Parochial Administrator:
Father Michael Sidun

Sep-Oct 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 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, September 11
Theodora Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Joseph Kowalczyk (Bullock Family)

SUNDAY, September 12, Tone 7
Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Gal 6:11-18; Jn 3:13-17
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Monday, September 13
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy - Exaltation of the Holy Cross **7:00 PM**
Intention: Bronson Family (Diane Hvasta)



Tuesday, September 14
Exaltation of the Holy Cross
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Rudolph Nicholas Lawson (Bullock Family)

Wednesday, September 15
Nicetas Great-Martyr
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Fr. Martin Nagy (Bullock Family)

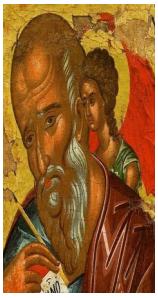
Saturday, September 18
Saturday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Joseph "Joey" Kowalczyk (Nancy Lorig & Family)

SUNDAY, September 19, Tone 8
Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Beheading of John the Baptist
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
Gal 2:16-20; Mk 8:34-9:1
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Wednesday, September 22
Phocas Bishop-Martyr
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Ruth Cihak (Robert Cihak)

Thursday, September 23
Conception of John the Baptist
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Virginia Kircher (Bullock Family)

Saturday, September 25
Moses the Ethiopian Venerable
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: Cathy McCormick (Bullock Family)



SUNDAY, September 26, Tone 1
18th Sunday after Pentecost
St. John the Theologian, Apostle
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
2 Cor 9:6-11; Lk 5:1-11
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas

Traditional Blessing of Wine for Domestic Church

Please bring a bottle, or more, of wine to be blessed on Saturday, September 25 at 5pm, and on Sunday, September 26 at 10am — the **Feast of St John the Theologian.**



Traditionally, Byzantine Catholics bless wine on St John's feast because, according to legend, he was served poisoned wine but survived because he blessed the wine before he put it to his lips. It is said that the poison rose from the chalice in the shape of a serpent.

Wine that has been blessed on this day becomes a sacramental called "Love of St John," and it is used for special occasions throughout the year. It is a symbol of the great love of Christ that filled St. John's heart with loyalty, courage, and enthusiasm for his Master. He alone of all the apostles was not afraid to stay close to Jesus during the Passion and Crucifixion, and he was the only Apostle not martyred.

IC XC
NI KA

Christ Is Among Us!
He Is and Will Be!

Christos posredi nas!
Jest I budet!

REMARKS

3.10.17.24. Simple abstinence from meat or equivalent penance.
6. The civil holiday of Labor Day. Optional readings: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9; Luke 5:1-11.
7. Prefestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos
12. Final Day of the Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos.
13. Pre-festive Day of Exaltation of the Holy Cross & Feast of the Dedication of the Church of the Resurrection.
14. Exaltation of the Holy Cross. By tradition, strict abstinence from meat or dairy products.
14-21. All Divine Liturgies and other services celebrated in red vestments.
20. Beginning of the reading of the Gospel of St. Luke. There is no Lucan Leap tihs year and the epistles and gospels follow in order.
21. Final Day of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
26. Feast of the The Passing of John the Apostle, Evangelist, Epistle, 1 Jn 4:12-19; Gospel, Jn 19:25-27 & 21:24-25.



Eastern Catholic Formation classes
at St Thomas church



IC XC
NI KA



IC XC
NI KA



Blessing icons for Michael







Welcome to Saint Thomas. Our guest
Fr. Michael Bezruchka, pastor of St Anne
church in San Luis Obispo, California

Wednesday, September 29
Cyriacus Venerable
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: +Betty Bryden (Bryden Danilich)

Thursday, September 30
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy - **Protection of the Theotokos** **7:00 PM** **Intention**: +Helen



Ferencz (Al Ferencz)

Friday, October 1
Protection of the Theotokos
CONFESSIONS **6:00-6:30 PM**
Divine Liturgy **7:00 PM**
Intention: Fr. Michael & Family (Little Family)

Saturday, October 2
Cyprian Bishop-Martyr
CONFESSIONS **4:00-4:30 PM**
Vigil Divine Liturgy **5:00 PM**
Intention: +Bishop Gerald Dino (Little Family)

SUNDAY, October 3, Tone 2
19th Sunday after Pentecost
CONFESSIONS **9:00-9:30 AM**
Third Hour **9:40 AM**
Divine Liturgy **10:00 AM**
2 Cor 11:31-12:9; Lk 6:31-3
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas



Fr. Michael and Fr. Martin Nagy. Fr. Martin was ordained Aug. 1, 2021 by His Grace Benedict, Bishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Eparchy of Saint Nicholas of Myra, Chicago. Axios Axios Axios

The Jesus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, *(Son of the Living God,)* have mercy on me, a sinner. *(Repeat 30, 50, or 100 times)*

DIVINE LITURGIES & INTENTIONS

***Come early to church.**
***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!

SCAN ME

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



Happy Birthday!

Brian Moore	9/8
Pat Petteruti	9/9
James Fitterer	9/12
Debi Karnya	9/16
Caitlin Sullivan	9/20
Art Aguayo	9/20
Ava Holzhauer	9/21
Jack Clark	9/26
Robert Cihak	9/29
Doreen Stacy	9/30

Happy Anniversary!

Eleanore & Jerry Bernstein	9/3
John & Wilma Kafora	9/7
Jacob & Angelina Miller	9/14
Art & Tracy Aguayo	9/30
Fr. Michael & Pani Betty Kirila	9/30

May God grant them many blessed years

Summary for August **2021**

Tithes: Adults	$10,766.72
Donations: Misc.	1,092.25
Improvements, Remodeling	470.00
Flowers, Palms	152.65
Candles	114.17
Rent: Church or Hall	780.00
*Bishop's Appeal	705.00
Coffee Social	51.00
Total deposit to checking	$14,131.79
*Minus special collections	-$705.00
Total for St. Thomas:	$13,426.79

May God grant them many blessed years

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

Sunday Coffee Socials

Sept 12th is our monthly potluck (2nd Sunday of each month). All families are asked to bring a dish & to help with the clean up. **Families are still needed to host Sundays in Sep & Oct.** The sign-up sheet is on the Hall bulletin board. Teaming up with another family to host a Sunday Social is encouraged. 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!

Announcements:

2021 Eparchial Appeal

This year, **Most Reverend Bishop Thomas Olmsted** is 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 September 1, we have collected $9,146.00. 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: $ 9,146.00
Balance: $893.00 remaining to reach our goal (which we should hopefully reach with **32 families who have yet to pledge**)
Of the 64 St. Thomas families, 32 Households have responded

Remaining families: please—any pledge amount is appreciated

May God grant YOU many blessed years.

The 2021 Eparchial Appeal will conclude



Congratulations!
Anthony with his sister Charlotte Ann

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.



Happy 30th Anniversary
Independence Day of Ukraine
Aug. 24, 1991—Aug. 28, 2021



Blessing house for the Clark family





Sidun family USA– UKR



ECF—having fun—St. Thomas :) :) :)