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Served By
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Liturgical Schedule

Divine Liturgy
Sunday: 8:30 am
Holyday: 9:00 am

Confessions

One half hour before
the divine liturgy or by
appointment

*The Divine Liturgy intention is for the parish
family*

*If you would like to schedule a Liturgy please talk to
Father Vasyl or use the sign up sheet in the vestibule.*

2026 THEOPHANY HOUSE BLESSINGS:

*Fr. Vasyl would like to come and visit with
you, pray with you and ask God to bless your
home.*

Zacchaeus and the Confessional

Zacchaeus is one of the Church's clearest teachers on repentance. Just before Luke introduces us to Zacchaeus, we hear Jesus proclaim that what is impossible for human beings is possible for God. Zacchaeus is the proof. By any ordinary measure, he's a lost cause: he's corrupt, in the pocket of the evil empire, and his whole life is entangled in exploitation. Yet a single encounter with Christ changes everything. His story reminds us that repentance is never about what we can manage on our own: it's about what God can do shimmying in us.

Notice how repentance begins. Zacchaeus climbs a tree because he wants to see Jesus. He's restless, drawn by something he can't yet name. And as Zacchaeus scuffs and scratches his expensive clothes getting onto a branch, Christ stops, looks up, and calls him by name. Zacchaeus discovers that he is already known. This is how

32nd Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday of Zacchaeus

Tone 7

Menologion

Our Holy Fathers Athanasius (373) and Cyril of Alexandria (444).

Our Venerable Father Theodosius, Founder of the common life (529).

Propers

Pages: 156-158

Fasts & Feasts

JANUARY

Fri 30 Three Holy Hierarchs/
Simple Holy Day

FEBRUARY

Mon 2 Encounter of Our Lord
with Simeon Solemn Holy Day
(40 days after Christmas.)

Sat 7 1st All Souls Saturday
Divine Liturgy &
Panachida

Mon 16 First Day of the Great
Fast

Sat 28 2nd All Souls Saturday
Divine Liturgy &
Panachida

March

Sat 7 3rd All Souls Saturday
Divine Liturgy &
Panachida



When I first started to cantor at our church, Mike Peresta called today shorty Sunday.

We still have the Feast of the Presentation in the Temple to hang onto the Christmas spirit.

salvation happens: we don't repent in order to earn God's attention. We repent because God has already turned his face toward us.

When we approach confession, we are not initiating the encounter. We are responding to it. God's kindness leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4). His mercy allows us to speak the truth. Like Zacchaeus, we come down from the places where we have tried to secure ourselves and allow Christ to enter our house, that is, our real, unedited life.

Zacchaeus's response is concrete. He restores what he has stolen and gives generously to the poor. This matters not because he can erase the past or balance the books. They matter because they flow from a relationship with Christ, even the very beginning of one. Zacchaeus does not promise that someday he will change; he declares it as something already underway. "I give. I restore." Repentance becomes part of his identity. This, too, is how confession works. Confession isn't about feeling relief, though sometimes we do. The depth of of repentance is shown in the life that follows. Good works done in faith are not a self-improvement project. They're not a way of proving ourselves. They're the fruit of having our eyes fixed on Christ. Over time, by grace, they form new habits, new instincts, new ways of being in the world.

That process is usually slower than we wish it was. Sometimes we are simply delivered from sin by divine grace. But other sins require sustained repentance over time. Falling after repentance does not mean repentance was false; it means God has more to offer us. Christ calls us to return again with childlike trust. Repentance is not pretending to be healed "as if" it were true. It's trusting that Christ truly gives his own divine life to us, and that this life is at work in us even when it takes repeated effort, patience, and renewed cries for mercy.

Zacchaeus teaches us that confession is not about climbing higher, but about coming down quickly when Christ calls our name. Salvation begins not when we finally find God, but when we allow ourselves to be found.

He became a disciple of the Lord and after the Lord's Ascension into Heaven, and he accompanied St. Peter on his missionary travels, eventually becoming the first bishop of Caesarea in Palestine. So, he was an Apostle of the Seventy.

The Sunday of Zacchaeus is the final Sunday before the Church begins the Lenten Triodion, the time when the Church officially shifts focus towards preparation for the Great Fast. On this Sunday, the Gospel reading is the repentance and salvation of Zacchaeus, the chief tax collector of Jericho. Fittingly, the Sunday leading into Lenten preparation is where we see God's immense love for even the greatest and most undeserving sinners and the abundant joy of salvation rewarded to those who repent no matter what they have done in their past.

Who is ready for The Great Fast?

How many of you view the church website on a regular basis? The church's bulletins are presented on the site, as are events, history, culture and religious items. They go back to 2021. There is a lot of information on the site. Provide information about the site to your children and grand children who are no longer living in the area.

There is no cost to the church for this, I own the overarching domain and created the subdomain for the website.

If you have bulletins from 2021 back to the beginning of time I'd like to add them to the website.

I will be starting a cantor's school in the church basement. No date as been set for the initial class. That date will be determined by my health and the weather. To be honest I'm just not ready. The cantor's job is to lead singing and to pass on the teachings of the church. In the time that I have left, I will share with you everything that I have been taught by those who came before me.