Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

December 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!

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



The Divine Liturgy of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom on Superstition Mountain

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.

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, December 5
St. Nicholas of Myra Archbishop
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Eph 6:10-17 & Heb 13:17-21
Lk 17:12-19 & Lk 6:17-23
Intention: :+Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)



Sunday, December 6, Tone 2
27th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
St. Nicholas of Myra Archbishop
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Eph 6:10-17 & Heb 13:17-21
Lk 17:12-19 & Lk 6:17-23
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Monday, December 7
Maternity of the Holy Anna
CONFESSIONS
6:00-6:30 PM
Vigil Divine Liturgy
7:00 PM Intention: Kevin Shutack (Diane Stefanchik Hvasta)

Tuesday, December 8
Maternity of the Holy Anna
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Gail & Jan Person (Bullock family)

Thursday, December 10
Mennas and Others
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +Peter & Anna Broznak (Thompson family)

Saturday Evening, December 12
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Col 3:4-11
Lk 14:16-24
Intention: +Agnes Deitering (Gail & Jan Person)



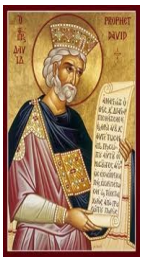
Sunday, December 13, Tone 3
SUNDAY OF THE FOREFATHERS
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Col 3:4-11
Lk 14:16-24
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Tuesday, December 15
Eleutherius Bishop-Martyr
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +1.7 Billion aborted future Mothers & Fathers (Brian & Beth Matthysse)

Thursday, December 17
Daniel Great Prophet
CONFESSIONS 8:00-8:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM
Intention: Jan Person (Thompson family)

Saturday Evening, December 19
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Heb 11:9-10 & 32-40 Mt 1:1-25
Intention: +Albert Deitering (Gail & Jan Person)

Holy Supper in Church Hall will begin about 6:30 pm



Sunday, December 20, Tone 4
SUNDAY BEFOR CHRISTMAS OF THE ANCESTORS
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Heb 11:9-10 & 32-40 Mt 1:1-25
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

DIVINE LITURGIES & INTENTIONS
***Come to church 10-15 minutes early**
***Put your cell phone on "Airplane Mode"**
***Light a candle, settle down in quiet prayer & reflection**
***Recite the prayers before the Divine Liturgy**
***Make a good confession. Thank you for honoring God's Temple with your Sunday Best!**







With friends from St. Stephen's, Phoenix



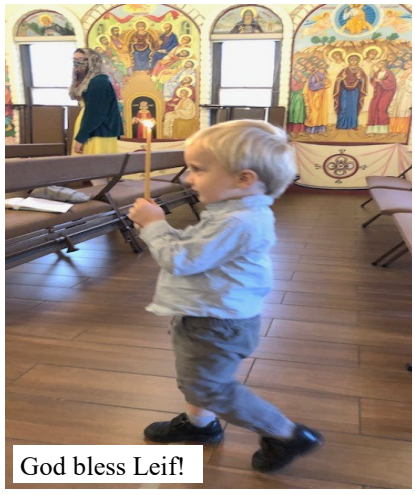
Saint Anne feast



Tea party for the women & young ladies of St. Thomas



Saint Anne feast



God bless Leif!

IC XC
NI KA



Winter time in Gilbert, AZ—a sunny 68 degrees



Blessing of Jennifer's car



Blessing truck for safe travels
Lynn & Jeff Sims

Thursday , December 24
No Liturgy
Great Martyr Eugenia
Royal Hours of Christmas **9:00 AM**

1st Hour - Micah 5:2-4; Hebrews 1:1-12; Matthew 1:18-25

3rd Hour - Jeremiah 3:35-4:4; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 2:1- 20

6th Hour - Isaiah 7:10-16, 8:1-4, 9-10; Hebrews 1:10-2:3; Matthew 2:1-12

9th Hour - Isaiah 9:6-7; Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 2:13-23

Christ is Born! Glorify him!

Khrystos rozhdayet'sya! Slavite Yoho!

Cristo ha nacido! Glorifiquemosle!



Thursday Evening, December 24
Feast of Christmas, the Birth of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ
Carol Singing **6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Ted Bronson and family (Thompson family)



Friday MIDNIGHT, December 25
Feast of Christmas, the Birth of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

Carol Singing **11:30 PM**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 12:00 AM

Genesis 1:1-13; Numbers 24:2-3, 5-9, 17-18; Micah 4:6-7, 5:2-4; Isaiah 11:1-10; Jeremiah (Baruch) 3:35-4:4; Daniel 2:31-36, 44-45; Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 7:10-16, 8:1-4, 9-10; Hebrews 1:1-12; Luke 2:1-20
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas
Cookie Exchange in Parish Hall after Liturgy

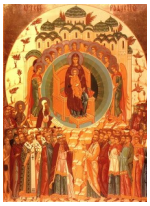


Friday, December 25
Feast of Christmas, the Birth of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

Carol Singing **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Christmas Play **11:15 AM**

Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12

Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas
Cookie Exchange in Parish Hall after Liturgy

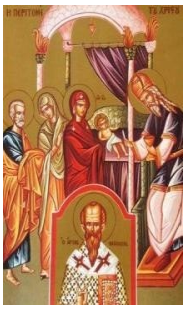


Saturday Evening, December 26
Synaxis of the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Gal 1:11-19; Mt 2:13-23
Intention:+Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)



Sunday, December 27, Tone 5
SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
MEMORY OF DAVID, JOSEPH & JAMES
Holy Apostle, First Martyr and Archdeacon Stephen
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Gal 1:11-19; Mt 2:13-23
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Tuesday, December 29
Holy Innocents Martyrs
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +Peter Broznak (Anna Broznak)



Thursday, December 31
Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ/Our Holy Father Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Intention: Greg & Lori Hudye and family
_____(Fr. M.Sidun)

Christ is Born! Glorify him!

Khrystos rozhdayet'sya! Slavite Yoho!

Cristo ha nacido! Glorifiquemosle!



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 anywhere 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.

Celebration of All Saints



















Friday, January 1, 2021
Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ / Our Holy Father Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia

CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Intention: Ben & Carol Hudye and family
_____(Fr. M. Sidun)



Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted, Fr. Michael Sidun
Pani Luba Sidun & daughter Sofia Sidun

Gregory Hendricks & Angela Candreva



will be joined in marriage on January 1st, 2021 at 2 pm at St. Thomas Byzantine Catholic Church. Due to Covid-19, the number of guests able to attend is limited. However, please join us for a small reception celebrating their matrimony on January 17, 2021 following Divine Liturgy.

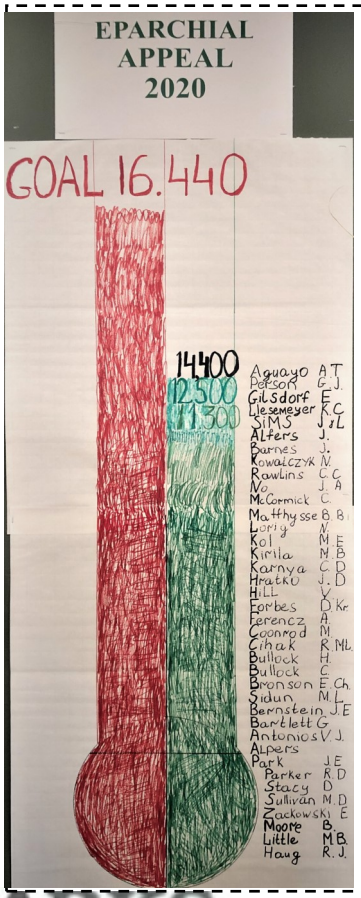
Friday, January 1, 2021
Wedding service 2:00 pm

Gregory Hendricks & Angela Candreva

CONGRATULATIONS!
May God grant them many blessed years

Saturday Evening, January 2, 2021
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
2 Tim 4:5-8; Mk 1:1-8
Intention: +Arlene Rose (Beth & Brian Matthysse)

Sunday, January 3, 2021. Tone 7
SUNDAY BEFORE THEOPHANY
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
2 Tim 4:5-8; Mk 1:1-8
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



The 2020 Eparchial Appeal has ended

38 Households have pledged $14,400.00

Thank you for your support of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix.

Thank you for your generosity!

REMARKS

1.2.3.7.9.11.14.16.18. Aliturgical days (without Divine Liturgy) may be observed.
4.11.18. Simple abstinence from meat or equivalent penance.
6. Sunday Gospel is 30th Sun. after Pentecost, to avoid repetition with Sun. of Forefathers.
8. In other Byzantine traditions, Feast of Maternity of Holy Anna is celebrated Wed. Tues. Ep., 2 Tim 3:16-4:4; Gos. Lk 21:12-19
9. In other Byzantine traditions, Feast of Maternity of Holy Anna, Gal 4:22-31; Lk 8:16-21.
12. Outside Ruthenian Metropolia, Spiridon, Wonderworker-Bishop, Ep. Eph 1:16-23; Gos. Lk 13:18-29
20-24. Prefestive Days of Christmas.
24. Vigil of Christmas. Royal Hours are celebrated in the morning. Strict abstinence from meat or dairy products. Vespers with the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great in the evening.
26. Christmas to Theophany, 12/25 to 1/4, free from fast & abstinence
26. Sat. after Christmas. Ep. 1 Tim 6:11-16 & Gos. Mt 12:15-21 of Sat. may be read before the Synaxis.
27. Sun. after Christmas, Commemoration of Prophet David; Joseph, Husband of Mary & Apostle James, Brother of the Lord, & Feast of Holy Protomartyr Stephen. Ep. Acts 6:8-7:5 & 47-60 & Gos. Mt 21:33-42 of Protomartyr may be read in 2nd place after those of Sunday.
31. Final Day of the feast of Christmas.

Superstition Mountain - 5057 ft (1541 m)
St. Thomas Byzantine - TEAM, Gilbert, AZ

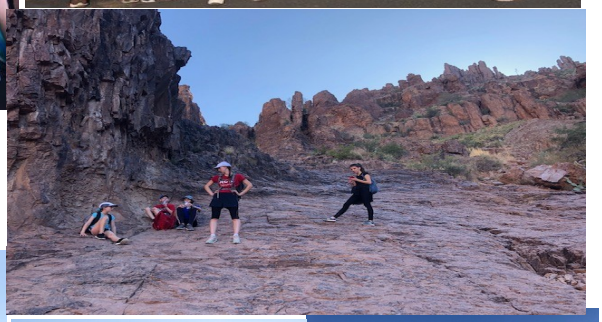








Jim is a 90 year old legend who until this year hiked the mountain every day in the winter. After taking 2 bad falls last year, he refuses to quit and still hikes it once a week.

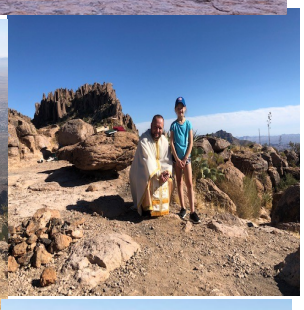
















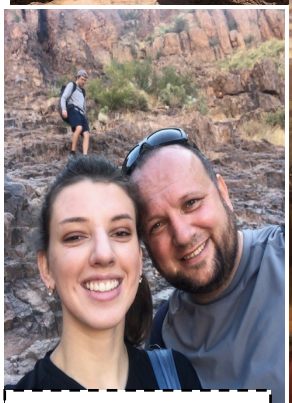
The **Divine Liturgy** of Our Holy Father John Chrysostom on the **Superstition Mountain**











Fr. Michael and his daughter Sofia



Cowboy Dan is an Orthodox Christian who immigrated from Albania. He owns the Salon and Restaurant at Goldfield. And he gave us free deserts!

After the Liturgy on the mountain, we met Ben & Carol and Greg & Lori Hudye at the Goldfield restaurant. They are Ukrainian Byzantine Catholics from Canada & USA. When they heard us singing the Our Father before our meal, they struck up a conversation with us, and they ended up paying the bill for our entire party! Thank you so much for your kindness & for participating sacrificially in our pilgrimage! May God Bless them & Grant them many and blessed years!



Happy Birthday!

LIESMEYER, Veronica	12/2
MATTHYSSE, Brian	12/6
FORBES, Damian	12/10
BRONSON, Max	12/12
BUCHMAN, Simon	12/15
MOORE, Rhiannon	12/18
PERSON, Jan	12/19
KOWALCZYK, Dr. Nick	12/22
BRONSON, Emma	12/26
SCHREIBER, Yellow	12/26
STALKER-HIGHSMITH, Liam	12/28
WOLLERT, Sharon	12/28
AGUAYO, Jaqueline Noelle	12/30
MOORE, Anna	12/30

Happy Anniversary!

PARKER, Reg and Diane - 12/27

Summary for November 2020

Tithes: Adults	**$5,285.77**
Donations: Misc.	**909.00**
Improvements, Remodeling	**120.00**
Candles	**238.97**
Rent: Church or Hall	**780.00**
***Bishop's Appeal**	**1,275.00**
Coffee Social	**36.00**
Gift Shop	**85.00**
Oktoberfest revenue	**114.00**
Rebate from Bishop's Appeal	**1,190.00**
Total deposit to checking	**$10,133.74**
***Minus special collections**	**- $1,375.00**
Total for St. Thomas:	**$8,758.74**

Thank you to all who participated in online giving, mailed or hand-delivered your tithe or other donations these past couple weeks!

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



VectorStock® VectorStock.com/4674297

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

Sunday Coffee Social:
As we move through the season of holy days, each Sunday Coffee social for December and January will be pot-luck style. We ask each family to bring a dish to share and to help with clean-up afterwards. Please contact Lynn Sims at 480-205-0508 if you have any questions.

ThankYou

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!

Thank you to all who help the Church by being understanding when mistakes are made, and choosing 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.

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