Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

April 2020

St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

Christ is risen! / Indeed He is risen!
Christós voskrése! / Voístinu voskrése!
– Cristo ha resucitado! En verdad ha resucitado!



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 *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)

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
Email : saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com

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

CONFESSIONS: Check bulletin for weekly times as well as special times before feast days. Also available by appointment.
ANOINTING OF THE SICK : Before hospitalization, after Holy Services in church. For emergencies, please call the Parish Office immediately.
BAPTISM/CHRISMATION/EUCHARIST: Must be arranged at least three months in advance.
CROWNING IN MARRIAGE: Must be arranged at least six months in advance.



Sunday, March 29 **ONLI NE ONLY**
Tone 1
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

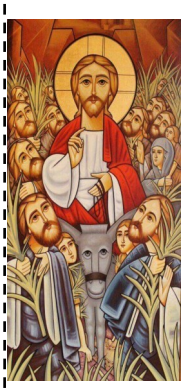
Wednesday, April 1 **ONLI NE ONLY**
Mary of Egypt Venerable
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: *Don & Vera Bedrin and family (Bullock family)*

Friday, April 3 **ONLI NE ONLY**
Nicetas Venerable –Confessor
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Michael & Barb Little and family (Stacy Doreen)



Saturday Morning, April 4 **ONLINE ONLY**
Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM
Intention: Anisa Person (Gail & Jan Person)
Hebrews 12:28-13:8; John 11:1-45

Saturday Evening, April 4 **ONLI NE ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Genesis 49:1-2,8-12; Zephaniah 3:14-19;
Zechariah 9:9-15
Intention: Lubov Sidun (Fr. Michael and Daughters)



Palm Sunday, April 5 **ONLINE ONLY**
Festal Tone
Palm (Flowery/Willow)
Sunday Third Hour 9:40 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 6 **ONLI NEONLY**
Great and Holy Monday
Bridegroom Matins 7:00 PM

Tuesday, April 7 **ONLI NEONLY**
Great and Holy Tuesday
Bridegroom Matins 7:00 PM



Wednesday, April 8 **ONLI NEONLY**
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: Erika Person (Gail & Jan Person)

Thursday, April 9 **ONLI NEONLY**
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: Greg and Carol Bullock (Stacy Doreen)

Friday at Noon, April 10 **ONLI NE ONLY**
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;
Matthew26:57-75; John 18:28-19:16; Matthew 27:3-32;
Mark 15:16-32; Matthew 27:33-54;Luke23:32-49;
John 19:25-37; Mark 15:43-47;John19:38-42;
Matthew 27:62-66

Friday Evening, April 10 **ONLINE ONLY**
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; John19:38-42



Saturday Morning, April 11 ONLINE ONLY
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 11

Blessing of Easter Baskets at parking lot from 4-5:00 PM

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy ONLINE ONLY 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: Fr. Michael & Betty Kirila (Doreen Stacy)

Sunday, April 12 Festal Tone

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

Blessing of Easter Baskets at parking lot from 9:00-10:00 AM

ONLINE ONLY
Resurrection Matins with procession 8:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Acts 1:1-8; John 1:1-17
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Monday, April 13 ONLINE ONLY
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: Michael Person (Gail & Jan Person)

Tuesday, April 14 ONLINE ONLY
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: Joseph Barnes with family (Doreen Stacy)

Saturday Evening, April 18 ONLINE ONLY
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 5:12-20; John 20:19-31
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencs)

Sunday, April 19 Festal Tone ONLINE ONLY
Thomas Sunday
Parish Patronal Feast
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Procession & Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 5:12-20; John 20:19-31
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, April 22 ONLINE ONLY
St. Thomas Week
Theodore Sykeot Venerable
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Acts 4:13-22; John 5:17-24
Intention: + Alfredo Olivares (Fr. Arthur Rojas)

Thursday, April 23 ONLINE ONLY
George Great-Martyr
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Acts 12:1-11, John 15:17-16:2
Intention: +Sue Salmen (Sally Rock)

Saturday Evening, April 25 ONLINE ONLY
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 6:1-7; Mark 15:43-16:8
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencs)

Sunday, April 26 Festal Tone ONLINE ONLY
Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 6:1-7; Mark 15:43-16:8
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, April 29 ONLINE ONLY
The Nine Holy Martyrs of Cyzice
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Acts 8:18-25; John 6:35-239
Intention: +John Zebec (Bullock family)

Thursday, April 30 ONLINE ONLY
James the Greater Apostle
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Acts 12:1-11, Lk 5:1-11
Intention: +Fernando Rojas (Fr. Arthur Rojas)

Romanian – Hristos a înviat! Adevărat a înviat!
Latin – Christus resurrexit! Resurrexit vere!
Hungarian – Krisztus feltámadt! Valóban feltámadt!

Saturday Evening, May 2 **ONLINE ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 9:32-42; Jn 5:1-15
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencs)

Sunday, May 3 Festal Tone **ONLINE ONLY**
Sunday of the Paralytic Man
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 9:32-42; Jn 5:1-15
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Artos is a Greek word which means bread made with yeast. The Artos is blessed on Easter Sunday after the Ambon Prayer which is said at the end of the Liturgy. Even though this is a custom and an old-world tradition in our Byzantine Church, we find regrettably that only a few churches carry out this practice. The prayer used in the blessing of the Artos is as follows: "We bless and sanctify this bread on this Paschal day, for the honor, praise and memory of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ by whom we are released, freed … We further ask Almighty God to bless this bread and that all who partake of it may share in His Heavenly gifts and be free of all pain and sickness, and be granted salvation of soul and health of body." ["Trebnik", Žokva, Pp 602-604]

During Easter Week, which is also known as Bright Week, the blessed bread, covered with an icon of the Resurrection, remains on the Tetrapod to be kissed until the Sunday after Easter (St. Thomas Sunday), when the Artos is distributed to the faithful. According to the old custom, the Artos was distributed on the Saturday of Bright Week after the Holy Liturgy with the prayer, "this bread may be for the health and sanctification of the soul of him who eats of it." In the former centuries the faithful would preserve little pieces of bread for those who were seriously ill or in danger of death and unable to receive Holy Communion. They would be given a piece of artos as a substitute for Holy Communion.

Happy Birthday!

SIDUN, Liubov	4/4
HOLZHAUER, Grant	4/5
HOLZHAUER, Juliette	4/14
PARK, Jeffrey	4/14
COREY, Yvonne	4/15
KIRILA, Father Michael	4/16
PARKER, Reg	4/19
AGUAYO, Tracy	4/20
KARNYA, Cal	4/23
RAWLINS, Charles	4/23
HOLZHAUER, Fay	4/28
SULLIVAN, Donna	4/30

Happy Anniversary!

CIHAK, Bob & Mary Lynn - 4/13
THOMPSON, Don and Frances - 4/14

May God grant them many blessed years

Services at home

Dress up to attend services at home: Take your online attendance at liturgical services very seriously. Even though we cannot be together physically, this is a blessed opportunity to pray with the priest, deacon, cantor and fellow parishioners. Don't slack off in a lounge chair drinking coffee and doing other things while watching the service. Dress up, turn on the computer and be ready to pray on time. Place chairs in front of the computer in your family icon corner, or a sacred image if you do not have an icon corner. Guard your holy Byzantine Catholic faith during this trial by joining in with the chanting as though you were at St. Thomas itself, giving thanks and praise to God who loves and cares for you in this difficult time

Thank you for honoring God's Temple at home with your Sunday Best!

Christ is risen! / Indeed He is risen! (English)
Christós voskrése! / Voístinu voskrése! (Slavonic)
– Cristo ha resucitado! En verdad ha resucitado! Spanish
Christós anésti! / Alithós anésti! (Greek)
Al-Maseeh qam! / Háqqan qam! (Arabic)

COLLECTIONS

Summary for March 6,908.00

March 1

Tithes: Adults	$1,145.00
All Souls	10.00
Donations: Misc.	97.00
Improvements, Remodeling	50.00
Flowers, Palms	206.25
*Bishop's Appeal	100.00
Coffee Social	7.00
Gift Shop	6.00
Total deposit to checking	1,621.25
*Minus special collections	-100.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,521.25

March 8

Tithes: Adults	$1,670.00
Donations: Misc.	84.00
Candles	94.90
*Bishop's Appeal	200.00
Coffee Social	32.00
Total deposit to checking	2,080.90
*Minus special collections	-200.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,880.90

March 15

Tithes: Adults	$990.00
Donations: Misc.	519.00
Candles	75.00
Coffee Social	10.00
Gift Shop	15.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,609.00

March 22

Tithes: Adults	$1,200.00
Donations: Misc.	00.00
Candles	00.00
Coffee Social	00.00
Gift Shop	00.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,200.00

March 29

Tithes: Adults	$635.00
Donations: Misc.	00.00
Candles	$62.00
Coffee Social	$00.00
Gift Shop	$00.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$697.00

Thank you to all who mailed or hand-delivered their tithe or other donations this past couple weeks!

Please feel free to talk with Fr. Michael about parish needs

*DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME OF SHELTER AT HOME, PLEASE REMEMBER THE BILLS STILL NEED TO BE PAID. PLEASE CONSIDER MAILING US YOUR MONTHLY DONATIONS. May God bless your generosity to His Church!

Announcements:

2020 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 $16,400.00, we will receive a 10% 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 April 3, we have collected $3,000. 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!

ThankYou

I would like to thank all of you who volunteer to host our Sunday coffee social. We all enjoy this time of fellowship, and your contribution to this event is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank all of you for the time, talents, gifts, and treasures that you offer to God and to St. Thomas Byzantine Catholic Church. Your generosity helps support the needs of St. Thomas. May the Lord reward your kindness!

Thank you to all who help the Church by being understanding when mistakes are made, and chose to respond in prayer, love, kindness, forgiveness & patience. When we respond in this way, it helps us grow as individuals, and as a parish family.

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

French – Le Christ est ressuscité! En verité il est ressuscité! or Le Christ est
Italian – Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!
German – Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!

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.

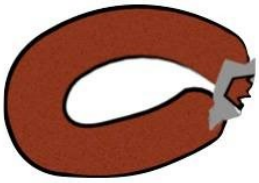


HAM - (Rusyn: Šunka - pron. shoon-ka.) The Flesh meat popular with the Slavs as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Some may prefer Lamb or Veal. This is usually well roasted or cooked as well as other meats so the festivity of the day will not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



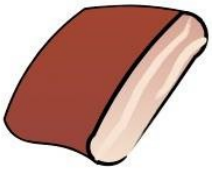


BUTTER - (Rusyn: Maslo pron. ma-slo.) This favorite dairy product is often shaped into a figure of a Lamb or small cross and decorated as the cheese. This reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.



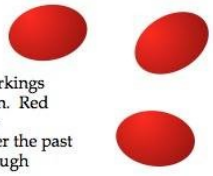
SAUSAGE (Rusyn: Kolbasi-pron. kol-bus-i.) A spicy, garlic sausage of pork products indicative of God's flavor and generosity.

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.



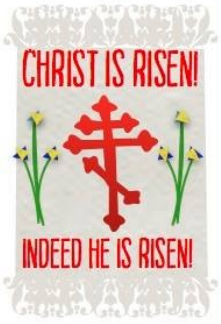
EGGS (Rusyn: Pisanki pron. pi-sun-ki)
Hardboiled eggs brightly decorated with symbols and markings made with beeswax, indicative of new life and resurrection. Red eggs are also traditional date back to a story with St. Mary Magdalene. Having been dyed with onion skins saved over the past year, red shows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





Dear Saint Thomas the Apostle Parish Family and Guests !

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

As we celebrate Pascha this year, we are blessed with a renewed sense of hope. Hope of Salvation in our Risen Lord. Hope for the future that we are faithful, prayerful, and kind. And hope that our hearts are filled with the Love, Joy and Peace of our Risen Lord. I pray that this Love, Joy and Peace radiates into every area of our lives and consecrates every moment, every deed and every relationship with our families, our parish, our communities, our countries and world. I thank you for all your prayers and kindness!
Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

With much Love, Respect, and Prayer
Father Michael Sidun and Family

English - Christ is risen! / Indeed He is risen!
Church Slavonic – Христо́съ воскре́се! Воистину воскресе! (Hristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!)
Ukrainian – Христос воскрес! Воістину воскрес! (Khrystos voskres! Voistynu voskres!)
Russian – Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес! (Christos voskres! Voistinu voskres!)
Polish – Chrystus zmartwychwstał! Prawdziwie zmartwychwstał!

Greek – Χριστὸς ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη! (Khristós Anésti! Alithós Anésti!)
Arabic- Al-Maseeh qam! / Háqqan qam!

Latin – Christus resurrexit! Resurrexit vere!
Spanish – Cristo ha resucitado! En verdad ha resucitado!
Romanian – Hristos a înviat! Adevărat a înviat!
French – Le Christ est ressuscité! En verité il est ressuscité! or Le Christ est
Italian – Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!
German – Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!
Hungarian – Krisztus feltámadt! Valóban feltámadt!

Aleut – Kristus aq ungwektaq! Pichinuq ungwektaq!
Yupik languages – Xris-tusaq Ung-uixtuq! Iluumun Ung-uixtuq!
Navajo— Christ nidetai ! Aou nidetai!

Filipino – Si Kristo ay nabuhay! Totoo! Siya nga ay nabuhay!
Japanese – ハリストス復活！実に復活！ (Harisutosu fukkatsu! Jitsu ni fukkatsu!)
Korean – 그리스도께서 부활하셨네! 참으로 부활하셨네! (Geuriseudokkeseo Buhwalhasheotne! Chameuro Buhwalhasheotne!)