

PARISH CALENDAR

4 Friday—**First Friday Fish & Pierogi Dinner.** Come and work beside your fellow parishioners. Invite your friends for a scrumptious dinner!

9 Wednesday—Eastern Catholic Clergy of AZ 11:30 am luncheon meeting at St. Stephen

11 & 12 —**Super Pierogi Workshop.** On Friday, scooping potato balls will begin about 9:00 am. On Saturday, pierogi pinching from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Plan to give at least 2 hours of your time.

21-25—**Clergy Days & the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Holy Angels Church in San Diego.** All the clergy will join with our new bishop for a week of lectures and prayer.

30 Wednesday—**Vigil for the Holy Day of Obligation of the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord.** 7:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy

May 1—**Thursday Holy Day Feast** 9:00 am Liturgy

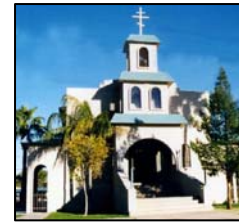
May 10—**Fifth All Souls Saturday** 9:00 am Liturgy with the reading of the names.

May 11—**Pentecost Sunday & Mother's Day Brunch** after the Sunday morning liturgies.

✠ **ALTAR SOCIETY**—The Milton Family are the church cleaners for this week.

✠ **RUMMAGE SALE**—St. John of the Desert Melkite Catholic Church, 3718 E. Greenway Road, March 30, after 12 Noon. Come and browse; someone's unwanted items can be a treasure for someone else.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!



SAINT STEPHEN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC PRO-CATHEDRAL

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Served by: Mitred Archpriest Stephen G. Washko, Rector
Deacon John Montalvo III, Deacon James Danovich and Deacon Michael Hanafin
Sr. Christopher Malcovsky, OSBM, Pastoral Associate
Sr. Jean-Marie Cihota, OSBM, Director of Education

MARCH 30, 2008

THOMAS SUNDAY



WHAT A JOY FOR THE DISCIPLES gathered together on Easter Sunday evening to see Jesus risen from the dead. We, too, can share this same joy by seeing the risen Jesus with the eyes of faith.

When we have the joy in our hearts of knowing that Jesus is with us and faith in him what a difference it makes to our lives. Just notice the difference between the ten disciples and how grumpy Thomas was when he returned. What a contrast between the ten disciples and Thomas. The ten disciples had faith in Jesus and had received his peace—Jesus said to them, “Peace be with you”—while Thomas had not received the peace of Jesus. Think of the sadness it must have caused the ten disciples because

Thomas refused to believe. They knew he was missing out on the greatest treasure of life, Jesus. But because Thomas was stubborn and insisted on seeing with his eyes, instead of believing in faith, he must have had a very sad week until Jesus came again on the following Sunday evening, that is the evening of today.

When we live life with Jesus we are happy, when we shut Jesus out of our lives we can never expect to be happy. There is a very beautiful line in Rev 3:20. It is Jesus who is talking and he issues this beautiful invitation, “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.” Jesus issues this invitation to each of us also. Let us open the doors of our hearts to Jesus and let him in to dine with us.

SCHEDULE OF LENTEN SERVICES & DIVINE LITURGIES

29 Bright Saturday Vigil for Sunday, p. 104 & special handouts

5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy +Teri Schiavo by Joseph Gallucci

30 THOMAS SUNDAY, p. 175

8:00 am +Doug Peterson by The Peterson Family

10:00 am +Sister Cormelia by Liz & Tom Kol

Don't forget ECF Classes after the Liturgy.

Thomas Week Our Lord took the doubt of his apostle Thomas and turned it into faith, revealing to him the wounds in his side and hands. This week is a feast of our faith in the resurrection, bestowing on us the hope of newness of life and victory over death, and we join our profession with that of Thomas, crying out to the risen Messiah, "My Lord and my God."

31 Monday Venerable Father Hypatius, p. 376

9:00 am God's blessing on Julia Krisfalusy by Pauline Crotts

1 Tuesday Mother Mary of Egypt, p. 397

9:00 am +Mary Antoinette Harmonmick by Patricia Carpenter & Peggy Bassett

2 Wednesday Venerable Father Titus the Wonder worker, p. 376

9:00 pm +Laura Haugen by the Iwinskis

3 Thursday No Services.

4 Friday Venerable Father, Joseph the Hymnographer, p. 376

9:00 am +Laura Haugen by the Iwinskis

5 Saturday and Vigil for Sunday, p. 104 & special handouts

5:00 pm Vesper/Liturgy for our parish family and friends

6 SUNDAY OF THE MYRR-BEARERS, p. 177

8:00 am +Marie Chelena by Diane & Louis Rabiej

9:45 am *Matins --Easter Canon—use folders*

10:00 am +Joseph V. Richardson by GCU Lodge 999

ECF Classes

Confessions are heard one half hour before all Services before the Icon of the Prodigal Son.

✠ **PRAYERS NEEDED FOR** William and Elizabeth Geletey, Martha Maleta, Shawn Matse, Helen Danko (sister of Mary Clark), Carmen Aragon (grandmother of Deacon John), Karen Lange, Fr. Christopher Zegger, Katlyn Ditmir, Helen Sissea, Florence Gunt, Mary Mihalko, Mary Hrinko, George Chelena, Louis Rabiej, Jim Cochlin (brother of

Jane Brown), Tom Gerez (Dorothy Dumnich's son-in-law), Robert Rankin, the father of Fr. Robert Rankin, Olga Uram, Luddy Popovich, Daniel Mundall, Fr. Joseph Ridella, Julia Menlicavage and Daniel Dougherty.

✠ **7-DAY CANDLES – ETERNAL LIGHT:** +Frank S. Slonka by Kathy Slonka.

TETRAPOD: +Michael Mraz.

TETRAPOD: Health of Florence Gunt by Alice Garcia.

SHROUD OF THE DORMITION: Robert Crossley by a Friend.

SHROUD OF OUR LORD: Health of Louis Rabiej by Alice & Abigail Garcia.

CHRISTMAS ICON: Health of Kathleen Crossley by Mary Rabayba.

THEOPHANY ICON, PENTECOST ICON, RESURRECTION ICON and **ST ANTHONY:** Available.

✠ **EARLY EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS**

John & Mary Bacha and John & Mary Sedlock by John & Mary Bacha

Hamas and Ruddy Families by Steve & Dolores Hamas

Families of James & Edice McGill

Families of Richard & Jane Walsh

Kenneth Wirt, Kastelik Family, William Seiser and Arthur Lennon by Helen Wirt

Families of Steve & Olga Uram

✠ **ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL.** Last year's Bishop's Appeal Rebate and hopefully this year's rebate will be used to paint our building complex.

Paid up pledges: 17, totaling \$6,050.00.

Pledges on payment schedule: 10. 27 households have responded as of February 1.

139 Households in Parish x \$200 = \$27,800.00 Parish Goal.

Here is a sample of the pledges: 1—\$1,500, 1—\$800, 6—\$500, 2—\$300, 8—\$200, 1—\$100, 2—\$50. Give what you can to help our Eparchy which also helps our parish through the rebate. Make your check out to *"St. Stephen Church."*

✠ **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

"Life in Christ" Archeparchial Ministry Conference for catechists, adult faith formation teams and directors of youth ministry. May 2-4 in Antiochian Village, Ligonier, Pennsylvania. Call Sr. Celeste Strohmeier at 412-231-4000 ext. 23 or youthministry@archeparchy.org

"Myrrh-bearers" Women's Retreat—A retreat experience for girls and women from 7 years of age through adulthood. June 27-29 at Mount Claret on Lincoln Drive. For more information refer to the flyers on the Greeting Table. Plan now.

ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2008 "Moved by the Spirit in the Windy City" Thursday, July 31—Sunday, August 3, at University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois. July 1 deadline for registration. See Father Stephen for registration forms.