Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

February 2021

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!



Theophany water blessing

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

*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, January 31, Tone 2
SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
1 Cor 6;12-20; Lk 15:11-32
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday, February 1
Encounter of our Lord with Simeon
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Vigil Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Fr. Michael and family (Simon Buchman)
Please bring your candles to St. Thomas for the blessing

February 2 is the feast of The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple.
The feast, which commemorates the presentation of our Lord by his parents in the Temple in Jerusalem on the fortieth day from His birth, concludes the cycle of winter feasts that are sometimes called the "Feasts of Light". These feasts - the Nativity, Theophany, and Meeting - have a common focus: the coming of the Messiah into the world. In the West, this is known as Candlemas. Please bring your candles to St. Thomas for the blessing of candles.



Tuesday, February 2
Encounter of our Lord with Simeon
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Mary-Sherry Whah (Fr. Michael & family)
Please bring your candles to St. Thomas for the blessing

Wednesday February 3
Synaxis of the Holy Prophets Simeon & Anna
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +Robert Hanley (Bob & Mary Lynn Cihak)

Saturday Morning, February 6
10:00 AM - All Souls Saturday - Divine Liturgy
at Holy Redeemer Catholic Cemetery
Address: 23015 N. Cave Creek Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
*This year all Eastern Churches will celebrate the remembrance of their dead together. Please mark your calendar. The blessing of the graves will follow the Divine Liturgy and the Memorial.



Saturday Evening, February 6
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Intention: +Susan Matthysse (Brian & Beth Matthysse)



Sunday, February 7, Tone 3
SUNDAY OF MEAT FARE
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
1 Cor 8:8-9:2: Mt 25:31-46
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Saturday Evening, February 13
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Rom 13:11-14:4; Mt 6:14-21
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)



Sunday, February 14, Tone 4
SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE or FORGIVENESS
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Rom 13:11-14:4; Mt 6:14-21
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday, February 15
Clean Monday—St. Onesimus
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Gen 1:1-13; Prov 1:1-20
Intention: Barb Little (Little Family)

Wednesday, February 17
St. Theodore of Tyre
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Gen 1:24-2:3; Prov 2:1-22
Intention: +John Person (Jan Person)

Friday, February 19
St. Archippus
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Gen 2:20-3:20; Prov 3:19-34; Isaiah 43:9-14; Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9; Wisdom of Solomon 5:15-6:3
Intention: +Virginia Hill (Diane Hvasta)

Saturday Evening, February 20
CONFESSIONS 3:00-3:30 PM
Full Vespers 4:00- 4:50PM
Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)



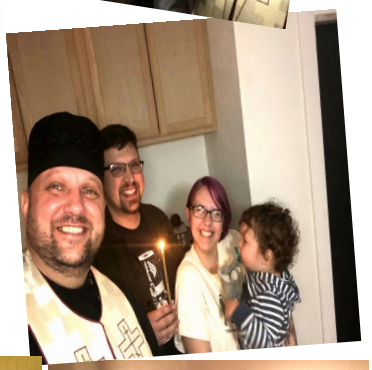
Theophany water blessing

Theophany house blessings


















Our friends from Alaska
Jake & Dasha
Fr. Michael, Pani Luba, and Tereza

Deacon Hendricks & family

Fr. Michael & Pani Elizabeth Kirila
(Romanian Byzantine Catholic)
Fr. Michael Sidun (Byzantine Catholic)

REMARKS

1. Pre-festive Day of the Feast of the Meeting of our Lord with the Prophet Simeon and the Prophetess Anna.
5. Final Day (Otdanije) of the Feast of the Meeting of our Lord with the Prophet Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, transferred from the 9th because of Cheesefare Week.
5.12.17.19.24.26. Simple abstinence from meat or equivalent penance.
8-12. Cheesefare Week. Wednesday and Friday are aliturgical days (without Divine Liturgy).
15. Beginning of the Great Fast. Strict fast and abstinence required. No meat or dairy products. Abstinence and other penances are traditionally observed throughout the Great Fast.
15. Today is also the civil observance of Presidents' Day.
21.28. The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil is celebrated.
24. Feast of the First and Second Findings of the Head of St. John the Baptist. An Epistle and Gospel is read at the Presanctified Divine Liturgy.



SUNDAY, February 21, Tone 5
First Sunday of the Great Fast—Sunday of Orthodoxy
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy and Procession with Holy Icons 10:00 AM
(Please bring a favorite Holy Icon from home to carry in the procession of Holy Icons.)
Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2; John 1:43-51
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, February 24
1st and 2nd Findings of the Head of John the Baptist
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: In thanksgiving, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Sister Marcella Patricia)

Friday, February 26
Holy Father Porphry
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Mary Ann (Brian & Beth Matthysse)



Saturday Morning, February 27
2nd All Souls Saturday Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM
Intention: †All Souls
Hebrews 3:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; Mark 1:35-44; John 5:24-30

Saturday Evening, February 27
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Intention: +John & Virginia Hill (Al Ferencz)



SUNDAY, February 28, Tone 6
Second Sunday of the Great Fast
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Hebrews 1:10-2:3; Mark 2:1-12
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, March 3
Eutropius & Others—Martyrs
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: Pani Luba Sidun (Bullock family)

Friday, March 5
Conon Martyr
CONFESSIONS 6:00-6:30 PM
Presanctified Gifts Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM
Intention: +Roy Haug (Little family)





Saturday Morning, March 6
3rd All Souls Saturday Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM
Intention: †All Souls
Hebrews 10:32-38; Mark 2:14-17

Saturday Evening, March 6
CONFESSIONS 4:00-4:30 PM
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Karyn Marchant)



SUNDAY, March 7, Tone 7
Third Sunday of the Great Fast
Veneration of the Cross
CONFESSIONS 9:00-9:30 AM
Third Hour 9:40 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas
Hebrews: 4:14-5:6; Mark 8:34-9:1

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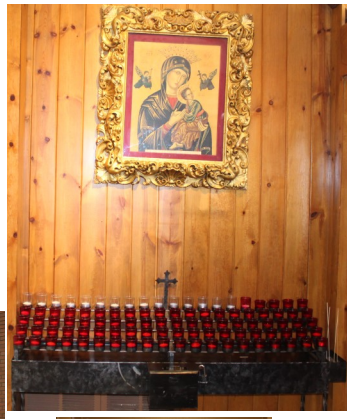


For 30 years, **Al Ferencz** has been changing all the church cloths for all the services & feasts at St. Thomas
May God grant Him many blessed years.

Arizona Eastern Catholic Clergy at St. Joseph Maronite Catholic Church (Phoenix)











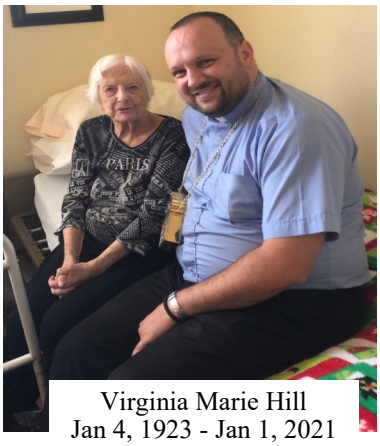


In blessed repose grant, o Lord, eternal rest to your departed servants and remember them forever.

Eternal memory, Eternal memory, Blessed repose, Eternal memory.

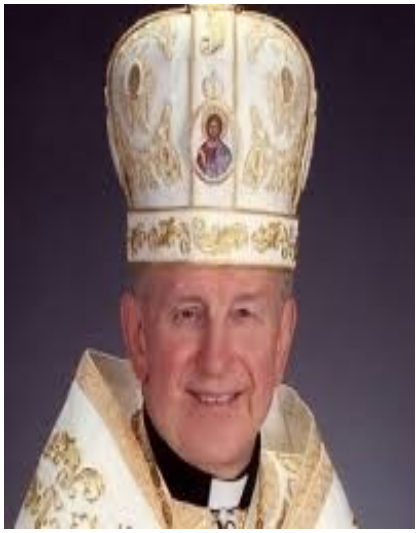


Gail F. Person
May 5, 1941 - Jan 10, 2021



Virginia Marie Hill
Jan 4, 1923 - Jan 1, 2021





Bishop Gerald Nicholas Dino
Eparch Emeritus of Phoenix
Jan 11, 1940 – Nov 14, 2020











Happy Birthday!

Tom CLARK	2/2
Eleanor BERNSTEIN	2/2
Josh LIESMEYER	2/5
Valerie LIESMEYER	2/6
Janice ANTONIOS	2/6
Michael Joseph COREY	2/7
John KAFORA	2/7
Elizabeth ZACKOWSKI	2/8
Ava HOLZHAUER	2/24
Janis BARNES	2/24
Aaron THOROW	2/27

Happy Anniversary!

Jeff & Lynn SIMS	2/24
Joe & Maria GROLL	2/9

May God grant them many blessed years

Summary for January 2021

Tithes: Adults	$2,476.00
Holyday: Christmas	145.00
Donations: Misc.	8,291.00
Coffee Social	68.00
Total deposit to checking	$11,390.00
*Minus stipend transfer collections	$250.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$11,140.00

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.



Sidun family





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

Sunday Coffee Social:
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.
Please contact Lynn Sims at 480-205-0508 if you have any questions.

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!

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!



Theophany Holy Water

All Eastern Catholic Clergy and People
INVITED



May their memory be for ever" فليكُن ذكرُه او ذكرُها مؤبّداً

"With the Saints ...." مع القدّيسين، أرح أيّها المسيحُ الله، نفسَ عبدك، حيثُ ال وجع وال حزنٌ وال تنهُد، بل حياةٌ ال تفنى





Eternal memory,
Eternal memory,
Blessed repose
and
Eternal memory





"Vicnaja pamjat'.
Vicnaja pamjat'.
Blazennyj pokoj;
vicnaja jim pamjat'."



"Memoria eterna,
Memoria eterna,
Santo descanso,
Memoria eterna."

Saturday Morning, February 6

1st All Souls Saturday, at Holy Redeemer Catholic Cemetery

Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

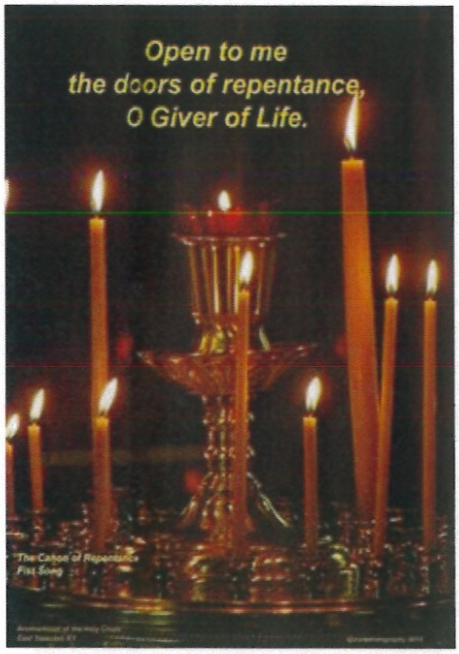
Divine Liturgy with Panachida **10:00 AM**

Intention: †All Souls

Holy Redeemer Cemetery
23015 N Cave Creek Rd,
Phoenix, AZ 85024

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Phoenix, AZ 85024

Holy Redeemer Cemetery
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Phoenix, AZ 85024



Prepare yourselves for the Meeting of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ with Simeon and Anna (also known as the Feast of the Presentation) on February 2!

Did you know that candles are blessed on this special day? Echoing the words of the Song of Simeon, let us say, "For my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel."

Jesus is the Light of the world! When we light candles at church and in our home, we proclaim His light and invite His presence.

If you would like to make candles for use in your home, in your icon corner, for your Pascha basket, for next year's advent wreath, or to share with others, in preparation for having them blessed on February 2, please sign up to join us for a candle-making day on **Saturday, January 30, 10:30 am - 2 pm**!! A simple lunch will be served.

We will make two kinds of candles:
Hand-rolled beeswax sheet taper-candles. These are easy, fun, and kid friendly!
Traditional melted wax taper candles. These are also simple but require some safety measures.
The cost will depend on how many candles you wish to make! If you want to participate, please let Mignon Thurow know by speaking to her after Liturgy or contacting her: mignonlouise@hotmail.com. She will place a candle-supplies order mid-January.



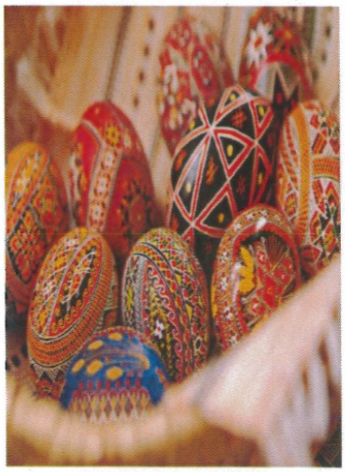
January 30, 10:30 am.

Also, for those who are interested, we will have a special lesson on making koliva, a tradition in many Byzantine churches, for use when we pray for the dead, either on All Souls' Sundays or for Panachidas after Divine Liturgy. Koliva is delicious and simple, and a beautiful way for you to contribute in a meaningful way to services where we remember and pray for all of our loved ones. This lesson will happen at the same time on January 30, 10:30 am.



Looking ahead:
Prepare yourselves for Pascha, and engage in a beautiful, contemplative Lenten activity by learning the beautiful art of Pysanky,
that gorgeous, ornate egg decoration that you know you've always wanted to learn!! Here is your chance!

You will have three opportunities, on these All-Souls Days, after liturgy, from 10:30 to around 2:30:
Saturday, February 27 (no children, only adults and teenagers)
Saturday, March 6 (children permitted!)
Saturday, March 13 (children permitted!)



A simple lunch will be shared. Beautiful, quiet music will be played while we prayerfully decorate our eggs. Plan for a peaceful, contemplative time as we imitate our Creator by bringing beauty into the world. It will be our little Lenten work toward that return to Paradise.

The cost will depend on whether or not you want to keep working on your eggs at home. If you want simply to do the activity at church, the cost is $10, which includes one kistka and a one ounce bar of blue beeswax to take home with you. If you want to take dye packets home with you to continue working, the cost is either $15 (5 dye packets) or $25 (eight dye packets and three different-sized kistky instead of just one). Or you can get on the PysankyUSA website and pick out your own colors at $1.20 per packet.