

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, JANUARY 12TH, 2020

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY

Propers: 152, 316-317/ 318

Saturday, January 11th

5:30 PM Divine Liturgy

Intentions of our Parishioners

Sunday, January 12th

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

+Mae Maimone

By Linda Cwiekalo

ANNUAL RIVER BLESSING

Followed by Hot Chocolate Social

12:00 Noon Christmas Party for ARS and Men's Club Members at Amici's

Monday, January 13th—No Liturgy

Tuesday, January 14th

8:30 AM +Agnes Lozinak

by Theresa Glennon

Wednesday, January 15th—No Liturgy

Thursday, January 16th

7:00 PM +Mary Puchalski

by Kim Zwiersynski

Friday, January 17th

8:30 AM +John Sologovitch

by Nephew, Ron Kane

NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH, 2020

SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Propers: 156-157 / 158

Saturday, January 18th

10:00 AM BAPTISM

5:30 PM Divine Liturgy

+Florence Getsky

By Bingo Workers

Sunday, January 19th

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Intentions of our Parishioners

10:30 AM ARS Meeting (Library)



Bishop Appeal Update—to date, we have received \$6,490.00 toward our goal of \$12,400.00 with 35 families participating. Now that the holidays are over, please don't forget to make your contribution. 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! *Let's try to do it again!*)



Never put the key to your happiness in someone else's pocket!

TODAY! ANNUAL RIVER BLESSING!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12TH, AFTER LITURGY!

On the Sunday following the Feast of Theophany, it is a custom to bless the local river. We ask God—Who is the source of all blessings—to bless the flow of the water in the local tributaries so that water may be a source of life and not of destruction.

Therefore, following the Divine Liturgy TODAY, Sunday, January 12th, we will process to the Robinson Branch of the Rahway River on the corner of Central Avenue and St. Georges Avenue and bless the Rahway River. The highlight of which will be the insertion of a Cross made of ice into the River.

All are welcome to participate—and to return to the social hall for refreshments afterwards!

Many Thanks to all who pitched in to help around the church during the Christmas / New Year's and Theophany holydays season! There's a lot that has to be done "behind the scenes" and the good works of our Good Samaritans often goes unannounced, but *never unappreciated!* From setting up, breaking down, cleaning up, ushering, serving, cantoring, cooking, preparing snacks and coffee without being asked—it's a wonderful testimony to the sense of "parish family" that so many lend a helping hand when they can! God bless you all!



Spring Cleaning yet? If so, we could use some FLEA MARKET ITEMS for the upcoming February Flea Market on Saturday, February 8th! Any saleable items (gently used) are appreciated! Bring to church on the weekend, or call AnnMarie in the church office (732-382-5300) to make special arrangements for a special drop off time. *Thanks!*

A word of thanks for the cards, gifts and many kindnesses given to me (and Rio) at Christmas! Everything was so very much appreciated! *Thank you and God bless you all!*

New Year's Resolution... *Spend more time with those you love. One of these days you will either say "I wish I had" or "I'm glad I did!"*

A real friend is someone who tries to pick you up when you've fallen. And if they can't pick you up, they lay down right beside you. *Say a prayer for your real friends today!*

INCOME FOR LAST WEEKEND:

Sunday Offering/Donations	\$	1477.00	Monthly/Initial	\$	640.00
Candles	\$	210.00	ECL	\$	128.00
Flowers	\$	xxx.00	Holy days/Christmas	\$	712.00
Maintenance/Fuel	\$	10.00	Special	\$	10.00
Retired Religious	\$	15.00	Total	\$	\$ 3202.00

Additional Income (Bingo) \$1152.00 **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!