

# St. Thomas the Apostle Byzantine Catholic Church

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

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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, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2020**

**SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

Propers: 130, 321, 216 / 132,322

**Saturday, February 8th**

5:30 PM **Divine Liturgy**  
Intentions of our Parishioners

**Sunday, February 9th**

9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**  
+Anna Rudo (100th birthday)  
By Barbara and James Heywood

10:00 AM **PARASTAS (Slavonic)**  
+Anna Virova  
By Jan Vira and Family

**Monday, February 10th—No Liturgy**

**Tuesday, February 11th**

8:30 AM +Helene Surgent by Family

**Wednesday, February 12th—No Liturgy**

6:00 PM **KNITTERS and CROCHETERS**

**Thursday, February 13th—No Liturgy**

**Friday, February 14th**

7:00 PM **Divine Liturgy for**  
**ALL SOULS COMMEMORATION**

*Saint Valentine's Day is about a soldier-martyr, who consoled young married couples persecuted for their faith! Yep ... stuff way more important than chocolates and cupid!*

**NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 2020**

**SUNDAY OF MEAT FARE**

Propers: 135, 217 / 217

**Saturday, February 15th**

5:30 PM **Divine Liturgy**  
+Ann Marie Policay  
By MM Kevin Joback

**Sunday, February 16th**

9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy**  
Intentions of our Parishioners



**Bishop Appeal Update**—to date, we have received \$8,190.00 toward our goal of \$12,400.00 with 43 families participating! Remember, as a bonus for reaching our goal, we get 40% back of the entire amount raised.

(We were able to do this every year so far, getting over \$4,500 back each time! *We can do it again with YOUR help!*)

**T**he next All Soul's Commemoration is **Saturday, March 7th!** If you've not yet done so, please send in the names of your loved ones who you wish to remember using the special envelope in your 2020 Church Envelope Box. Drop in the collection basket, call, or email. It is a great blessing to pray for those who cannot pray for themselves!

**In Blessed Repose...** please remember the soul of +**IRENE JAROS**, who fell asleep in the Lord and was buried from our parish on Monday. To her daughter, Jill, as well as to her entire family, including her niece, Cantor Doreen Plahovinsak of our parish, as well as Diane Rabiej and Greg Hardoby and of our parish, we extend our heartfelt condolences. *May her memory be eternal!*

**In Blessed Repose...** please remember the soul of +**LOUISE SURMAY**, who fell asleep in the Lord and was buried from our parish on Wednesday. To her children, Susan, John, Cathy, and Gary, as well as to her grandchildren and her brother, Gerry Lisnock, of our parish, we extend our heartfelt condolences. *May her memory be eternal!*

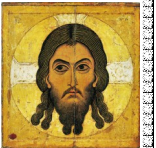
**Slavic Dinner in Hillsborough** (Highly recommended by Joe Geynes!) St Mary's Church, 1900 Brooks Blvd., is hosting their Slavic Dinner on Wednesday, **February 12, 2020** from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. **The cost is \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for Children (8 and under)** and includes all you can eat Pirohi, Stuffed Cabbage, Kielbasa and Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, salad, dessert and beverage. Questions? Please call 908-725-0615. *Mr G hopes to see YOU there!*

**Important Message**

**WHILE FR. JIM IS AWAY**, please welcome Fr. John Zec who will be here to celebrate the weekend Liturgies! AnnMarie will be available in the office to receive messages as usual. **ALSO, in the event of an emergency, please Call Fr. Vitalij at his parish of St. George in Linden at 908-486-6500.** *Thanks for your prayers!*

## Vespers of Forgiveness—Sunday, February 23rd

Eastern Catholics enter into the Great Fast (Lent) next week, on Monday, March 4th. Liturgically, we will observe the beginning of the Great Fast on Sunday with the celebration of Vespers of Forgiveness. In this spirit, one of the most beautiful customs expressed during this season is the exchange of the liturgical "kiss of peace" - a shoulder to shoulder embrace with the sharing of the words, "Christ is with us". May we see the image of Christ within ourselves *and* in each other!



### Schedule for Sunday, February 23rd

**9:00 AM** Divine Liturgy, followed by abbreviated ECF classes and Coffee Social  
**12 Noon** POTLUCK SOCIAL (see sign-up sheet in Church Hall)  
*We will ALSO be joined by St. George Church in Linden ... Welcome!*  
**1:30 PM** Vespers of Forgiveness for beginning of the Great Fast

### INCOME FOR LAST WEEKEND:

Sunday Offering/Donations	\$	1934.00	Monthly/Initial	\$	357.00
Candles	\$	77.00	ECL	\$	15.00
Flowers	\$	20.00	Holydays/Christmas	\$	227.00
Maintenance/Fuel	\$	45.00	Missions	\$	10.00
Retired Religious	\$	160.00	Total	\$	\$ 2845.00

Additional Income (Bingo) \$1169.00 **GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT!**

**M**any 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!*

**W**e 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!