Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

May 2020

St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!
!Gloria a Jesucristo! !Gloria Por Siempre!
Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!



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

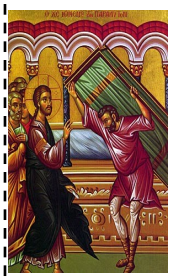
Parish phone: 480-497-6726
- press 1 for the parish office
- press 2 for a sacramental emergency

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.

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



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

Wednesday, May 6 **ONLY**
Mid-Pentecost
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Gail Person and Family (Fr. Michael)

Friday, May 8 **ONLY**
John Apostle and Evangelist
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Diane Hvasta and Family (Fr.Michael Sidun)

Saturday Evening, May 9 **ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 11:19-29 & 29-30
Jn 4:5-42
Intention: +Dale Stevens (Tom & Liz Kol)



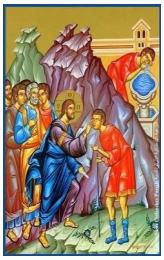
Sunday, May 10 Festal Tone
ONLINE ONLY
Happy Mother`s Day
Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 9:32-42; Jn 5:1-15
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday, May 11 **ONLY**
Cyril and Methodius Apostles to the Slavs
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +Mary Helena Lawson (Bullock Family)

Wednesday, May 13 **ONLY**
Glyceria Martyr
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Peace in Colombia (Fr. Artur Rojas)

Thurday, May 14 **ONLY**
Isidore Martyr
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: + Kunak Family (Liz & Tom Kol)

Saturday Evening, May 16 **ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 16:16-34 Jn 9:1-38
Intention: +Constancia Visaga (Al Javicr)



Sunday, May 17 Festal Tone
ONLINE ONLY
Sunday of the Man Born Blind
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 16:16-34; Jn 9:1-38
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, May 20 **ONLY**
Vigil Vespers **Divine Liturgy**
Ascension of our Lord 7:00 PM
Intention: Yordana Sidun (Fr. Michael Sidun)



Thursday, May 21
ONLY
Ascension of our Lord
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Tommy Clark (Fr. Michael Sidun)

Friday, May 22 **ONLY**
Constantine and Helen Equals to the Apostles
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Peace in Chile (Fr. Artur Rojas)

Saturday Evening, May 23 **ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38; Jn17:1-13
Intention: Tajid Person (Gail & Jan Person)

Sunday, May 24 Festal Tone



ONLINE ONLY
Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 20:16-18 & 28-38; Jn 17:1-13
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

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Monday, May 25 **ONLY**
Memorial Day
3rd Finding of the Head of John the Baptist
Divine Liturgy 9:00AM
Intention: +Kol family (Tom & Liz Kol)

Wednesday, May 27 **ONLY**
Therapont Bishop-Martyr
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Fr. Michael and Family (Fr. Artur Rojas)

Thursday, May 28 **ONLY**
Nicetas Bishop
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: + Betsae Soto De Salazar (Fr. Artur Rojas)



Saturday Morning, March 30 **ONLY**

5th All Souls Saturday Commemoration of the Faithfully Departed

Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM
Intention: †All Souls
Acts 28:1-31; Jn 21:15-25;

Saturday Evening, May 30 **ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Acts 2:1-11; Jn 7:37-52 & 8:12
Intention: +Peter Broznak (Anna Broznak)



Sunday, May 31 Festal Tone
ONLINE ONLY
PENTECOST SUNDAY

Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Acts 2:1-11; Jn 7:37-52 & 8:12
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Monday, June 1 **ONLY**
PENTECOST MONDAY
Divine Liturgy 7:00AM
Intention: Fr. Michael and Family (Liz and Tom Kol)

Wednesday, June 3 **ONLY**
Lucillian and Other Martyrs
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +Kol family (Liz and Tom Kol)

Saturday Evening, June 6 **ONLY**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Heb 11:32-12:2a; Mt 10:32-33,37-38 & 19:27-30
Intention: +Anna Bacovcin (Anna Broznak)



Sunday, June 7 Festal Tone
ONLINE ONLY

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Heb 11:32-12:2a; Mt 10:32-33,37-38 & 19:27-30
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things,

Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life,

come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain,

and save our souls, O gracious One.

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!

COLLECTIONS

Summary for April 6,376.00

April 5

Tithes: Adults	$2,427.00
Donations: Misc.	00.00
Candles	00.00
Coffee Social	00.00
Gift Shop	00.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$2,427.00

April 12

Tithes: Adults	$1,934.00
Donations: Misc.	00.00
Candles	00.00
Coffee Social	00.00
Gift Shop	00.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,934.00

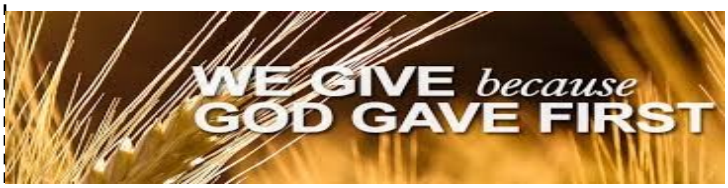
April 19

Tithes: Adults	$1,015.00
Donations: Misc.	00.00
Candles	00.00
Coffee Social	00.00
Gift Shop	00.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,015.00

April 26

Tithes: Adults	$910.00
Donations: Misc.	00.00
Candles	90.00
Coffee Social	00.00
Gift Shop	00.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$1,00.00

Thank you to all who have given their tithe or other donations by either going online, mailing, or hand-delivering.



ENGAGE AND SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

Your generous contributions help sustain St Thomas during this time of crisis. Online Giving gives you the opportunity to give anytime and any-where with just the click of a button. Our online giving system allows you to make donations, payments, and pledges via your smart device or computer to our church. We deeply appreciate you keeping St Thomas as a priority as a part of your faithful contributions.

*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!

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

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

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 May 1, we have collected $4,825.00. 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!

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.



Mother's Day

"Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.'" – Proverbs 31:28-31

Our mothers walk with God every day. In every moment they teach us wisdom, kindness, graciousness, generosity, and above all -- love. May God bestow on them His continued gifts of strength and courage, patience and understanding. And may He grace each of them -- whether they are mothers, mothers-in-law, step-mothers, expectant mothers, grieving mothers, grandmothers, aunts, or women without their own but who gather children to them like hens with their chicks -- with many more blessed, happy and loving years! Happy and blessed Mother's Day!



Happy Birthday!

FORBES, Alex	5/3
LIESMEYER, Emily	5/4
PERSON, Gail	5/5
HVASTA, Diane	5/8
HEGG, Ashley	5/14
SIDUN, Yordona	5/19
CLARK, Tommy	5/21

Happy Anniversary!

LIESMEYER, Kent and Carla	5/10
FORBES, Kris and Danny	5/16
ANTONIOS, Vincent and Janice	5/19

May God grant them many blessed years



It was with honor and respect that we welcomed His Grace, Bishop John Pazak to our parish Sunday, April 26. He concelebrated Divine Liturgy with Father Michael. Many of or our faithful parishioners and guests participated in the online Liturgy while our cantors sang the responses. May God grant him many more blessed years.



Thank you! Gracias! D'akujem! Ευχαριστούμε! Дякую!

During this unprecedented time when we are unable to be present in the church building, we want to express our thankfulness and ask God's blessings to our wonderful cantors who have given their time and talent to lead the responses for our Divine Liturgies and Services this Paschal Season: Honora Bullock, Tom Clark, Kris Forbes, Greg Hendricks, Diane Hvasta, Daniel McBurney, and Mignon Thurow. And we give our deepest gratitude to and ask God's graces for Danny Forbes, Katie Forbes, and Bryden Danilich for providing the equipment, time and talent to live stream every one of our Divine Liturgies and Services. You all provide an invaluable service to our parishioners and visitors who are unable to be present in Church but worship together online as a parish church family!

Thank You

I would 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!

The Byzantine Sign of the Cross

- A. In the Byzantine Catholic Tradition, **the Sign of the Cross** is made with the thumb and the first two fingers of the right hand joined at the tips (the third and fourth fingers being closed on the palm).
- B. By joining the thumb and the first two fingers, we express our belief in the **Most-Holy Trinity.**
- C. The two fingers closed on the palm represent **the two natures of Christ** divine and human.
- D. With the thumb and first two fingers joined, we touch first the brow, then the breast, the right shoulder and then the left, making on ourselves the Sign of the Cross and signifying by the four points that the **Holy Trinity** has sanctified our thoughts (mind), feelings (heart), desires (soul) and acts (strength) to service of God.
- C. By making the Sign of the Cross on ourselves we also signify that Christ has saved us by His sufferings on the Cross.
- D. The Byzantine way of making the sign of the cross pre-dates the Latin style used by Roman Catholics.

