

St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

1410 St. Georges Avenue (for GPS) Rahway, New Jersey 07065

www.SaintThomasTheApostle.org StThomasByz@aol.com

Served by Right Rev. Archpriest James G. Hayer, with the ministry of Deacons Charles Laskowski and Deacon Thomas Shubeck, and Cantor Patricia Dietz and Cantor Doreen Plahovinsak

Office: 732-382-5300 Hall Kitchen: 732-382-7982

Office Hours: Monday — Thursday, 12 Noon to 4PM.

Office Location and Mailing Address: 1410 Church St., Rahway, NJ 07065

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD, 2020

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Propers: 135, 352-353 / 137, 353

Saturday, August 22nd

5:00 PM Divine Liturgy

Intentions of our Parishioners

Sunday, August 23rd

**10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
(live streamed)**

+Lorraine Smarsch

By Family and Friends

**7:00 PM ECF TEACHERS MEETING
(VIA ZOOM)**

Monday, August 24th

No Public Services

Tuesday, August 25th

No Public Services

Wednesday, August 26th

No Public Services

Thursday, August 27th

No Public Services

Friday, August 28th—HOLIDAY (Vigil)

**Feast of the Beheading of
Saint John the Baptist (Simple)**

7:00 PM +Fran Duda

By Family and Friends

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH, 2020

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Propers: 141-142 / 143

Saturday, August 29th

5:00 PM Divine Liturgy

Intentions of our Parishioners

Sunday, August 30th

**10:00 AM Divine Liturgy
(live streamed)**

+Dr. Michael Shill Jr.

By Shubeck Family

12 NOON BAPTISM
Gabriel Elias Medero

**Zoom Coffee Social - every Sunday after
Liturgy via Zoom! Join us!**

Delivery Assistance— If you
need assistance with grocery /
pharmacy pickup let us know.



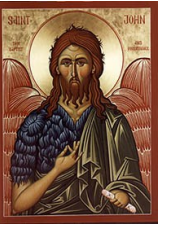
**IMPORTANT — Stay up to date with
current announcements by checking
our Facebook Page as well as our
website and your email!**

[https://www.facebook.com/
saintthomastheapostlebyz/](https://www.facebook.com/saintthomastheapostlebyz/)

<https://saintthomastheapostle.org/>

Condolences are sent to the family of +GUSTAV GRAF, uncle of Deacon Charles Laskowski, who fell asleep in the Lord and was buried last week with prayers of Christian Burial. To Deacon Charles and his family we extend our heartfelt condolences. *May his memory be eternal!*

Byzantine Question Time! *Why in the world would our Church want to “celebrate” the beheading of St John the Baptist?! And, why on earth do we also celebrate the “finding” of his decapitated cranium? (Actually, we liturgically celebrate the finding of his head not only once, but THREE times!) Ponder this: St. John was beheaded because he spoke the truth to Herod and Herodius, and he would not be silenced, not even after death! Our Lord tells us that He is the “way, the truth and the life!” (Jn 14:6) and we refer to the Holy Spirit as the “Spirit of Truth, everywhere present and filling all things”! Through the prayers of St. John the Baptist, may Our Lord be upon our lips and guide us to speak truth without fear! Amen!*



Heads up! There is now substantially less risk of branches falling on your head! Tree trimmers were here recently to remove a significant amount of low and dead wood! FYI!

ZOOM Meeting for ECF teachers TODAY on Sunday, August 23rd at 7PM. We will be discussing options for Sunday School in October. Next, we will meet with parents. *Hooray! Back to school!*

Reserve your seat for Liturgy Each Week! The Saturday evening Divine Liturgy is celebrated at 5PM; the Sunday Liturgy is celebrated at 10AM. Here’s how to reserve your seat:

- ♦ **Reserve by email!** We send out a reservation email each week around Wednesday. The first people to respond will be seated in the Church; everyone else will be seated in the Hall. Your reservation and seating location will be confirmed by email. MASKS are required!
- ♦ **Call the Parish Office** (*ONLY if you don't have email*) and reserve a seat with AnnMarie.
- ♦ **Other options**—watch us on **Facebook**, or listen on the FM radio from the church parking lot on channel **90.5 FM**.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED, ALMOST DONE!—Painting, sealing, repairing at your own pace with safe distancing concerns! We’ve done A LOT with a limited number of dedicated volunteers! Can YOU help, too? Please contact **John Szpyhulsky at (732) 283-3911**. *Thanks.*

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

Sunday Offering/Donations	\$	2325.00	Monthly/Initial	\$	175.00
Candles	\$	88.00	ECL	\$	6.00
Flowers	\$	160.00	Holydays/Easter	\$	237.00
Maintenance/Fuel	\$	50.00	Seminary	\$	xxx.00
Peter’s Pence	\$	xxx.00	Total	\$	\$ 3041.00

Additional Income (Bingo) \$xxx.00 **GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT!**

Many Thanks for the following donations... a few kind parishioners have made some very generous donations for improvements around the parish! They wish to remain anonymous, but *we must acknowledge their kindness!* The first is a donation of approximately \$7,000.00 for the installation of new partitions and an ADA-compliant commode in the Parish Hall Ladies Room. The second donation is \$4,000.00 for the installation of new partitions (coming *very soon!*) for the Parish Hall Men's Room. Both donations were unexpected and were motivated by people who just want to do something nice for their parish and to help everyone! *May Our Lord bless them for their acts of kindness!*

We also gratefully acknowledge a donation of \$14,500.00 from our dedicated **BINGO VOLUNTEERS** (*and patrons!*) to offset the cost of some major electric work done around the parish (inside and outside) to maintain safety and security! This includes replacement of over 20 security lights, repair to outdoor parking lights, new outlets in the parish kitchen, emergency lighting in the new library, sacristy, brighter exterior lighting by the doorways, and more!