

St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

St Georges Avenue (Rt 27) and Church Street in Rahway

Official Mailing Address: 1400 Church Street, Rahway, New Jersey 07065

www.SaintThomasTheApostle.org StThomasByz@aol.com

Served by Right Rev. Archpriest James G. Hayer and Deacon Charles Laskowski

Music Ministry: Cantors George Birchak, Paula Ciko, Samuel Doman, Maryann Laskowski,
Doreen Plahovinsak, Ronald Sepkoski, Adriana Smith and St Thomas Chanters

Office: 732-382-5300

Hall Kitchen: 732-382-7982

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 10 AM to 4PM and by Appointment.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2026
ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM
Proprs: 235-238/239

Lazarus Saturday, March 28th
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy for
Lazarus Saturday with
CHRISMATION of
Constantine Espinoza
+Helen Chohey *By Friends*

5:00 PM Divine Liturgy *WITH*
BLESSING OF PALMS AND PUSSYWILLOWS
For our Parish Family

Palm Sunday, March 29th
9:00 AM ECF & Bible Study
10:00 AM Divine Liturgy *WITH*
BLESSING OF PALMS AND PUSSYWILLOWS
+Dina Najar *by Friends*

The Great Fast (Lent) has concluded. We now begin a more solemn time of preparation for the Resurrection.

Great and Holy Week

Great and Holy Monday, March 30th
9:00 AM TYPHIKA with Holy Communion
5:00 PM Rosary *(All welcome!)*
7:30 PM B-I-N-G-O!

Great and Holy Tuesday, March 31st
7:00 PM Liturgy of St Gregory
+Ricky Roder *by Friends*

Great and Holy Wednesday, April 1st
Liturgy with Holy Anointing (Healing Service)
7:00 PM Divine Liturgy of St Gregory

Great and Holy Thursday, April 2nd
Institution of the Holy Eucharist
7:00 PM Vespers and Liturgy of St Basil

Great and Holy Friday, April 3rd
The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus
7:00 PM Vespers of the Crucifixion
Children's Passion Play and
Solemn Procession

ALL NIGHT VIGIL BEFORE THE TOMB -

Great and Holy Saturday, April 4th
8:00 AM Service of Conclusion
for the All-Night Vigil

Easter Schedule- The Great Day!

Saturday Evening, April 4th
7:00 PM Easter Divine Liturgy with
Procession, Resurrection Matins
and Blessing of Food Baskets

Resurrection Sunday, April 5th
10:00 AM Easter Divine Liturgy
followed by Basket Blessing

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinnu Voskrese!

Chrismated in the Lord! Congratulations to **CONSTANTINE ESPINOZA** who was Chrismated in the Lord on Lazarus Saturday, March 28th! Constantine is now an *official* Byzantine Catholic as well as a member of St Thomas Parish! Congratulations to Eric Citsay, Constantine's Sacramental Sponsor, and many thanks to Rich Smith for preparing Constantine for this day through a series of ongoing faith formation sessions. *May God grant him many blessed years!*

DAVID BRIGHOUSE NAMED "MAN OF THE YEAR"—the Men's Club of St Thomas Church has selected David Brighthouse as 2026 "Man of the Year" in recognition for his selfless contributions of time and talent to the Eastern Christian Formation Program (Sunday School); parish photography and archiving, library maintenance and GCU representative! *Congratulations!*

DEACON CHARLES NAMED "KNIGHT OF THE YEAR"—The Knights of Columbus Rahway Council honored our own Deacon Charles as 2026 "Knight of the Year" at their annual Communion Breakfast at St Thomas! Deacon graciously accepted in behalf of all Knights—who are "Catholic Gentlemen" working behind the scenes for the greater glory and honor of God! *Well done!*

Memorial Candles STILL Available for Easter Sponsorship! - Please call the Parish office if you would like to offer a Memorial Candle for your loved ones for Easter. Altar Candles are \$95 each and Standing Icon candles at \$50 each. Names will be printed in the Easter Bulletin. Please call Ann Marie 732-382-5300 or StThomasByz@aol.com

Many thanks to Lora Rayner and her helper, George for once again hosting our *Pysanky* Egg-Decorating class last Friday! Almost 40 students of all ages enjoyed learning the art and symbolism of traditional egg decorating using dye, wax and a stylus. It was an inspiring way to prepare for the Resurrection of Our Lord! *Thanks Lora and George!*

Good Friday, April 3rd, is a day of STRICT FAST (no meat, egg or dairy). *See Fr Jim for dispensations.*

Easter Food Baskets for the Shut-Ins—HELPING HANDS WELCOME on **Saturday, April 4th at 9AM** to prepare and deliver Easter food baskets to our homebound parishioners. Email Emily at emilymiannotta@gmail.com if you would like to help or contribute something. *Thanks!*

FLEA MARKET REPORT ... The spring Flea Market was loads of fun! Great weather, delicious food and lots of bargains! We had 47 vendors for a total of \$1275.00; the Parish Table earned \$601.00; and the Parish Kitchen sold \$969.00 in tasty treats! The total earned for St Thomas Parish was **\$2,845.00!** *Mark your calendars for the April Flea Market on April 11th!*

INCOME FOR LAST WEEKEND: (including those mailed in —thank you!)

Sunday Offering/Donations	\$	2450.00	Monthly/Initial	\$	327.00
Candles	\$	126.00	Charities/Missions/Peter's Pence	\$	10.00
Flowers	\$	305.00	Holydays/Easter	\$	474.00
Maintenance/Fuel	\$	85.00	Ret. Rel./Seminary	\$	20.00
ECL	\$	21.00	Total	\$	3692.00

Bingo 140 Players \$ 1286.00 Bingo Kitchen: \$ 369.00 **God Bless You!**

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