

## Liturgical Schedule



### Monday Evening, August 29

#### Feast of the Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner, & Baptist John

*By tradition, a day of strict fast is observed. Local traditions include not eating anything in the shape of a head, such as cabbage, lettuce, apples, etc.*

Confessions 6:00-6:30 PM

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Acts 13:25-33; Mark 6:14-30

**Intention:** †Helen Ferencz  
(Al Ferencz)

### September 1

#### Beginning of the Church Liturgical Year—753 I (2022 AD) in Byzantine Reckoning

The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea in the year 325 adopted the first of September as the beginning of the New Church Liturgical Year and this has been observed in the Eastern Church to the present time. In Byzantine tradition, the creation of the world is dated to the first of September in 5509 BC (5509 + 2022 = 7531). According to Holy Tradition, Christ entered the synagogue on September 1 to announce His mission to mankind (Luke 4:16-22). Tradition also says that the Hebrews entered the Promised Land in September.

### Saturday Evening, September 3

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

**Intention:** †Linda Forbes (Danny Forbes)

**Sunday, September 4** **Tone 4**

#### 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Martyr Babylas,  
Bishop of Antioch  
Holy Prophet Moses,  
Who Saw God

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

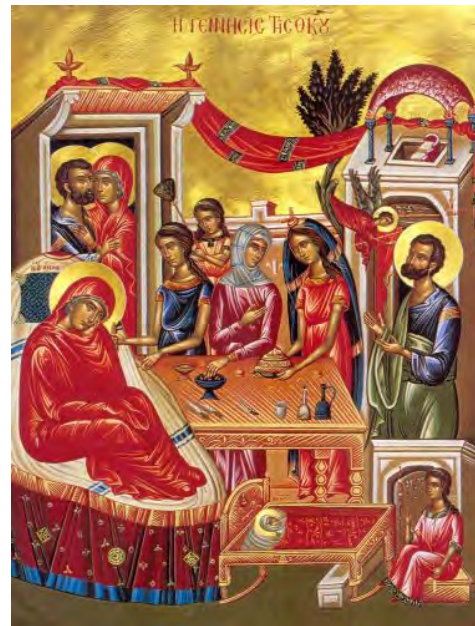
Third Hour 9:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

I Corinthians 16:13-24;

Matthew 21:33-42

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas



### Thursday, September 8

#### Feast of the Birth of the Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary

*(No Confessions before liturgy this evening)*

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

**Intention:** †Al Ferencz (Dcn. Mike)

### Saturday Evening, September 10

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 5:00 PM

**Intention:** †Joey T. Kowalczyk

(Kowalczyk Family)

**Sunday, September 11** **Tone 5**

#### Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

#### Postfestive Day of the Birth of the Theotokos

Venerable Mother Theodora of Alexandria

Holy Bishop-Martyr Autonomus

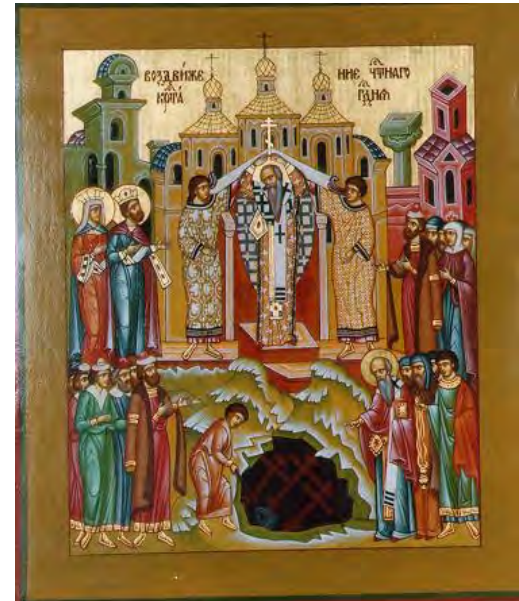
Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Galatians 6:11-18; John 3:13-17

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas



### Wednesday, September 14

#### Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious, Holy, & Life-Creating Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ

*By tradition, a day of strict fast is observed.*

*(No Confessions before liturgy this evening)*

Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM

I Corinthians 1:18-24;

John 19:6-11,13-20,25-28,&30-35

**Intention:** †Rudolph Nicholas Lawson  
(Bullock Family)

## Liturgical Schedule

### Saturday Evening, September 17

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intention:** Elizabeth (Caitlín Sullivan)

### Sunday, September 18 Tone 6

**Sunday After the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

**Postfestive Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

Venerable Father Eumenius the Wonder-worker, Bishop of Gortyna

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

Galatians 2:16-20; Mark 8:34-9:1

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

### “Lucan Jump” or “Lucan Leap”

The continuous reading of the Gospel of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke always begins on the Monday (September 19 this year) following the Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 18 this year). However, the Epistles always continue to read in their regular order. As a result, this year there will be an ongoing discrepancy of two weeks between the Gospel readings and the Epistle readings from September 19-January 15, 2023. Likewise, even though the Gospel of the 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday may be read with the Epistle of the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday, that Sunday remains the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.



### Friday Evening, September 30

(No Confessions before liturgy this evening)

**Vigil Vespers Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM**

Genesis 28:10-17;

Ezekiel 43:27-44:4;

Proverbs 9:1-11; Hebrews 9:1-7;

Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28

**Intention:** †Chet Parker (Dcn. Mike)

### Saturday, October 1

**Feast of the Holy Protection of the Theotokos & Ever-Virgin Mary**

Holy Apostle Ananias

Venerable Father Romanus the Melodist

Venerable Mother Thérèse of the Child Jesus

### Saturday Evening, September 24

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intention:** †Helen Ferencz

(Al Ferencz)

### Sunday, September 25 Tone 7

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

Venerable Mother Euphrosyna

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Luke 5:1-11

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

### Saturday Evening, October 1

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intention:** †Arnel Visaya (Al Javier)

### Sunday, October 2 Tone 8

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

Holy Bishop-Martyr Cyprian

Holy Martyr Justina

Holy Andrew, Fool for Christ

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1; Luke 6: 31-36

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

### Saturday Evening, October 8

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intention:** †Charles & Theresa Crans

(Al Ferencz)

### Sunday, October 9 Tone 1

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

Holy Apostle James Alpheus

Venerable Father Andronicus & his Wife

Athanasia

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Luke 7:11-16

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas



### Saturday Evening, October 15

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

Genesis 14:14-20;

Deuteronomy 1:8-11,15-17;

Deuteronomy 10:14-21

**Intention:** †Muna Lee Tomley

(Kowalczyk Family)

### Sunday, October 16 Tone 2

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

**Commemoration of the**

**Fathers at the Seventh**

**Ecumenical Council**

Holy Martyr Longinus

the Centurion

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

2 Corinthians 11:31-12:9;

Hebrews 13: 7-16; Luke 8:5-15; John 17:1-13

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

## Liturgical Schedule

### **Saturday Evening, October 22**

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intention:** Viola Elsenity (Al Javier)

**Sunday, October 23** **Tone 3**

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

Holy Apostle James,  
the Brother of God

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

Galatians 1:11-19; Luke 16:19-31

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas

### **Saturday Evening, October 29**

Confessions 4:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intention:** Irma Kinyon  
(Anthony, Daniel, & Daylin Kinyon)

**Sunday, October 30** **Tone 4**

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Holy Martyr Zenobius  
and his Sister Zenobia

Confessions 9:00-9:30 AM

Third Hour 9:45 AM

**Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM**

Galatians 2:16-20; Luke 8:26-39

**Intention:** Parishioners of St. Thomas



### **Tuesday, November 1**

**Feast of the Blessed Martyr  
Theodore Romzha,  
Bishop of Mukachevo**

*(No Confessions before liturgy this evening)*

**Divine Liturgy 7:00 PM**

Philippians 3:7-11; Luke 22:24-30

**Intention:** †Helen Ferencz (Al Ferencz)

### THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions, and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

**For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any incidents or concerns, please contact:**

#### **Subdeacon Paul F. Kilroy**

Safe Environment Program

Coordinator

Cell: (702) 498-5972 –

Office: (602) 861-9778 ext. 203 --

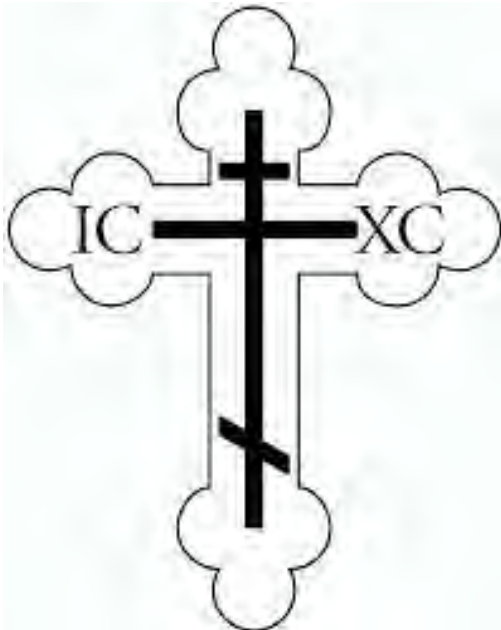
Email: [sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org](mailto:sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org)

#### **Deacon Michael Hanafin**

Victim Assistance Coordinator

Cell: (480) 307-5182

Email: [vac@ephx.org](mailto:vac@ephx.org)





## *Holy Protection of Mary*

### *Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Phoenix*

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*8131 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Phoenix AZ 85020*

*Telephone 602.861.9778  
www.ehphx.org*

17 September 2022

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church,

*Glory to Jesus Christ!*

At the end of October last year, the Eparchy of Phoenix received a complaint alleging that an incident of sexual misconduct had occurred on the parish property which involved Fr. Mykhaylo Sidun, then Administrator of the parish. Upon being notified of this matter by the alleged victim, the Eparchy of Phoenix, as a precaution and in accord with its *Safe Environment Policy and Procedures Governing Sexual Misconduct* (the "Policy"; available at <https://ephx.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/SEP-PDF-Policy-and-Procedures-Manual.pdf>) promulgated on 8 October 2020 and declared to be in effect on 20 October 2020, suspended Fr. Sidun, by written communication, from his duties as parish Administrator.

This suspension also expressly prohibited Fr. Sidun from having any contact with parishioners until further notice and restricting his presence on parish property to that of only the parish rectory. The eparchy permitted Fr. Sidun and his family to continue residency in the rectory, and further authorized continued payment of his regular salary and provision of health insurance benefits for him and his family.

At the same time, an internal investigation of the matter was initiated by the eparchy. The full process of that investigation concluded at the end of August 2022. This required a review, by each member of the eparchy's Safe Environment Review Board, and by the individual whose responsibility it is to be the advocate for the broader community in these matters, known as the Promoter of Justice, of all the material gathered in the investigation. Additionally, mindful of the concern for the canonical rights of Fr. Sidun as required in canon 192 §4 of the *Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches (CCEO)*, for this matter only, with the majority of the members of the eparchy's Safe Environment Review Board being lay faithful, membership was supplemented with four priests. This included two from the Eparchy of Phoenix and two from the Diocese of Phoenix.

Once the members of the board completed their review, the entire board was convened at which time each member made their individual recommendation to me for my consideration in determining a proper resolution of the matter. The Promoter of Justice submitted his brief in writing. The assigned investigator in the matter, the victim advocate who worked with the

alleged victim, the coordinator, and the assistant coordinator of the eparchy's Safe Environment program were not permitted to make a recommendation.

Members of the board were also advised that, since this investigation was undertaken by the eparchy and was therefore not a formal case, like a trial, there could not be a pronouncement of guilt or innocence. Such pronouncements are proper to, and made by a court, ecclesiastical or civil, following the conclusion of a formal trial, which either party to the matter is free to pursue if they wish.

The observations and subsequent recommendations of the board members and the advice of the Promoter of Justice resulted in the following, which is supported by documentation acquired in the course of the investigation:

1. An incident of sexual misconduct occurred on 26 October 2021 at the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle involving Fr. Sidun and an adult parishioner, and Fr. Sidun failed to report the incident to the eparchy thereby violating the Policy, which states, in Section 8:

"Clergy, staff, and volunteers have a duty to report their own ethical or professional misconduct, and the misconduct of others."

Paragraph 8.1 states: "Clergy, staff, and volunteers must hold each other accountable for maintaining the highest ethical and professional standards. When there is an indication of illegal actions by clergy, staff, or volunteers, you should notify the proper civil authorities immediately. Also notify the Pastoral Center in Phoenix, Arizona".

Paragraph 8.3 states: "When it appears that a member of the clergy, a staff member, or a volunteer has violated this Code of Pastoral Conduct or other religious, moral, or ethical principles, report the issue to a supervisor or the next higher authority, or refer the matter directly to the Pastoral Center."

This policy was known and available to Fr. Sidun, who has been active in this eparchy for approximately nine years, requiring him, in his position as parish administrator to follow it, and to make the report, without delay;

2. At the time of the incident, the Policy of this eparchy stated that, "Safe Environment Program compliance is mandatory for all priests, deacons, members of religious houses or institutions, candidates for ordination, employees, educators and volunteers serving in/assigned within the eparchy." Fr. Sidun allowed his personal compliance with the Policy to lapse on 15 September 2021, approximately six weeks prior to the incident and did not bring his status back into compliance until 1 November 2021, two days after he was questioned about the incident by eparchy personnel.

3. Fr. Sidun violated the directives of his letter of suspension dated 29 October 2021 which explicitly prohibited contact with parishioners of St. Thomas until further notice.
4. Fr. Sidun, by email to many individuals, made known the name of the other party involved in the incident, Mrs. Kristina Forbes.

These policy and directive violations are serious, and have resulted in disruption, discord, and scandal in the parish, and have caused unwarranted additional stress and reputational harm to Mrs. Forbes and her family.

Further, and regardless of a finding of guilt or innocence which, as I have stated above, rests with a formal ecclesiastical and/or civil process, with the harm and injury that members of the faithful and others have experienced in matters involving sexual misconduct, and which have been highly publicized in this country and in other parts of the world, Fr. Sidun's violations of the eparchy's Policy and the similar violation of the clear direction to him which followed upon the eparchy's learning of the incident, are unacceptable.

Much work has been done to formulate workable, understandable, and effective policies regarding the exceptionally important and necessary requirement of providing safe environments in eparchial facilities, and to educate its clergy in this vital area. The violating of these established and known policies and related directives, as has occurred in this matter, can and have had most unfortunate consequences. I find this most troubling and believe that it is necessary to act decisively when these policies are not followed. I also believe that to take any other course of action would make the commitment of this eparchy to providing a safe environment for its members and visitors suspect, at the very least, to reasonable individuals.

In my opinion, this is also true of Fr. Sidun's having revealed, by email, to many recipients, the identity of Mrs. Forbes. Fr. Sidun, as Administrator, had the primary responsibility of reporting, which he did not do, and which, since he himself was a party to the incident, incurred suspension by that involvement pending the outcome of an investigation. Removal of a priest from a parish assignment brings revelation of his identity with it. There is no avoiding that. For Fr. Sidun to have revealed Mrs. Forbes' name was completely inappropriate and served only to further divide the parish in favor of one or the other party. This is completely unbecoming of a parish leader, and most particularly so when that leader is the parish priest.

Therefore, it is my determination, acting within my authority as the Ordinary of this eparchy, that it is in the best interest of the parish community, the eparchy, Mrs. Forbes and her family, and I believe and hope, in the best interest of Fr. Sidun and his family, that Fr. Sidun's removal from St. Thomas be permanent. Additionally, Fr. Sidun will not be placed in any other ministerial position or office in this eparchy and he is being referred to his own Ordinary in Mukachevo for direction.

I also wish to let you know that I will soon be assigning a new Administrator for the parish of St. Thomas the Apostle and you will be advised of who that will be in the not too distant future. When he begins his pastoral work at the parish, I ask that you be welcoming, supportive, and cooperative as you interact with him spiritually and administratively.

The good people of St. Thomas have been through much over these last ten months and it is time to begin the healing process. The parish has been much divided – some have even used the word ‘polarized’ - by what has occurred. Yet the grace of God which flows to us through the celebration of Word and Sacrament can overcome this division, if we can bring ourselves to be fully open to that grace. And, in this worthy effort, we must also strive to more fully realize that the sharing from the one cup and the one body of Christ makes us one in Him who, as recited by the priest in the Divine Liturgy, is ‘broken yet not divided’. Neither, then, can the People of God in this parish be divided.

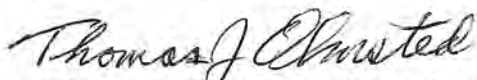
And as we speak of grace, it is a word sometimes defined as, or associated with ‘favor’, and what God favors, He will assist. We know, by the suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus that God favors healing and reconciliation, and that He will assist in the process if we only ask and make ourselves fully available to Him as His only Son did. For some, this may be easy, and for some, very difficult indeed. But how are we true to what we say we are, followers of Christ, if we do not make our best effort in situations such as this?

No harm, no evil, no bad thing is desired for anyone in this matter. It is my prayer, and I hope yours too, that Mrs. Forbes and her family will once again be able to find a welcoming home at St. Thomas, and there is no reason why they should not. It is my prayer that Fr. Sidun and his family will find purposeful and productive lives in whatever endeavors God has next in store for them.

It is also my prayer that the community of believers, the good people of St. Thomas, will charitably and humbly approach God in a right spirit, that He may graciously favor these prayerful requests, mend what has been broken, and soon bring peace to a troubled house, as only He can.

May God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, D.D., J.C.D.  
Apostolic Administrator, *sede vacante*

