



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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January 29, 2023

Sunday of Zacchaeus

Troparion – Tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Troparion – Tone 4

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, thou didst become a successor to their throne. Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; by teaching the word of truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood.// O Hieromartyr Ignatius, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion – Tone 8

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam. Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,// and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

Kontakion – Tone 4

Today thou didst rise from the east, enlightening all of creation with thy teachings,// and thou art crowned with martyrdom, Godbearing Ignatius.

Prokeimenon – Tone 8

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Sunday of Zacchaeus

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.

We are also assured of God's mercy and compassion by Christ's words to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation is come to this house" (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology and Trisagion at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is in Tone 1, 3, 5, or 7) we sing the Troparion of the Resurrection: "Today salvation is come to the world, let us sing praises to Him Who arose from the tomb, and is the Author of our life. For having destroyed death by death, He has given us the victory and great mercy."

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

Saint Zacchaeus is also commemorated on April 20.

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Service Schedule for the week of January 29

Sunday January 29 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Annual Parish Meeting & Soup Sale in Daria Hall

Wednesday February 1 – Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, 7:00 PM Vespers with Litya

Thursday February 2 – Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday February 4 – 5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday February 5 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Upcoming Holy Days

Monday February 27 – Beginning of Great Lent

Weekly Giving

January 22 – 58 adults, 11 youth, \$1,780

Parish Announcements

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for House Blessing. If you would like Father to bless your home, please sign up and Father will contact you to schedule an appointment.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in Daria Hall today. Please plan on attending. The FOCA Club will sell soup during Coffee Hour before the meeting – cost is \$5/bowl plus a roll. Included in the meeting packet of documents will be a brochure from the OCA Alaska Diocese with an appeal for help. A short presentation will be given during the meeting explaining the dire situation of that Diocese.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church for a FOCA Club Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday February 12 in Daria Hall. The cost is \$10 for breakfast with a Mimosa drink, \$7 without a Mimosa drink, and free for children 5 and under. There will be no Coffee Hour that day.

A Parish "Directory" will be posted on the front wall in Daria Hall, and will consist of photos and identifying names of all parishioners. This will help us all with "putting a face to the name"! A camera will be set up in Daria Hall, and when you are in attendance with your family members, please make a point to get your picture taken. John Cassar and Awet Tesfa are leading this project. Pictures will be taken starting February 5.

Please remember to clean up and remove holiday decorations at the parish cemeteries. Per the Cemetery By-Laws, holiday decorations are to be removed three weeks after the holiday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Gallons of spring water are needed for Coffee Hour. Please bring your donation of water to Daria Hall. The water is used for tea and coffee. Thank you!

The Ladies Altar Society is setting up a Ladies Boutique in Daria Hall starting today through February 12. Stop by to shop for Valentine's Day for the special lady in your life!

Catechism classes are being held every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM in the church basement through March 16. Classes will be taught on a rotating schedule by Father Volodymyr, John Cassar, Herman Meyer, and Alan Berck. Everyone is invited to attend, but classes are mandatory for those wishing to convert to Orthodoxy. Classes will be finished before Pascha, at which time the Catechumens will schedule services to become Orthodox.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Sehwheat Manna – January 30

Aftan Chowansky – February 3

Nancy Mitsos – February 3

Simeon Brasowski – February 3

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

If you do not see your birthday listed above during your birthday week, please let Darice know and she will add it to the schedule!

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Please remember the Coffee Hour Helpers do not normally bring any refreshments for Coffee Hour, but are there to assist in setting up for Coffee Hour. The host/hostess is responsible for bringing whatever refreshments they wish to serve – if desserts are needed please let the Helper know ahead of time as there are desserts in the freezer that can be used. Host/Hostess is responsible for setting up in the morning starting at 9:00 AM, with guidance from the Helper, and for cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing and drying dishes, and taking out the trash. If you have any questions please contact Melody Stavisky, Alla Strauss, or the Helper assigned to your Coffee Hour date. Thank you!

Jan. 29	FOCA Club – coffee hour and soup sale
Feb. 5	Anna Brasowski, Francine Brady
Feb. 12	FOCA Club - Breakfast Fundraiser
Feb. 19	Carmen & Cezar Mateiescu, Darice Keyes
Feb. 26	NO MEAT Sami Bachir, Awet Tesfa
March 5	FAST Matthew & Nana Barrett, Darice Keyes
Mar. 12	FAST Awet Tesfa, Nebiat Tesfa
Mar. 19	FAST Alan & Mimi Berck, Francine & Herman
Mar. 26	FAST John Cassar, Nina Laushell
April 2	FAST Anne Cheslock, Nancy Mitsos
April 9	FAST Francine Brady, Herman Meyer, Alla Strauss
April 16	PASCHA – No Coffee Hour
April 23	Madeleine Sekulich, Mark McDevitt, Nancy Mitsos

April 30 Fiyori Habtesilasse, Awet Tesfa
May 7 Betty Kavchok, Nancy Mitsos
May 14 Nina Schmidt, Alla Strauss
May 21 Aftan Chowansky, Nina Laushell
May 28 Christina DiDonato, Francine Brady & Herman Meyer
June 4 Darice Keyes, Nancy Mitsos
June 11 Bill & Margie DiCicco, Chris Kasmer, Nina Laushell
June 18 **FAST** Timothy & Valeria Srock, Awet Tesfa
June 25 **FAST** Alla & Perry Strauss, Christine Waite
July 2 Alex & Brittani Brasowski, Melody Stavisky