



January 30, 2022

SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS

Parish Schedule

Jan. 29 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm
+Clarence Rizzi req of our Parish Family

**Jan. 30 (Sun) SUNDAY OF ZACCHEUS
THREE HOLY HIERARCHS
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**
For our Parish Family

**Feb. 2 (Wed) FEAST OF THE ENCOUNTER OF OUR LORD
WITH SIMEON AND ANNA
Divine Liturgy 7:00pm**

Feb. 5 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm
+Jacqueline Sysyn req of Michael & Shirley Andreyko

**Feb. 6 (Sun) SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**
For our Parishioners

Our Tithe to our Parish - January 23, 2022 - \$2,532.00

The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of Our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of Jan. 30 thru Feb. 5 for the deceased of our parish. *“Eternal Memory”*



Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.



Tillie Abraham, Ron Bishop, George Bodnar, Monica Boggs, Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick, Kevin Ianni, Fr. John Petro, Ted Race, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko Sr.

The calendars and the 2022 donation envelopes are available. They are located in the hall of the educational building.

If you are unable to locate or want to make any changes on the envelope information, please call the office on Tuesday mornings at 724-863-6776.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Tax time is drawing near. If you would like your total donation amount for the year 2021, please drop a note in the collection basket. Also, please specify if you would like to pick it up or would you like it to be mailed.

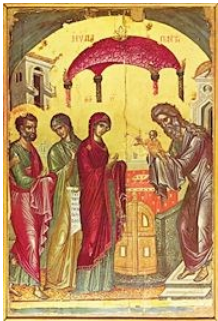


FEAST OF THE ENCOUNTER

On this feast, the Church meditated on the mystery of the Lord Jesus ... who as a human person was brought to the Temple in conformity with the Law ... the Law that he, as Son of God, gave to Moses to obey.

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites, both of man and beast, for it belongs to me.”

If your son should ask you later on, “What does this mean?’ You shall tell him, ‘With a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, that place of slavery. When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed every first-born in the land of Egypt, every first-born of man and of beast. That is why I sacrifice to the Lord everything of the male sex that opens the womb, and why I redeem every first-born of my sons ...’ (Exodus 13:1-2, 14-15)



All the rituals of consecration and dedication to God ... have their roots in the experience of *remembering*. Remembering what God had done for them ... the people then made some gesture of dedication of themselves back to God.

Remembering how God had saved them from the power of the Egyptians ... and remembering the stubbornness of Pharaoh ... and remembering that every first-born in the land of Egypt was killed ... the people of Israel now dedicated their own first-born to God. It was a sign that all that they receive ... indeed comes from the hand of God.

And remembering that it is all a gift ... we too are called to dedicate ourselves back to the Lord .. For we are truly his.

SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

During the year, there are two cycles of feasts that we celebrate.

The *fixed feasts* ... that is, those like the Nativity and Theophany of Christ, which we have recently celebrated ... are commemorated on the same date each year.

The *movable feasts* ... such as the Resurrection, the Ascension and Pentecost ... fall on different dates each year ... based on the Spring equinox.

If we look more deeply at these feasts, we come to realize that the fixed feasts tell us more about the *content* of our faith ... *what* we believe about the Incarnation ... about the Holy Trinity ... about our Transfiguration into god-like people.



The movable feasts tell us more about *how we get there*. During the Great Lenten journey, we are presented with the themes of repentance and renewal ... asceticism and fasting ... conversion and change of heart.

Today, we come to the Sunday of Zacchaeus ... the last of the Sundays after Pentecost ... and the opening to the new season of repentance and renewal. The goal of this journey is to help us move from the *periphery* of life where we are often immersed ... and to come closer to the *center*, that is, to Christ who is the Truth and Life.

Various models are offered to us along the way. As we make our journey up to Jerusalem ... and to a deeper commitment to our baptismal life ... we look at the different models that are presented to us.

Zacchaeus is a rich man ... a tax collector ... a Jew hired by the Roman authorities to collect taxes from his fellow countrymen. He did not realize that he was much of a sinner ... until he met Jesus. Then his life changed ... dramatically!

Jesus said: *I must stay at your house tonight*. When we allow the Lord to come this close to us personally ... some thing happens ... and we can change ... much like Zacchaeus.