

# St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

## Liturgical Schedule

\*Saturday Vigil  
5pm – Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy

\*Sunday  
10am – Divine Liturgy  
Weekdays

\*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](http://www.stabcc.org)  
**Email :** [saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com](mailto: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



**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.

**Parochial Administrator:**  
*Father Michael Sidun*

**Sunday, December 1**      **Tone 8**

**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

St. Nahum Prophet & St Ananias Martyr

Third Hour 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Eph 2:4-10. Luke 12:16-21;

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Wednesday, December 4**

Barbara—Great Martyr

John Damascene

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

1 Tim 1:18-20 & 2:8-15; Luke 21:5-7.10-11.20-24

**Intention:** +Kol Family (Liz & Tom Kol)

**Thursday, December 5**

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy St Nicholas**

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Heb 13:17-23; Lk: 6:17-23;

**Intention:** +Lew Fellin (Nicholas Kowalczyk)

**Friday, December 6**

**The Feast of Day St. Nicholas of Myra Archbishop**

Divine Liturgy 9:00 AM

**Intention:** Ville De Marie Academy School

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Heb 13:17-23; Lk: 6:17-23;

**Intention:** Simon Bachman (Bullock family)

**Saturday Evening, December 7**

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy**

Genesis 28: 10-17 Ezekiel 43: 27 through 44: 4 Proverbs 9: 1-11

Lk 17 :12-19 & 8:16-21

Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

**Intention:** +Patrick J. Corbett (Kowalczyk family)

**Sunday, December 8**      **Tone 1**

**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Maternity of the Holy Anna

**Our Parish Pot-Luck Celebration of Saint Nicholas**

Third Hour 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Ep 5:9-19. Gal 4:22-31.

Lk 17 :12-19 & 8:16-21

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Wednesday, December 11**

Daniel the Stylite Venerable

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

1 Tim 5:22-6:11. MK 8:30-34

**Intention:** + Edith Trantina (Bob Cihak )

**Thursday, December 12**

Daniel the Stylite Venerable

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Heb 9:1-7. Lk 1:39-56

**Intention:** +Kenneth Bisbee (Bullock family)

**Saturday Evening, December 14**

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy**

Col 3:4-11 Lk 14 :16-24

Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

**Intention:** Bullock family (Kowalczyk family)

**Sunday, December 15**      **Tone 2**

**Sunday Of The Forefathers**

Third Hour 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Col 3:4-11. Luke 14:16-21;

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Tuesday, December 17**

Daniel Great Prophet

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

2 Tim 3:16-4:4; Mk 10:2-12

**Intention:** +David Person ( Gail & Jan Person )

**Wednesday, December 18**

Sebastian and Others Martyrs

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

2 Tim 4:9-22; Mk 10:11-16

**Intention:** +Vincent Nagy (Bullock family)

**Thursday, December 19**

Boniface Martyr

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Titus 1:5-2:1; Mk 10:17-27

**Intention:** +Linda Forbes ( Bullock family)

**Saturday Evening, December 21**

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy**

Genesis 14:14-20, Deut. 1:8-11.15-17 3) Deut.10:14-21

Heb 11:9-10&32-40, Mt 1:1-25

Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

**Intention:** Irene Bubnash ( Bullock family)

**Holy Supper in Church Hall beginning about 6:30 pm.**

**Sunday, December 22**      **Tone 3**

**Sunday Beforre Christsmas-Of The Ancestors**

Third Hour 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Heb 11:9-10&32-40, Mt 1:1-25

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Tuesday, December 24**

Great Martyr Eugenia

**Royal Hours of Christmas 9:00 AM**

1st Hour - Micah 5:2-4; Hebrews 1:1-12;

Matthew 1:18-25;

3rd Hour - Jeremiah (Baruch) 3:35-4:4; Galatians 3:23-29;

Luke 2:1- 20;

6th Hour - Isaiah 7:10-16; 8:1-4, 9-10; Hebrews 1:10-2:3;

Matthew 2:1-12; 9th Hour - Isaiah 9:6-7; Hebrews 2:11-18; Mat-

thew 2:13- 23

**Tuesday Evening , December 24**

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM**

Genesis 1:1-13; Numbers 24:2-3, 5-9, 17-18; Micah 4:6-7; 5:2-4;

Isaiah 11:1-10; Jeremiah (Baruch) 3:35-4:4; Daniel 2:31-36, 44-

45; Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 7:10-16; 8:1-4, 9-10; Hebrews 1:1-12;

Luke 2:1-20

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Wednesday, December 25**  
**Feast of Christmas, the Birth of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ**

Carol Singing 9:40 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM  
Christmas Play 11:15 AM  
Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:1-12  
Intention: Parishioners of St. Thomas  
Cookie Exchange in Parish Hall After Liturgy

**Thursday, December 26**  
**Synaxis of the Theotokos and EverVirgin Mary**

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM  
Hebrews 2:11-18; Matthew 2:13-23  
Intention: John & Nan Lawson ( *Bullock family* )

**Friday, December 27**  
**Holy Apostle, First Martyr, and Archdeacon Stephen**

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM  
Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60; Matthew 21:33-42  
Intention: +*Linda Forbes ( Bullock family )*

**Saturday Evening, December 28**

Saturday After Christmas  
20,000 Martyrs of Nicomedia  
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy  
Gal 1:11-19. Mt 2:13 -23  
Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM  
Intention: : Alice Posivy ( *Bullock family* )

**Sunday, December 29** **Tone 4**

**Sunday After Christmas**  
**Memory of David Joseph and James**  
Third Hour 9:40 AM  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM  
Gal 1:11-19. Mt 2:13-23;  
Intention: *Parishioners of St. Thomas*

**Tuesday Evening, December 31**

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM**  
Genesis 17:1-2,4,5-7,8,9-10,11-12,14;  
Proverbs 8:22-30; Proverbs 10:31-11:12  
Intention: Carol Pribula ( *Bullock family* )

**Tuesday, January 1**

**Feast of the Circumcision of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ/Our Holy Father Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia**  
Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM  
Colossians 2:8-12; Hebrews 7:26-8:2; Luke 2:20-21,40-52; Luke 6:17-23  
Intention: Alice Posivy ( *Bullock family* )

IN APPRECIATION

With all our love and gratitude, we want to take this time to show our heartfelt appreciation to Deacon Michael Sullivan for his faithful service to Our Lord, our Church, and our Parish Family for his 18 years of dedication at St. Thomas. He has selflessly given his time, talent and treasures for the betterment of our parish and is earning a well-deserved rest. He continues his spiritual journey. Please keep Deacon Michael and his family in your prayers and let him know how much he has been a blessing to us.

With prayers honor and respect Father Michael and parishioners St Thomas church

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!

THE ANGELIC SALUTATION "The Hail Mary"—  
Byzantine Form:

**Rejoice, Mother of God, Virgin Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne Christ, the Savior and Redeemer of our souls.**

**\*Coffee hour responsibilities** If you signed up for the Sunday coffee hour, please be sure and clean afterwards. Please do not leave it for others to do. **There is a new signup sheet on the hall bulletin board.**

**\*Father Michael encourages everyone to participate in sponsoring a coffee social at least once a year to share our fellowship.**

## COLLECTIONS

Summary for November 2019  
Total for St. Thomas: \$7,844.95

Nov. 3  
Tithes: Adults \$1,660.00  
Donations: Misc. 56.00  
Improvements, Remodeling 50.00  
Candles 49.50  
Oktoberfest revenue 321.00  
Total for St. Thomas: \$2,136.50

Nov. 10  
Tithes: Adults \$805.00  
Donations: Misc. 111.75  
Improvements, Remodeling 30.00  
Candles 86.00  
Rent: Church or Hall 540.00  
Total for St. Thomas: \$1,572.75

Nov. 17  
Tithes: Adults \$1,630.00  
Donations: Misc. 43.00  
Candles 35.00  
Rent: Church or Hall 900.00  
Coffee Social 3.00  
Total for St. Thomas: \$2,611.00

Nov. 24  
Tithes: Adults \$974.00  
Thanksgiving 30.00  
Entrance of Theotokos 25.00  
Donations: Misc. 271.00  
Improvements, Remodeling 100.00  
Candles 75.95  
Coffee Social 17.00  
Gift Shop 31.75  
Total for St. Thomas: \$1,524.70

**May God grant them many, blessed  
years**

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

\*Saturday, December 7: Estate sale and  
Nativity Display 8AM – 2 PM

\*Saturday, December 14: Decoration for  
Christmas starts at 9 AM

\*Saturday, December 21–Holy Supper in  
Church Hall beginning about 6:30 pm.

## Happy Birthday!

LIESMEYER, Veronica 12/2  
MATTHYSSE, Brian 12/6  
FORBES, Damian 12/10  
BRONSON, Max 12/12  
BUCHMAN, Simon 12/15  
MOORE, Rhiannon 12/18  
PERSON, Jan 12/19  
KOWALCZYK, Dr. Nick 12/22  
BRONSON, Emma 12/26  
SCHREIBER, Yellow 12/26  
STALKERHIGHSMITH, Liam 12/28  
WOLLERT, Sharon 12/28  
AGUAYO, Jaqueline Noelle 12/30  
MOORE, Anna 12/30

### ANNIVERSARY

PARKER, Reg and Diane - 12/27

## Beginning of Philip's Fast, or Beginning of Christmas Fast 11/15–12/24

No Fasting from Christmas to  
Theophany (December 25-January 6)  
Every year there is no fasting or abstinence  
during the bright period of December 25-  
January 4. In most years, January 5, the Vigil  
Eve day before Theophany, is by tradition a  
day of strict abstinence from meat and dairy  
products

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

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** <sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray continually, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**A shout-out with love and gratitude to Al Ferencz** who is always eager to complete projects around the church on a moment's notice. Your years of sacrifice and service have always been acknowledged, and we want you to know how grateful we are to you for taking care of our church and hall so beautifully!

**Hospitality:** Thank you to Dr. Lynn Sims who has graciously accepted coordinating refreshments and potlucks and a special thank you to Brian Moore who has been coming early every Sunday to make the coffee and set up! We are grateful to those who generously donate their time and talents (funds) to ensure we are refreshed after Divine Liturgy and for potlucks: Clark Family, Forbes Family, Liesemeyer Family, Moore Family, Allegra and James No, Jan and Gail Person, Stalker-Highsmith Family, and the Sullivan Family.

**Hall Storage Room and Reverse Osmosis Overhaul** - Thank you to Jeff and Lynn Sims for completing long-overdue maintenance on the reverse osmosis in the hall kitchen sink and for decluttering and rearranging the storage room!

**Thanksgiving-**Thank you to all the parishioners for contributing food for the thanksgiving meal, we had great time and the food was delicious.

**Church Beautifying:** In the Eastern Church we celebrate the Divine Liturgy and other services with all our five senses. Each of us are grateful we continue to come together to ensure our temple is sparkling clean and decorated so beautifully for each of our holy days. To help prepare our temple for Christ's nativity, many hands made light work. Oiling the iconostasis and cleaning the chandelier, along with polishing the metal surfaces; moving, fixing, cleaning, scrubbing, and dusting the many other parts of our Church - is no easy feat. Thank you to Charles Rawlins, Carla and Veronica Leisemeyer, Jacob Moylan, Diane Hvasta, Tracy and Bella Aguayo, Simon Buchman, and Father Michael who took time from their busy day to ensure St. Thomas was perfectly ready!

**We are all very blessed at St. Thomas in that we have each other!**

**Thank you to all who help us by understanding when we make mistakes, and respond with 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 us all many blessed**