Whalen, Gregory Whalen, and Tim Little.

***"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."***
†Fr. Doug Lorig, †Helen Ferencz, †Rosemary Ziarkowski, †Fr. Francis Vivona, †Andria Kowalczyk, †Eleanor Shields, †Sr. Jean Marie Cihota, †Peter Broznak, †James Sandrock, †Fr. Wes Izer, †Cathy Simpson, †Anna Hrynik, †Joseph Hrynik, †John Hrynik, †Watler Hrynik, †Mary Petun, †Mary Rogees

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

# Collections

**Summary for March 2019**

| | |
|---|---|
| Total deposits | $11,565.60 |
| *Minus special collections | -755.00 |
| Total for St. Thomas: | $10,810.60 |

March 3

| | |
|---|---|
| Tithes: Adults | $821.00 |
| Donations: source not identified | 153.50 |
| Improvements, Remodeling | 50.00 |
| Candles | 67.57 |
| *Bishop's Appeal | 100.00 |
| Coffee Social | 1.00 |
| Total deposit to checking | 1,193.07 |
| *Minus special collections | -100.00 |
| Total for St. Thomas: | $1,093.07 |

March 10

| | |
|---|---|
| Tithes: Adults | $1,970.00 |
| Donations: source not identified | 96.00 |
| Candles | 55.35 |
| Bake Sale | 248.00 |
| Coffee Social | 12.00 |
| Gift Shop | 15.00 |
| Total for St. Thomas: | $2,396.35 |

March 17

| | |
|---|---|
| Tithes: Adults | $1,766.00 |
| Donations: source not identified | 231.00 |
| Candles | 74.25 |
| *Bishop's Appeal | 250.00 |
| Bake Sale | 170.00 |
| Coffee Social | 16.00 |
| Gift Shop | 19.00 |
| Total deposit to checking | 2,526.25 |
| *Minus special collections | -250.00 |
| Total for St. Thomas: | $2,276.25 |

March 24

| | |
|---|---|
| Tithes: Adults | $2,872.00 |
| Annuciation (Feast) | 20.00 |
| Donations: source not identified | 100.00 |
| Candles | 74.93 |
| Coffee Social | 32.00 |
| Anaheim Loan payment | 643.51 |
| Total for St. Thomas: | 3,742.44 |

March 31

| | |
|---|---|
| Tithes: Adults | $967.00 |
| Annunciation (Feast) | 5.00 |
| Donations: source not identified | 253.24 |
| Candles | 67.25 |
| *Bishop's Appeal | 400.00 |
| *Catholic Home Missions | 5.00 |
| Gift Shop | 10.00 |
| Total deposit to checking | 1,707.49 |
| *Minus special collections | -405.00 |
| Total for St. Thomas: | $1,302.49 |



## 2019 Eparchial Appeal

This year, Most Reverend Bishop Thomas Olmsted and Most Reverend Bishop John Pazak are asking each Parish household to donate an average of $275.00 to the eparchy to help it with its ministry and programs. You can now donate through the parish as you have in the past (cash or check) or you can donate directly to the eparchy while crediting St. Thomas as your parish of record. This second option allows you to donate by credit card (in addition to check). Thank you for your generosity! This is no small sum of money for most of us. If our parish reaches its goal of $15,400.00, we will receive a 20% rebate as a reward for reaching that goal. Let's include the Bishop's Appeal in our extra charitable giving during the Great Fast. As of March 27, we have collected $3,452.00 thus far, bringing us 22.42% of the way to our goal from 12 participating parish households out of 56 total parish households (21.43%). If you did not receive a mailing from Most Reverend Bishop Thomas Olmsted and Most Reverend Bishop John Pazak regarding the Eparchial Appeal and would like to make a donation, please let Fr. Michael know. Thank you for your generosity!

# How to Put Together a Traditional Easter Basket

"Text adapted from an article by Fr. Basil Kraynyak, GCU Messenger, April, 1979" Illustrated by Fr. Jonathan Bannon






**PASCHA -** The Easter Bread (Pron. Pa-ska.) A sweet yeast bread rich in eggs, butter, etc. Symbolic of Christ Himself who is our True Bread. Usually round loaf baked with a golden crust decorated with a symbol indicative of Christ. Sometimes a cross (+) of dough is placed on top encircled by a plait given it a crowned effect or Greek

**CHEESE - (Rusyn:** Hrudka or Sirec) A custard type cheese shaped into a ball having a rather bland but sweet taste indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things. Also creamed cheese is placed in a small dish and both are decorated with symbols (see Pascha) out of cloves or pepper balls.

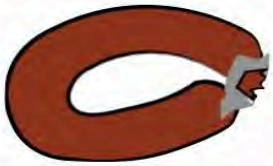


**HAM - (Rusyn: Šunka - pron. shoon-ka.)** The Flesh meat popular with the Slavs as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Some may prefer Lamb or Veal. This is usually well roasted or cooked as well as other meats so the festivity of the day will not be burdened with preparation and all may enjoy the Feast.





**BUTTER - (Rusyn:** Maslo pron. ma-slo.) This favorite dairy product is often shaped into a figure of a Lamb or small cross and decorated as the cheese. This reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.



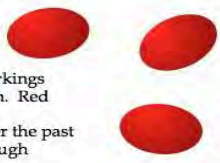
**SAUSAGE** (Rusyn: Kolbasi-pron. kol-bus-i.) A spicy, garlic sausage of pork products indicative of God's flavor and generosity.

**BACON - (Rusyn:** Slanina pron. sla-ni-na) A piece of uncooked bacon cured with spices. Symbolic of the overabundance of God's mercy to us.





**SALT - (Rusyn:** Sol' pron. sol') A condiment necessary for flavor reminding the Christian of his duty to others.



**EGGS** (Rusyn: Pisanki pron. pi-sun-ki) Hardboiled eggs brightly decorated with symbols and markings made with beeswax, indicative of new life and resurrection. Red eggs are also traditional date back to a story with St. Mary Magdalene. Having been dyed with onion skins saved over the past year, red shows the color of life and victory that came through Christ's blood.



**HORSERADISH** (Rusyn: Chrin pron. khrin) Horseradish mixed with grated red beets (optional) symbolizes the Passion of Christ still in our minds but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. A bitter-sweet red colored mixture reminds us of the sufferings of Christ.

**These articles are placed in a wicker basket. A decorated candle is placed inside and is lit at the time of the blessing. A linen cover usually embroidered with a picture of the Risen Christ or symbol with the words "Christ is Risen" is placed over the food when brought to the Church.**

**In some places a large Easter Bread (Pascha) is made and brought separately in a large linen cloth. If the origin of the people was from a wine growing area, a sweet wine may be brought**

