

Zacchaeus the tax collector, for all his power over the people because of his job, could not get the crowds to part for him. What is interesting is that this public sinner, this publican who stole from his own people while collecting the Roman taxes, felt impelled to see Jesus. And so he forsook his dignity, something held dearly by every man in the cultures of the Middle East, by climbing up into a tree. That was something to be done only by children, not by powerful officials. Luke is telling us in this gospel story that there is still a seed of goodness within this tax collector, in that he feels driven to look upon our Lord.

What kind of tree does he climb? Nothing is in the gospels casually: it all has a meaning. A sycamore tree was described in those times as a wild, unruly tree. The disturbed conscience of this tax collector drives him up this particular tree, the wild one. While he is enduring the mockery of the Jews who despised him as a traitor, he is waiting in that wild tree with his disturbed conscience, waiting to be healed. Only God can bring peace to us when our nature has become wild.

That seed of goodness sprouts when Jesus calls Zacchaeus by name. The publican jumps down and in front of everyone announces his own radical conversion. He was going to impoverish himself by atoning for what he had stolen from his own people over the years. Ironically Zacchaeus means "pure" and now the tax collector really was pure. His conversion is the traditional start of the preparation season for Lent.

35th Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 3

Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs, i.e., The Three Great Fathers of the church; namely St. Basil the Great, (See 1st of Jan) St. Gregory, the Theologian (See 25th of Jan) and St. John, the Chrysostom, (see 13th of Nov.)

St Hippolytus, Priest-Martyr. Bishop of Porto. He was put to death by drowning, under Alexander Severus, Emperor.

January

30 Sunday of Zacchaeus

Synaxis of the Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

February

2 Encounter of Our Lord, God, and Savior, Jesus Christ with Simeon and Anna (Presentation of Our Lord Into the Temple)

6 Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

13 Sunday of the Prodigal Son

19 First All-Souls Saturday

20 Sunday of the Second Coming of Christ (Meat-Fare)

27 Forgiveness Sunday (Cheese-Fare)

28 Beginning of the Holy Forty Days Fast

Father Michael will be doing bulletins. I enjoyed putting these together and I hope you found them interesting.

This is some supplemental material that I found this past week.

Joe

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Sunday, Jan 30th, 2022, Tone 3, Sunday of Zaccheus and The Three Holy Hierarchs

Today's Liturgy Intention: In loving memory of +Mary Belak Zakutney offered by her daughter, Dr. Mary Ann Zakutney

Today's Readings: 1 Tim 1:15-17; Heb 13:7-16; Lk 18:35-43; Mt 5:14-19

We have 2 epistles and 2 Gospels that bring us into the earliest stages of the pre-Lenten season with the Gospel of the tax-collector, Zacchaeus, whom Jesus talks to and comes into Zacchaeus' house. Jesus likewise visits us and by our prayers and Scripture readings, we invite Jesus into our homes and into our hearts, as well. It is also the Sunday of the 3 Holy Hierarchs, St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, and St. John Chrysostom.

By our Liturgy Intention we pray for and remember +Mary Zakutney who came to be with the Lord a year ago at the Lord's calling. Pray for her peaceful and blessed repose!

Wednesday, Feb. 2nd, 2022 THE Solemn Holyday of the Meeting of our Lord with Simeon and Anna

9:00 a.m Divine Liturgy, Intention of the Living and Deceased,

Readings: Heb 7:7-17 and Lk 2:22-40

Sunday, Feb. 6, Tone 4, Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee, 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy,

Readings: 2 Tim 3:10-15; Lk 18:10-14. **No Intention received**

Prayers for Betty Krolik:

We ask everyone to please keep in your prayers Betty Krolik who is recovering from surgery earlier last week. The Lord's sacramental presence and healing was administered to Betty, and each of us, by joining our thoughts of prayer for her, through the healing work of Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, and the Holy Spirit, and giver of life, whom God sent into the world and into the Church, all help to build up one's health and spiritual communion with the Lord and His Church.

Daily Prayer to St. Anthony:

O good and faithful St. Anthony, Helper of the afflicted and distressed, you have promised that whoever devoutly invokes your name for nine consecutive days will know the power of your heavenly intercession.

Encouraged by this promise I come to you in prayer, and with a firm hope I implore your assistance, your protection, your guidance, and your blessing.

Obtain for me, I beseech you, my request in this time of necessity (*Here please mention your intention*)

But, if it should be contrary to the will of God and my spiritual welfare, secure for me other graces that will be helpful to my salvation. I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.