

January 18, 2026
Sunday of Zacchaeus



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! - Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!
Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вики!

Propers: Resurrectional Tone 7, pp. 156 – 158

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., JAN. 18 SUNDAY of ZACCHAEUS

8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: + Mary Elizabeth Olack, requested by James Mudron

TUE., JAN. 20 Venerable and God-Bearing Father Euthymius the Great

6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: + Johnson Jn Baptiste, requested by Sr. Mary Virginia

WED., JAN. 21 Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor

7:00 A.M. FIRST & THIRD HOUR

THUR., JAN. 22 Holy Apostle Timothy

6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: +Gordon Jn Baptiste, requested by Sr. Mary Virginia

SUN., JAN. 25 SUNDAY of the PUBLICAN and the PHARISEE

8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom

Intention: +Mary Elizabeth Olack, requested by Family

Happy Birthday Greetings:

January 15: Isabella Rubino, January 23: Judy Dzumba

Please Pray for Our Sick, Shut-ins, and those in need of prayer

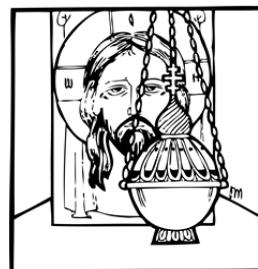
Eileen Batcha, Mary Dickey, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan

Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Way, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

Epistle Readers – Jan. 17: Dan Pinchot – Jan. 25: JoAnn Hersh

Troica Holders – Jan. 17: M. Bobanic – Jan. 25: R. Mudron



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

January 18 - 24, 2026

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Mary Elizabeth Olack

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:

Olack Family

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, something happens, and we can change much like Zacchaeus.

Regular Confessions Offered

St. George 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Thursdays and **before** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

St. Mary: 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Wednesdays and **following** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

St. Nicholas 4:00-4:45 P.M. before Vigil Liturgy on Saturdays

Happenings...

St. George Fellowship Hour

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. We are thankful that you have come to worship with us today. We invite you to join us following the Sunday Divine Liturgy for Fellowship coffee and doughnuts TODAY and every Sunday!

*We invite EVERYONE to **STAY** and join us.*



Christmas Decoration Take-Down

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the Church TODAY after Liturgy. If you are able, please stay and help. *Thank you!*

Called by Name Program

Every Byzantine Catholic parish in the United States is participating in Called by Name, a program of vocation awareness that begins this weekend. This program offers an opportunity for us to pray for vocations; to recognize gifts and potential for leadership and service in members of our parish; and finally, to call forth and encourage these members to share their gifts in the priesthood, diaconate, and monastic life (men and women). Perhaps you know a man or woman (senior high school age or older) who would, in your opinion, have the qualifications to become a priest, a deacon, a monk, or sister. If so, please recommend this person to Fr. Anthony and he will forward the nominations to the Office of Vocations. And please, continue to pray for vocations!

We accept donations throughout the year for our annual Flea Market. Any time you have items to donate, please leave it in the Center marked as for the Flea Market. Thank you!

Upcoming Important Dates:

Jan. 30 Three Hierarchs Holy Day
Feb. 2 – Meeting of Our Lord Holy Day
Feb. 7 – First All Souls Saturday
Feb. 8 – Meat-fare Sunday
Feb. 15 - Cheese-fare Sunday
Feb. 22 – First Day of the Great Fast

St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

WED., JAN. 21 Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor
6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: Private

FRI., JAN. 23 Holy Martyr Clement, Bishop of Ancyra
9:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: Private

SUN., JAN. 25 SUNDAY of the PUBLICAN and the PHARISEE
10:45 A.M. THIRD HOUR
11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., JAN. 24 SUNDAY of the PUBLICAN and the PHARISEE
5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Intention: +Vera Piroli and Theresa Oliver, requested by Todd and Ann Wilson

Do you desire Christ?

This Sunday marks the first of five Sundays before the beginning of the Great Fast in preparation for the celebration of Holy Week and Pascha. The Gospel lesson for today is clear: everything begins with the desire to see Jesus Christ. Zacchaeus, the rich tax collector, desired to see Jesus so much that he even climbed a sycamore tree to get a good view, not worrying about what others thought of him. Jesus saw him, called him down and visited his house. Zacchaeus then acknowledged his sinfulness and voluntarily offered to give half of what he had to the poor and four times what he had taken from anyone by false accusation. The joy of the occasion is evidenced in Christ's words: *"Today salvation has come to this house... for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."* Zacchaeus' desire to see Jesus led to his salvation.

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

As hard it is to believe the beginning of the Great Fast is only Four Weeks away! Information on our Lenten schedule will be coming out soon. I plan to offer an adult education course at St. Mary's and will have a plethora of Divine Services at both St. George's and St. Mary's.

We are temporarily pausing Saturday evening Vespers and will reevaluate after Easter. We will still have it for feasts (such as the Three Holy Hierarchs next week) and Presanctified during Lent (which we will have four times a week) contains Vespers. As central as this celebration is to our Tradition, I am occupied with 40 plus house blessings this month and will be celebrating Divine Liturgy twice on Saturdays during Lent (9:00am at St. George and 5:00pm at St. Nicholas Chapel).

One beautiful tradition that coincides with Lent are All-Souls Saturdays. These are a set of 5 liturgies with Panachidas following in which we pray for our deceased family and friends.

The First All Souls Saturday is actually before Lent on Saturday, February 7th. I am unavailable that day, so I am going to transfer its observance to earlier in the week.

Due to logistics as well as interest, these celebrations will all be held at St. George. However, I will read the names of the deceased submitted by our parishioners from St. Mary's and St. Nicholas Chapel as well.

If you wish submit names, please write them on your envelope marked "All Souls Saturday" and put them in the offertory. If you choose to place a donation in it (customary but not required) know that it goes directly to the priest, not to the parish, as a liturgy stipend does.

In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

Today salvation has come to this house.

Sunday of Zacchaeus

Today the church, through the proclamation of the Gospel, reminds us that the Lord sees and values things in a way that the world cannot understand. Oftentimes, what the world sees as strength is a pitfall for those who seek the Lord; and what the world sees as weakness is an opportunity for spiritual growth.

Zacchaeus, "small of stature" and despised by the Jews becomes the one who sees the Lord and welcomes him into his home. Why? The Fathers of the church tell us that Zacchaeus was able to see the Lord, not because of the Sycamore tree, but because he set aside the self-righteousness of the world and the stature of honor and worldly dignity. By becoming "small" and humble of heart, by opening his eyes to the Lord's Vision, Zacchaeus was able to rise above those around him to behold the Lord and welcome him into his home. By going to Zacchaeus' house, Jesus confirmed for all that Zacchaeus had already made it home for the Lord in his heart.



Throughout the Gospel those who are apparently weak become strong, the blind become able to see, the paralytics walk again, and this strength and healing is found in one thing: that the Lord has made himself present within them, that he comes into "our house," and for that we must "make haste" to come down to meet him.

Today, we are given the first signal that the Great Fast is approaching. As we begin to change our mood slowly, almost imperceptibly, the initial call to repentance now echoes. The Apostle Paul tells Timothy that such spiritual exercises are exemplary, but we alone must desire to accomplish them. In wanting to come close to God, we must emulate Zacchaeus, who let no obstacle stand in his way of meeting Jesus.

1. How should a Christian judge himself differently than the world judges him?
2. Why was Zacchaeus' his willingness to climb up the tree a way in which we can see the humility of his heart?
3. Why did those around Zacchaeus despise his wealth while Jesus saw it as an opportunity for his salvation?

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO

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ST. GEORGE PHONE: 724-375-6652

PARISH EMAIL: stgbyz@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org

Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

Holy Protection Convent, 1000 Clinton St. 724-378-0238

Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik, Dan Pinchot

Grounds Keepers: Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Hersh



Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Thursdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & before Sunday Liturgy

Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the priest

Holy Mystery of Anointing Contact the priest prior to surgery or in the event of illness

Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the pastor six months prior to wedding

Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month, Oct. - May

St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club... All men & women are members and welcome to participate

Opportunities for StewardshipChurch and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every Saturday, Pirohi making: 2nd week of each month, October – May, Flea Market and food sale: June

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.