Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

July-August 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
Please check the 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

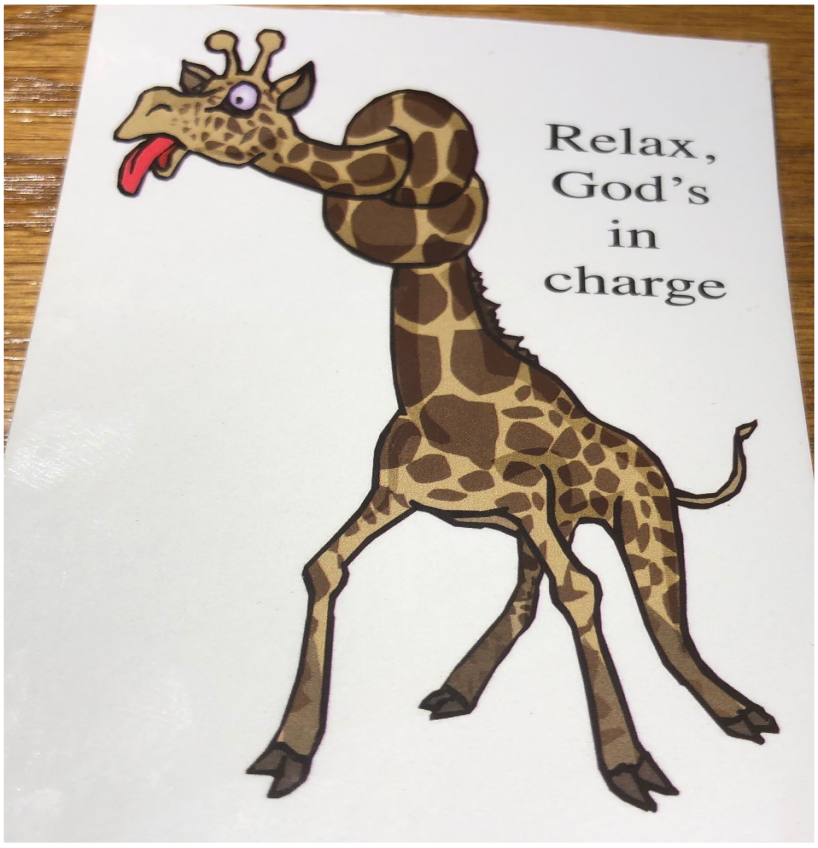
Mailing Address
P.O. Box 667
Gilbert, AZ 85299-0667

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)



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 weekends 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.

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.



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)

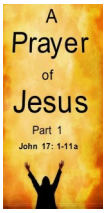


SUNDAY, July 11, Tone 6
7th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Rom 15:1-7; Mt 9:27-35
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, July 14
Aquila Apostle
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Ted Bronson (Sebastian & Kathryn Pino)

Thursday, July 15
Vladimir the Great Equal to the Apostles
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Souls of the Departed & the Dying

Saturday, July 17
Marina Great Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Joseph Theodore Kowalczyk (Kowalczyk Family)



SUNDAY, July 18, Tone 7 — Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Heb 13:7-16; Jn 17:1-13
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

On Sunday, July 18, after our 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Tuesday, July 20, after our 7:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy for the Solemn Feast of Elijah the Great Prophet, Father Michael will bless our vehicles. Please bring your car, motorcycle, RV, 4-wheeler, or bicycle for a powerful blessing according to our Byzantine tradition.



Tuesday, July 20
Elijah Great Prophet
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Bronson Family

Wednesday, July 21
Simeon and John Venerables
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +John Hanley (Mary Lynn Cihak)

Saturday, July 24
Boris & Gleb Martyrs
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)



SUNDAY, July 25, Tone 8
9th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
1 Cor 3:9-17; Mt 14:22-34
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Tuesday, July 27
Panteleimon Great Martyr
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Fr. Mykhaylo Sidun & Family (Matthysse Family)

Wednesday, July 28
Prochorus and Others Apostles
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Peter Broznak (Anna Broznak)

Saturday, July 31
Eudocimus Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Joseph Theodore Kowalczyk (Kimberly Hopkins)



SUNDAY, August 1, Tone 1
10th Sunday after Pentecost—Procession of the Cross
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
1 Cor 4:9-16; Mt 17:14-23
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



August 5th and 6th - Feast of the Transfiguration of our Lord. Please bring grapes, apples, plums, or any fruit you wish to have blessed on this Holy Day.



Thursday, August 5
Eusignius Martyr
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy - Transfiguration of our Lord **7:00 PM**
Intention: Dcn. Sullivan & Family (Little Family)

Friday, August 6
Transfiguration of our Lord
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas (Little Family)

Saturday, August 7
Domitius Venerable Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Bill Kohl (Bondra & Karnya Families)



SUNDAY, August 8, Tone 2
11th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
1 Cor 9:2-12; Mt 18:23-35
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, August 11
Euplus Martyr
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Kircher Family (Simon Buchman)

Thursday, August 12
Photius & Anicetus Martyrs
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Dcn. Sullivan & Family (Simon Buchman)

Saturday, August 14
Translation of the Relics of Theodosius of the Cave Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy - Dormition of the Theotokos **5:00 PM** **Intention**: Fr. Merta & Prayer Team (Matthysse Family)



SUNDAY, August 15, Tone 3
12th Sunday after Pentecost
Dormition of the Theotokos
Blessing of Flowers, Herbs, & Plants
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
1 Cor 15:1-11; Mt 19: 16-26

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX

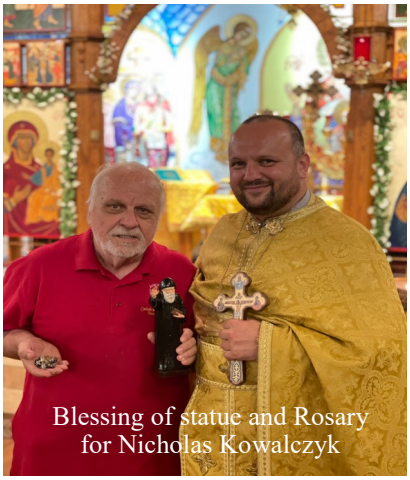
subscribes to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People adopted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops. The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and young people that conforms to the Charter requirements. For information regarding the Eparchial Safe Environment Program (SEP), please contact:

Dcn. Michael Hanafin SEP Coordinator
Cell: (480) 387-5182
Email: dcnhanafin@ephx.org
Sbdcn. Paul F. Kilroy Asst. SEP Coordinator
Office: (602) 861-9778; Cell: (702) 498-5972
Email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org
Dr. Caroline Bonham Victim Assistance Coordinator – Cell: (505) 314-3943
Email: victimassistanceofphoenix@gmail.com

REMARKS

2.9.16.23.30. Simple abstinence from meat or equivalent penance.
4. Independence Day, opt. texts, Heb 12:7-11.14-17 & 25-28; Jn 8:31-42.
11. Benedictines, Our Venerable Father Benedict.
18. Eighth Sunday after Pentecost and Commemoration of the Fathers at the first Six Ecumenical Councils
22. Feast of the Holy Myrrh-bearer Mary Magdalene, Equal-to-the-Apostles. Epistle, 1 Cor 9:2-12; Gospel, John 20:11-18.
23. Feast Day of our Blessed Father and Confessor Basil (Hopko) is May 11, but it may be observed today, the day of his passing.
25. Feast of Dormition of St. Ann, Mother of the Theotokos; Epistle, Galatians 4:22-31; Gospel, Luke 8:16-21.
31. Pre-festive Day of the Procession of the Holy Cross





Blessing of statue and Rosary for Nicholas Kowalczyk



Blessing of Sister Marcella as she returns home to Italy



Blessing of Jennifer as she moves to Detroit



Blessing of crosses for Joseph



Rev. Francis Murin, Rev. Milan Kasperek, Rev. Artur Bubnevych, Rev. Vasil Mutka
Rev. Mykhaylo Sidun – Eparchy Clergy Conference in Arizona



Eastern Catholic Association Clergy

Clergy at St. Stephen's Byzantine Catholic Cathedral - Phoenix



Fr. Michael & Deacon Martin Nagy



Dormition of the Mother of God - Phoenix



Mary Undoer Of Knots - Tucson



Happy Birthday!

Blaise Bronson	**7/3**	**Andrew Fitterer**	**7/25**
Sofia Sidun	**7/3**	**Hadrian Nogalo**	**7/25**
Dcn. Michael Sullivan	**7/3**	**Diane Parker**	**7/26**
Sebastian Miller	**7/7**	**Maren Forbes**	**7/27**
Timothy Hegg	**7/8**	**Theresa Little**	**7/29**
Theo Bronson	**7/10**	**Ivan Nogalo**	**7/29**
Kent Liesemeyer	**7/10**	**Mary Lynn Cihak**	**7/30**
Cassy Holzhauer	**7/13**		
Katie Danilich	**7/17**		
Beth Little	**7/18**		
Carole Bullock	**7/19**		
Pani Betty Kirila	**7/23**		
Vincent Antonios	**7/24**		
Honora Bullock	**7/24**		

Happy Anniversary!

Dcn. Michael & Donna Sullivan	**7/20**
Brian & Rhiannon Moore	**7/21**
John & Maria Varano	**7/23**
Grant & Cassy Holzhauer	**7/25**

May God grant them many blessed years

Summary for June 2021

Tithes: Adults	$7,392.58
Donations: Misc.	4,642.00
Improvements, Remodeling	26.00
Candles	233.55
*Bishop's Appeal	300.00
Coffee Social	17.00
Total deposit to checking	$12,611.13
*Minus special collections	-$300.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$12,311.13

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

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!

SCAN ME

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 Socials

The sign-up sheet for hosting a Jul-Aug coffee social is on the Hall bulletin board. Teaming up with another family to host a Sunday Social is encouraged. **The 2nd Sunday of each month is a Potluck** & all families are asked to bring a dish & to help with the clean up. Please talk with Lynn Sims if you have any questions (480-205-0508). **Let's all give a big thank-you to Rhiannon Moore for coordinating the wonderful Father's Day celebration. I also thank all of you who support St. Thomas with your time, talents, gifts, and treasures.**

May the Lord reward your kindness!

IC XC NI KA

Christ Is Among Us!
He Is and Will Be!

Christo posredi nas!
Jest I budet!

IC XC NI KA

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.