Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

May-June 2021

St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

Christ is risen! / Indeed He is risen! English
Christós voskrése! / Voístinu voskrése! Slavonic-Ukrainian
Cristo ha resucitado! / En verdad ha resucitado! Spanish
Christós anésti! / Alithós anésti! Greek


St. Thomas youth with John Chizmar

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

PARISH GUIDELINES

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING: Members of St. Thomas Church have registered, attend the Divine Liturgy at least 3 week-ends each month, participate in the community life of the parish, and contribute *generously of their time, talent, and treasure*. **Members over 18 years of age must be registered separately from their families.**

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.

MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (Baptism, Chrismation, Eucharist): Must be arranged at least three months in advance. Expectant parents should contact the pastor prior to the birth of the child. The priest can come to pray over the baby and mother in the days after birth. After 40 days, Churching Prayers welcome the baby for the first time and the mother back to Church. To request the Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism), parents must be members in good standing and attend baptism preparation with the Godparents. At least one Godparent must be a member in good standing of St. Thomas Church. The other Godparent may be a Catholic or Orthodox Christian.

CROWNING IN MARRIAGE: Must be arranged at least six months in advance.

Saturday Evening, May 8
John - Apostle and Evangelist
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
We wish blessings from God to all mothers and many blessed, healthy, and happy years! Mary, the mother of God, was an excellent example for all mothers. Please pray for all mothers.



SUNDAY, May 9, Festal Tone
Sunday of the Man Born Blind
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Acts 16:16-34; Jn 9:1-38
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

All night vigil and funeral details for Ted Bronson
On Tuesday, May 11, an all-night vigil for Ted will be held at St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church. His body will be present, and the casket will be open. You may come at any time from 7 pm to 8:00 am the next morning for quiet prayer and to say goodbye. A sign up for those who would like to commit to a time to "keep watch" over him is available at the link below. But anyone can come anytime without signing up. There will be light refreshments in the hall until 11 pm.

https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10c054ca5af2ba31-allnight

On Wednesday, May 12 a rosary for Ted will be held at 9:30 am followed by Mass at 10 am at St Anne Catholic Church in Gilbert.

Burial with military honors will take place immediately following at Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery in Mesa on Baseline Rd. A lunch reception will also be held; the location information will be shared on the day of the services.
Thank you all for your love and support.

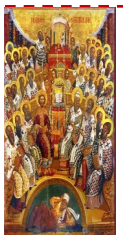
Wednesday, May 12
Vigil Divine Liturgy– Ascension of our Lord
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Ted Bronson (Little Family)



Thursday, May 13
Ascension of our Lord
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Bronson family

Friday, May 14
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Liz Kol (Fr. Michael Sidun and family)

Saturday, May 15
Pachomius the Great Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Andria Kowalczyk (Kowalczyk Family)



SUNDAY, May 16, Festal Tone
Sunday of the Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
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

Friday, May 21
Constantine and Helen Equals to the Apostles
CONFESSIONS **5:00-5:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **6:00 PM**
Intention: Baptism Hagaman Family (Fr. Michael Sidun)

Saturday, May 22
St. Basiliscus Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: Matthysse Family (Brian & Beth Matthysse)



SUNDAY, May 23, Festal Tone
Pentecost Sunday
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
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, May 24
Pentecost Monday
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Souls of the Departed & the Dying

Tuesday, May 25
3rd Finding of the Head of John the Baptist
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Virginia Hill (Bullock Family)

Saturday, May 29
Theodosia Venerable Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: Seth, Micah, Macklan (Matthysse Family)



SUNDAY, May 30, Tone 8
Sunday of all Saints
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Heb11:32-12:2a; Mt 10:32-33;37-38
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday, May 31
+Memorial Day
Divine Liturgy **9:00 AM**
Intention: +Mary Helena Lawson (Bullock Family)

Wednesday, June 2
Nicephor Patriarch
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention:+Eric Janson (Carol Paolo& Charles Rawlins)

Catechism class






St. Thomas Feast













Saturday, June 5
Dorotheus Bishop - Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Marc Ferencz)



SUNDAY, June 6, Tone 1
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 2:10-16; Mt 4:18-23
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Knights of Columbus Arizona



The men of St. Thomas are invited to join the start of a "Round Table" of the Knights of Columbus. Knights assist pastors in serving the needs of the parish, support each other as Catholic men, and provide outreach as Christ's presence in the world. The Knights of Columbus were founded by Blessed Michael J. McGivney in 1882. Based on core principles of charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism, the Knights were formed to aid members and their families to remain strong, stable, and Catholic. The Knights are one of the largest pro-life and charitable organizations in the world, helping religious orders, disaster relief, and the promotion of "a culture of life." If you are interested, please contact Charlie Rawlins @ 480-980-1173.

St. Anne`s Council #10540
Here are a couple things that we have going on:

Food for Families, Baby Supplies
Donated to FRIENDS OF NEEDY or MAGGIES PLACE
ST. Anne's Annex

IC XC
NI KA

CAPS FOR CANCER
Plastic bottle caps donated - http://www.bancodetapitasorg./
These caps go to Mexico & every 10,000 caps pay for a free chemotherapy treatment for a child 12 years and younger. A collection can is in the hall.

REMARKS

5. Final Day of the Feast of Mid-Pentecost.
7.14.21. Simple abstinence or equivalent penance.
9. Feast of the Translation of the Relics of Nicholas of Myra - Bishop
11. Commemoration of our Blessed Father and Confessor Basil (Hopko). His memory may be observed on July 23, the day of his passing.
12. Final Day of the Feast of Pascha.
21. Final Day of the Feast of the Ascension.
24-29. Pentecost Week, free from fast and abstinence
29. Final Day of the Feast of Pentecost.
31. Memorial Day. The civil remembrance of those who died in service to the country.
31. Beginning of the Apostles Fast. 5/31 to 6/28. An aliturgical day (without Divine Liturgy) may be observed.



Happy Birthday!

Marla Fitterer	5/1
Lane Varano	5/1
Alex Forbes	53
Emily Liesemeyer	5/4
John Varano	5/7
Diane Hvasta	5/8
Anthony S.-Forbes	5/8
Ashley Hegg	5/14
Yordana Sidun	5/19
Tommy Clark	5/21
Luke Fitterer	5/28

Happy Anniversary!

Kent & Carla Liesemeyer	5/10
Fr. Michael Kirila—Priesthood	5/16
Kris & Danny Forbes	5/16
Vince & Janice Antonios	5/19

Summary for April 2021

Tithes: Adults	**$6,753.62**
Pascha	**495.00**
Palm Sunday	**10.00**
Good Friday	**35.00**
Donations: Misc.	**1,218.00**
Improvements, Remodeling	**50.00**
Candles	**181.85**
Rent: Church or Hall	**240.00**
***Bishop's Appeal**	**300.00**
***Pont. Good Friday Church in Holy Land**	**60.00**
***Catholic Home Missions**	**20.00**
Coffee Social	**23.00**
Total deposit to checking	**$9,386.47**
***Minus special collections**	**-$380.00**
Total for St. Thomas:	**$9,006.47**

Thank you to all who participate in online giving, mail, or hand-deliver your tithe or other donations!

As an additional option, we have also returned to our tradition of passing the donation baskets during Liturgy.

DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME, PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE BILLS STILL NEED TO BE PAID.

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

Announcements:

2021 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 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 **$10,039.33**, 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 $3,371.00. 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! **https://ephx.org/st-thomas-the-apostle-eparchical-appeal/**

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

Sunday Coffee Social

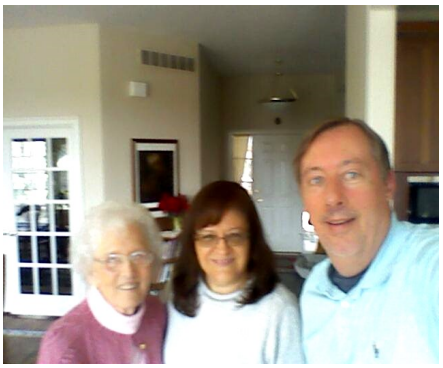
As you know, we're back to our "normal" tradition of parishioners volunteering to host our Sunday Coffee Socials. **A sign-up sheet for May is on the Hall bulletin board.** Teaming up with another family to host a Sunday Social is encouraged. **Some dates for May are still open, so please consider volunteering.** Please talk with Lynn Sims if you have any questions (480-205-0508).

I thank all of you who support St. Thomas with your time, talents, gifts, and treasures. 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.

May God grant YOU many blessed years.





Martha and John Coonrod visiting
Doreene Stacy in Hillsdale, Michigan

St. Thomas performance on the Feast of St. Thomas





























St. Thomas water balloon fight