Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

June - July 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!

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



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

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.

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.







Congratulations to the Hagaman family on their Baptism, Chrismation, and First Communion



Happy Mother's Day



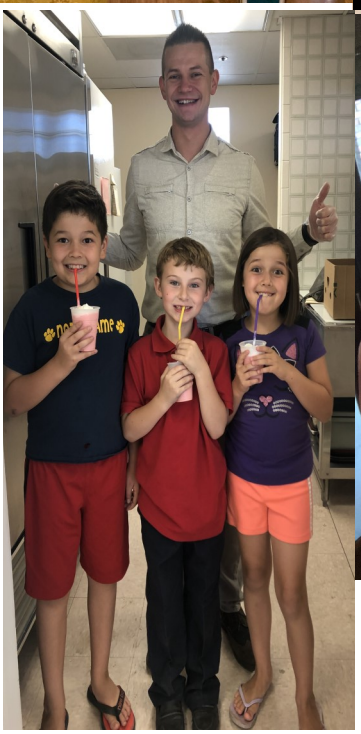
Pentecost Feast



John & Martha Coonrod
Thank you for providing 125 cakes for different events in our church over the past 8 years.



The blessing of Michaels birthday gift.

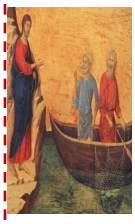




Bronson Family House Blessing

SCAN ME

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

Monday-Friday June 7-12
Eparchial Clergy Conference: Father Michael is less available. Please remember our Bishops and Clergy of our Eparchy in your prayers this week.
With prayers and respect Fr. Michael Sidun

Saturday Evening, June 12
Onuphrius and Peter Venerables
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Souls of the Departed & the Dying



SUNDAY, June 13, Tone 2
3rd Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 5:1-10; Mt 6:22-34
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Thursday, June 17
Manuel, Sabel & Ishmael Martyrs
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Ted Bronson (Sebastian & Kathryn Pino)

Saturday, June 19
Jude Apostle
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)



SUNDAY, June 20, Tone 3
HAPPY FATHER`S DAY
4th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 6:18-23; Mt 8:5-13
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Thursday, June 24
Birth of John the Baptist
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Bronson family

Saturday, June 26
David of Thessalonica Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Fr. Robert Badger (Al Ferencz)



SUNDAY, June 27, Tone 4
5th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 10:1-10; Mt 8:28-9:1
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Tuesday, June 29
Peter & Paul Preeminent Apostles
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Jon Fisher (Brian & Beth Matthysse)

Friday, July 2
Deposition of the Robe of Theotokos
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Mary Helena Lawson (Bullock Family)

Saturday, July 3
Hyacinth Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Souls of the Departed & the Dying



SUNDAY, July 4, Tone 5
INDEPENDENCE DAY
6th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 12:6-14; Mt 9:1-8
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, July 7
Thomas and Acacius Venerables
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Ted Bronson (Sebastian & Kathryn Pino)

Saturday, July 10
Anthony of the Caves Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: For Ukraine & Ukrainians (Kowalczyk Family)



SUNDAY, July 11, Tone 6
7th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 15:1-7; Mt 9:27-35
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Christ Is Among Us!
He Is and Will Be!

Christos posredi nas!
Jest I budet!

IC XC
NI KA

On the Pentecost Feast at St. Thomas Church, the children had: First Confession, Chrismation, and First Communion. God bless the teachers, Godparents, and parents of the children . **May God grant YOU many blessed years.**











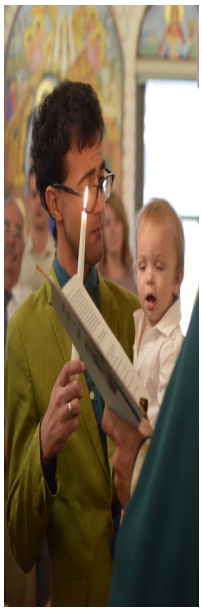


















Happy Birthday!

Brian Fitterer	6/1
Mike Little	6/4
Al Javier	6/4
Greg Hendricks	6/4
Esther Kostyun	6/9
Hannah Fitterer	6/15
Charlie Clark	6/16
Morgan Hinton	6/25

Happy Anniversary!

John & Debra Hratko	6/12
Dennis & Michelle Bondra	6/15
Cal & Deb Karnya	6/22

May God grant them many blessed years

Summary for May 2021

Tithes: Adults	$5,947.40
Holydays:	92.00
Donations: Misc.	1,354.00
Improvements, Remodeling	50.00
Candles	119.50
*Bishop's Appeal	1,045.00
Coffee Social	27.00
Gift Shop	20.00
Total deposit to checking	$8,654.90
*Minus special collections	-$1,045.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$7,609.90

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.

May God bless your generosity to His Church!

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 June 1, we have collected $6,716.00. 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/**

Parish Goal: $10,039.00
Pledges to date: $6,716.00
Balance: $3,323 For our GOAL we need 12 FAMILES
Of the 64 St. Thomas families, 21 Households have responded

May God grant YOU many blessed years.

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

Sunday Coffee Social

We're back to our "normal" tradition of parishioners volunteering to host our Sunday Coffee Socials. **A sign-up sheet for Jul-Aug is on the Hall bulletin board.** Teaming up with another family to host a Sunday Social is encouraged. The women will host the **Father's Day** social on 6/20. In addition to the 2nd Sunday of each month, **July 4th** is also a Potluck. 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

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.

REMARKS

1.3.7.10.15.16.22. Aliturgical day (without Divine Liturgy) may be observed.
4.11.18.25. Simple abstinence or equivalent penance.
25. Final Day of the Feast of the Birth of St. John the Baptist.
28. End of the Apostles' Fast.

Church Etiquette – St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

Like any house to which one is invited, there is always some sort of basic etiquette, and God's house is no exception. Below are some basics to help you be more at home and to allow others to worship as well.

We enter the church through the narthex, which symbolizes the passage from everyday cares to "the one thing necessary" (see *Lk* 10:42)—the kingdom of God. From the narthex, we enter the nave (the "temple of the faithful"), which is the image of the fullness of the Church: the community gathers around Christ, her Head, whose image is in the center of the dome. On the walls of the church are many icons of the saints, manifesting the communion of the Church on earth and the Church in heaven. The sanctuary, to which the entire liturgical assembly is oriented, is a symbol of heaven. The nave and the sanctuary are united by the iconostasis, on which the icons manifest the invisible presence of Christ and the saints. (Adapted from "Christ—Our Pascha," pp 195-96, 2016)

On Sundays, please be considerate and arrive in the Church by approximately 9:45-9:50 a.m. This will give you time to venerate icons and light candles, if you choose to do so, and settle in the pew before Liturgy begins at 10:00 a.m.

If you arrive late, please stay in the narthex until there is an appropriate opportunity to enter the nave and go to a pew. During Liturgy, if you need to leave and re-enter the nave, please do so as quietly as possible. Remember, the opening and closing of doors, the movement of people to their pews, and the disturbing of people to accommodate people arriving late or leaving/re-entering is very distracting.

Please remember that there is a one-hour fasting discipline in the Catholic Church before receiving Holy Communion. This requirement is waived for babies, the elderly, the ill, and when required for medications. Please, no gum, food, or drink in the Church. Water is acceptable but please be mindful of metal or hard plastic water containers—the loud noise they make when they fall over is distracting.

While the Church never imposes a dress code, it is a sign of our interior disposition, and a sign of how important we consider coming to Liturgy and to God's house is. Please dress appropriately.

Quietness is most appreciated in the Church. The Church is a sacred space, so please keep talking to a minimum.

After receiving Holy Communion, please be respectful of worshippers who are still in the process of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. This is a contemplative and prayerful time, so, again, quietness is appreciated.

Our Lord says, "Let the little children come to me." Children at Liturgy are a sign of God's love and promise that the Church will endure until the end of the ages. Patience is always afforded to crying infants, but parents are asked to be as courteous as you can be for others trying to pray and listen. You can step into the narthex for a minute to quiet things down, even during important times at Liturgy. God, the priest, and everyone else will understand. Most of us have been there!

Check that cellular phone! Is it off, on vibrate mode, or on airplane mode? As in most important moments, cell phones ringing, buzzing, or people texting is highly inappropriate.

Finally, Liturgy does not end until the final blessing. Please wait until the priest has exited before making your pilgrimage to the hall or the parking lot.