

**GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!**



**January 5, 2017 - February 5, 2017**

**GLORY FOREVER!**



## **ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**19 W. Bruce Ave. Gilbert, AZ 85233**

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

**Office Hours** 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM • Monday, Wednesday & Friday

*Please give a courtesy call or send an email before coming to the parish to make sure someone is in the office.*

Office: (480) 497-6726 • Fax: (480) 907-7819 • Pastor's Email: [saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com)

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.stabcc.org](http://www.stabcc.org)

### **Served by:**

Father Michael Bezruchka, Pastor • Deacon Michael Sullivan

### **Parish Advisory Board:**

Vince Antonios • Danny Forbes • Emma Gilsdorf • Cal Karnya  
Cathy McCormick • Charlie Rawlins • Jeff Sims • Liz Zackowski

### **Sunday Divine Liturgy:**

Vigil Vesper Liturgy (Saturday) at 5:00 PM

Sunday Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM • Divine Praises at 9:45 AM

### **Matins/Morning Prayer:**

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:00-9:00am unless noted otherwise in bulletin.

### **Holy Mystery of Penance:**

Confessions are heard starting one hour before the scheduled Divine Liturgy is to begin for a total of 35 minutes. Confessions also available by appointment.

**Chaldean Catholic Holy Liturgy: Sunday at 6:00 PM**

## **WELCOME TO ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE!**

Our parish community welcomes all those visiting with us today. We thank you for joining our community in praising the Lord as we remember His great love and mercy for us. We hope that you will join us again soon and bring a friend. If, per chance, you are looking for a spiritual home based on the Sacred Scriptures, the teaching of the Apostles, the ancient Church Traditions in the context of a liturgical life and fellowship, please consider our parish! Speak with Father Michael or Deacon Michael if you would like more information.

# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

**Thursday January 5**

*Vigil of Theophany*

Royal Hours

9:00 a.m.

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy of

St. Basil with Blessing of Water

7:00 p.m.

All thirteen listed Old Testament readings taken.

1 Corinthians 9: 19-27; Luke 3: 1-18

Blessing of the Waters: Isaiah 35:1-10; Isaiah 55:1-13; Isaiah 12:3-6; 1

Corinthians 10:1-4; and Mark 1:9-11

*Intention-* Martin Nagy & family by the Bullock family

**Friday January 6**

*Theophany of Our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ*

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Festal Matins

9:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m.

Titus 2: 11-15, & 3: 4-7; Matthew 3: 13-17

*Intention-* Parishioners of St. Thomas

**Saturday January 7**

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m.

*Intention -* Beth Hicks by the parish

*34th Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sunday January 8**

*Sunday after Theophany*

Third Hour

9:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

Ephesians 4:7-13; Matthew 4:12-17

*Intention-* Parishioners of St. Thomas

Baptism of Elizabeth Hicks during Divine Liturgy

Potluck Sunday

*35th Week after Pentecost*

**Monday January 9**

Matins

8:00 a.m.

**Wednesday January 11**

*Postfestive Day of Theophany. Our Venerable Father Theodosius, founder of the Common Life.*

Festal Matins

8:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m.

2 Corinthians 4:6-15; Matthew 11:27-30

*Intention-* +Marge Bobick by the Bullock family

**Friday January 13**

Matins

8:00 a.m.

**Saturday January 14**

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m.

*Intention -* +Stafira family by Andrew Regalla

*35th Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sunday January 15**

Third Hour

9:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

Colossians 3:12-16; Luke 18:18-27

*Intention-* Parishioners of St. Thomas

Coffee Social after Divine Liturgy

*36th Week after Pentecost*

**Monday January 16**

Matins

8:00 a.m.

**Wednesday January 18**

*Holy Fathers Athanasius and Cyril of Alexandria*

Matins

8:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m.

James 1:1-18; Mark 10:11-16

*Intention-* +Fr. Wes Izer by Fr. Wes' estate

**Friday January 20**

Matins

8:00 a.m.

**Saturday January 21**

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m.

*Intention -* For President Donald Trump by the Little family

*36th Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sunday January 22**

Third Hour

**Tone 3**

9:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

1 Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 18:35-43

*Intention-* Parishioners of St. Thomas

Coffee Social after Divine Liturgy

*37th Week after Pentecost*

**Monday January 23**

Matins

8:00 a.m.

**Wednesday January 25**

*Holy Father Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople*

Matins

8:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11; John 10:9-16

*Intention-* +Leslie Yen by the Aguayo family

**Friday January 27**

Matins

8:00 a.m.

**Saturday January 28**

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy

5:00 p.m.

*Intention -* +Michael & Mary Bacovcin by Peter & Anna Broznak

*37th Sunday after Pentecost: Sunday of Zacchaeus*

**Sunday January 29**

Third Hour

**Tone 4**

9:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

10:00 a.m.

1 Timothy 4:9-15; Luke 19:1-10

*Intention-* Parishioners of St. Thomas

Coffee Social after Divine Liturgy

**Monday January 30**

*Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom.*

**SIMPLE HOLY DAY**

Festal Matins

8:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

7:00 p.m.

Hebrews 13:7-16; Matthew 5:14-19

*Intention-* Ted & Christy Bronson family by the Bullock family

**Wednesday February 1**  
Matins 8:00 a.m.

**Thursday February 2**  
*Encounter of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ with  
Simeon and Anna*  
**SOLEMN HOLY DAY**  
Divine Liturgy 7:00 p.m.  
Hebrews 7:7-17; Luke 2:22-40  
*Intention- Connie Morrissey by Liz Zackowski*

**Friday February 3**  
Matins 8:00 a.m.

**Saturday February 4**  
Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m.  
*Intention - +Robert Sanchez by Liz Zackowski*

*Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee*  
**Sunday February 5** **Tone 5**  
*Postfestive Day of the Encounter*  
Third Hour 9:45 a.m.  
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.  
2 Timothy 3:10-15; Luke 18:10-14  
*Intention- Parishioners of St. Thomas*  
Coffee Social after Divine Liturgy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BAPTISM:** It's not everyday that we get a new parishioner in our church and it's not every day that we get a new Christian in the Church universal! We congratulate and welcome Elizabeth Hicks who has been joined into the Family of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and is joined to the spiritual family of all baptized members of the Church.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**PAST ONLINE CLASSES RECORDED ON YOUTUBE:** If any of you missed out on the catechetical online classes from 2016, it is possible to watch many of them on Youtube. Simply go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and type in "Eparchy of Phoenix" in the search engine. One of the links in the search should say "Eparchy of Phoenix" and list "channel" underneath the link. Click on the link/channel and you will find many of the videos for these online classes. If you want to be able to retrieve the link more easily in the future, click on "subscribe" and you will then have the channel listed in the left hand link tabs every time you access the Youtube website.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GENEROSITY:** We thank you for donating to various causes this past month. We had a special collection for the retired religious which brought in \$695.00. In the box under the icon of St. Nicholas and underneath the Christmas tree in the hall, people donated \$186.43 along with several bags of food which were given to Paz de Cristo in Mesa. Others donated clothes and games which went to Gilbert Fire & Rescue for their clothing and toy drive for needy boys and girls in the area during the Christmas season. Thank you!

**WILL & ESTATE PLANNING:** Did you notice the large building fund donation deposited with the Christmas collection? This

\$10,000.00 donation to the parish was included in Marge Bobick's will and is greatly appreciated! Do you currently have a will? If so, please prayerfully consider including our parish of St. Thomas in it. It is another great way to support Our Lord's work by financially strengthening our parish after departing from this life.

**MATINS CONTINUES:** As mentioned last month, we are offering Matins services on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of every week from 8:00-9:00 am. Occasionally there is an exception to the 8am time, but it will be listed in the bulletin. Cancellations (VERY RARE) will be announced in church and/or communicated via email. Feel free to come and experience a public celebration of the morning prayers of our Byzantine Church!

**HOUSE BLESSINGS:** Getting your home blessed between Theophany and the Great Fast (Lent) by a priest is an important Byzantine Catholic tradition. Many choose to have their home blessed every year although many are comfortable with a blessing every other year or every few years. Our homes need to be blessed on a frequent basis with holy water to drive away the demons and welcome the protection of the holy angels. Fr. Michael is available from January 12 to February 25 on many Thursday evenings after 3pm and Saturday mornings. RSVP no later than January 15 to [saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:saint.thomas.pastor@gmail.com) or hand me a hand-written note (or call the office) with your address, phone number, and at least three dates and times that could work for you so we can set this up. Also let me know if this is the first time you are getting your house blessed as there are a few extra prayers for such an occasion. House blessings usually take about 20-30 minutes but can take longer if you invite the pastor to a snack or meal. Sometimes, parishioners in a region like to group together and have a potluck at the last house blessed that day. My preference is to group people together, especially if someone wants to share a meal at the last house. Be proactive and let me know your schedule today! (RSVP deadline: January 15)

## CALENDAR

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **January 6:** Theophany: Holy Day of Obligation. See bulletin for liturgical services available.
- **January 14:** Take down Christmas decorations. Need 12-15 people.
- **January 15:** RSVP deadline for arranging a house blessing.
- **January 28:** Clean and sort hall storage room. Need 10 people.
- **January 30:** Feast of Three Holy Hierarchs. Divine Liturgy at 7pm.
- **February 2:** Encounter of Our Lord feast day. Divine Liturgy 7pm.
- **February 19:** Picnic at Freestone Park after Divine Liturgy.
- **February 27:** Beginning of the Great Fast (Lent)

## REMEMBER THOSE WHO REQUEST OUR PRAYERS

*O Divine Physician of Souls and Body, rest your healing and protecting hand upon your servants:*

Joan Lucas, Robert Hernandez, Teresa Smith, †Joseph & Anna Hrynik, †Walter Hrynik, †John Hrynik, Luisa Garcia, Linda Garcia, Nena Desantos, Russell Hook, Deacon Michael Melnick, †Wilma Ihnat, Jason & Joshua Kowalczyk, Beth Hicks, †Patty Prestash, Olga Silva, Ted Bronson, Ana Maria Olvera † Msgr. Michael Nestor and Lawrence Ybarra, †Fr. Wes Izer, Art Krueger, Ilija Seat, Elaine E. and Fr. John Coleman & Carrie Thornton, †Barbara Bronson, Eleanor Shields, Teresa Rojero, Rosemary Ziarkowski, Helen Fellin, Lou Fellin, James Devlin, †Pete Nelson, Terence J. Faust, Clementina Mendoza, James Young, Cathy Simpson, †Marge Bobick, William Glenn, Dorothy Imlej, †Rev. Michael T. Bell, Mark Stefanski, Helen Dinegar, Paul John Hetherington, Hannah Joes, Fr. Fausto, Eric Shark, Kay William, Mary Ada, OFM, B.K. Burnette, Bob Sherman, Mary Kowalczyk, Kevin McBride, Lisa Kirila Mendez, Jonathan Coonrod, Sylvia Gutierrez, Elaine Brown, Linskey Family, Viviana Rodarte, Renata Paloian, OSBM, Monica Harris, Mike Little, Olga Chapkevich, Jerrine Sauntry, Alwyne Holder, Fr. Phil Acquaro, Fr. Chris Zugger, Alexandra, †John Bacovcin, Anita Batean, Bonnie Bennett, Mark D. Chapa, Michael Chapa, Ed Corwin, Gerald & Helen Dunn, Elizabeth Glenn, Nikki Heminway, Virginia Hill, Sonny Hopkins, Jaclyn Lentz, Anne-Marie Krytiuk, Erica Lupe, Richard Marchant (Al & Helen Ferencz' son-inlaw), Alice Posivy (Bullock), Lara Sparling-Ott, Carley Spears, Lorraine Teeling, Henry Zugger, Yoshiko, and all in the service of our country, especially from our parish family: Scott Karnya, Sam Karnya, Adam Young, Brandon Eyres (Michael & Anne Bacovcin's grandson), Patrick Whalen (Doreene Stacy's grandson), and the Mother of Reg Parker,



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### BIRTHDAYS

HILL, Virginia	Jan. 4
PAOLO, Carol	Jan. 14
KASSISICH, Albert	Jan. 25
GILSDORE, Emma	Jan. 25
SULLIVAN, Siobhan	Jan. 27
FORBES, Peter	Jan. 27
FORBES, Lucy	Jan. 29
BUBNASH, Irene	Jan. 30

*Did we forget your birthday or anniversary? Please let us know so we can update our records and include this in our bulletin next year. Talk to Liz Zackowski or send her an email: lizzack74@gmail.com. Thank you.*



## COLLECTIONS

**DECEMBER COLLECTIONS:** At the recommendation of the advisory board and as a general policy of the eparchy, the money brought in from Sunday collections should be listed in the bulletin.

- **Dec. 3/4, 2016:**
- General parishioner tithes: \$2,398.00
- Remodeling: \$50.00
- Retired Religious Collection: \$50.00
- Other donations: \$183.40
- **Total: \$2,681.40**
- **Dec. 10/11:**
- General parishioner tithes: \$750.00
- Remodeling: \$30.00
- Retired Religious Collection: \$545.00
- Other donations: \$219.00
- **Total: \$1,544.00**
- **Dec. 17/18:**
- General parishioner tithes: \$1,525.00
- Remodeling: \$55.00
- Christmas holyday: \$1,225.00
- Retired Religious Collection: \$100.00
- Other donations: \$786.60
- **Total: \$3,691.60**
- **Dec. 24/25:**
- General parishioner tithes: \$725.00
- **Remodeling: \$10,000.00 from Marge Bobick estate. Thank you!!!**
- Christmas holyday: \$1,330.00
- Other donations: \$532.00
- **Total: \$12,587.00**

