

January 26, 2020
Thirty Third Sunday after Pentecost
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!

Proper for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone: 8, pp. 161 - 163

Divine Services Schedule:

SUN., JAN. 26 **THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST, SUNDAY of ZACCHAEUS**

8:00 A.M.

Holy Rosary

8:30 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY

+ **Pete Yanchik**, in loving memory from his wife and family

(At St. Mary: Thursday, Jan. 30, 6:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy for Three Holy Hierarchs Holy Day)

SUN., FEB. 2 **MEETING of our LORD HOLYDAY**

SUNDAY of the PUBLICAN and the PHARISEE

8:00 A.M.

Holy Rosary

8:30 A.M.

DIVINE LITURGY, Blessing of candles

For the Parishioners



Happy Birthday Greetings this Week:

January 26: Elanie Ferrand

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

January 28: Joseph & Marian Yurosky

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 those who are in need of our prayers:

HOME – Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Alice Haber, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Josephine Maruhnich, Mary Salamon, John Simunick, Bonnie Taylor

Hunter's Care Home (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

West Hills Health & Rehab Center (951 Brodhead Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108) – Margaret Klacik

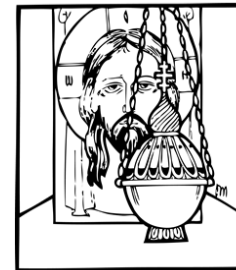
Beaver Meadows (5130 Tuscarawas Rd, Beaver, PA 15009) - Angie Yuhasz

Brighton Rehabilitation and Wellness Center (246 Friendship Cir, Beaver, PA 15009) - Carole Panella

Epistle Readers: January 26: Joanne Futato – February 2: Louisa Hersh

Ushers: January 26: R. Mudron/J. Yurosky – February 2: E. Maruhnich/R. Dzumba

Troica Holders: January 26: M. Bobanic – February 2: R. Mudron



THE SANCTUARY LAMP

January 26 – February 1, 2020

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ **Milic & Margaret Tesla**

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:

Granddaughter, Prudy

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 at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is Tone 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn of the Resurrection "Today salvation has come to the world," which echoes the Lord's words to Zacchaeus.


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.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

January 26	ECF classes in session
January 30	Three Holy Hierarchs Holy Day
February 2, 9, 16, 23	ECF classes is session
February 2	Meeting of the Lord Holy Day
February 14	Pirohi Sale
February 15	First All-Souls Saturday
February 22	Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Church Music Day
February 23	Lenten Soup Sale (Info in bulletin)
February 24	Great Fast Begins
February 24 – April 5	Lenten Almsgiving Collection

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H	S	E	C	C	E	N	O	D	Y
C	U	N	A	C	A	I	R	N	H
I	E	I	C	H	T	M	O	U	T
R	A	O	O	A	E	D	O	O	L
E	C	R	V	E	Y	E	P	R	A
J	C	L	E	U	O	S	R	G	E
T	A	O	H	S	H	O	R	T	W
S	Z	Y	T	R	E	P	O	R	P

JERICHO
ZACCHAEUS
SENIOR
WEALTHY
SHORT
SYCAMORE
TREE
HOUSE
GROUND
PROPERTY
POOR
SALVATION



Bulletins are available online for your convenience at stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org/bulletin/

Church Family News... Do you have any news you would like published in our bulletin? Please send articles and/or pictures to: stgbyz@gmail.com

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.

Next Sunday: Encounter of Our Lord

Next Sunday, February 2nd, we will celebrate the Feast of the Encounter-Meeting of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. For us this is the final Feast in the Christmas cycle that brings us back to the days after the Nativity of Christ, when Jesus was forty days old. To commemorate this salvific event we have candles blessed, candles which are symbolic of Christ, who is "the Light of the World." If you wish to have your candles blessed, please place them on the table which will be set up in the front of our Church. We will also have candles that will be blessed for you to take to your homes. Remember to come and to celebrate this Feast Day that has been celebrated in the Eastern Church since the fourth century. **Why have blessed candles in the home?** - It is good and laudable to light candles at home when we pray, when the priest visits for a house blessing with Holy Water or Holy Unction, and even light a candle when we visit the grave of a loved one.

Lenten Soup Sale

There will be a sale of delicious homemade vegetable soup on **Forgiveness Sunday, February 23**, to benefit the ECF program, just in time for your strict fast needs. Our strict fast begins the next day, February 24. The soup will be \$8.00 per quart. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex and Center to order your soup.



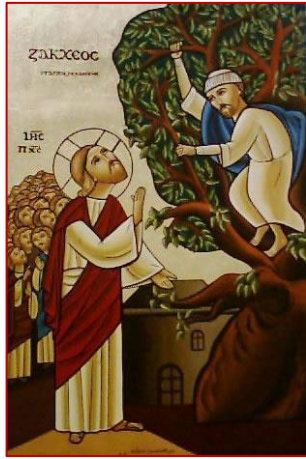
Eternal Memory

We offer condolences to our former pastor, Father Joseph Raptosh, on the death of his father Joseph Raptosh, who died Saturday, January 18. A Funeral Divine Liturgy was held in St. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church, Portage, PA, on Thursday, January 23. In blessed repose, grant O Lord eternal rest to the soul of Your departed servant Joseph and remember him forever! *Vičnaja jemu pamjat'.*

Sunday of Zacchaeus

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature.

In the Eastern Church, the Gospel account of Zacchaeus is read on the last Sunday preceding the liturgical preparation for the Great Fast. We see two exegetical aspects: Jesus' call to Zacchaeus to come down from the tree (symbolizing the divine call to humility), and Zacchaeus' subsequent repentance.



The chief tax collector of Jericho Zacchaeus wanted nothing more than to be able to see Jesus from afar. He had no other expectations. What happened next was completely unexpected. Our Lord noticed the opening in Zacchaeus' heart and welcomed it as an invitation.

For a brief moment Zacchaeus stops worrying about the future and begins to live in the present moment. He is presented with a simple dilemma that propels him out of his dark fantasies of survival into the living light of the present moment. How can I lift myself high enough to see Jesus over the crowd...now? That is the operative word, NOW. Living in the present helps to soften the heart and open the walls of our cocoons for one simple reason: there is no salvation in the past or the future. The past is a memory, the future is a fantasy. Salvation can only be found in the present moment. The Lord is present with us in reality. Zacchaeus latches onto that necessary truth and discovers that the Kingdom of Heaven is truly at hand. The Kingdom of Heaven can only be found in the present because life is nowhere else but here and now.

“Hurry and come down, Zacchaeus, for I will dine at your house TODAY.” This is the word we proclaim together at the Great Blessing of the Water. TODAY! “Christ is in our midst”, NOW. “Christ is Risen”, not was. TODAY is the word that begins the Fifteen Antiphon on Holy Thursday. “TODAY is hung upon the Tree.” TODAY! NOW! St. Paul writes that TODAY is the day of salvation. The Church wants us to live in the present so that we can see the Kingdom of Heaven which is in the present. The past is a memory, the future is a fantasy. Salvation is always NOW.

On Light Shining in the Darkness

“A timid faith is a vain faith. A timid word is an empty sound. Christ spoke as one who had authority, not timidly, like the Pharisees and the sinners. Every word of Christ shines like a candle kindled in the darkness of this world. All the words of philosophers have either already gone out or else will go out. But there is no whirlwind either on earth or in the whole universe able to put out the candles of Christ.” (St. Nikolai Velimirovich)

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

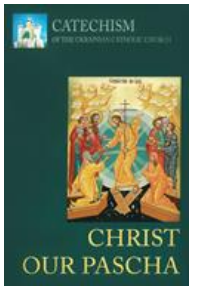
Three Holy Hierarchs



This week we honor the memory of the Three Holy Hierarchs. Who are they? The Three Hierarchs of Eastern Christianity refers to Basil the Great (also known as Basil of Caesarea), Gregory the Theologian (also known as Gregory of Nazianzus) and John Chrysostom. They were highly influential bishops of the Early Church who played pivotal roles in shaping Christian theology. Why do we celebrate them together every year on January 30th? Because of a DISPUTE! In Constantinople, a quarrel about which of the three theologians was the greatest was happening. In 1100, Our Fathers among the Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom appeared to Patriarch John in a dream and asked him institute one feast for all of them because they were equal before God as they declared: “There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another.” This ended peacefully the controversy amongst the faithful. There will be a Divine Liturgy at 6:00 PM at **St. Mary** on this day.

Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha

The Promise of the Messiah's Coming. In the Protoevangelium, God reveals that the plan of salvation will be fulfilled through the cooperation of humankind (see Gn 3:15). The fulfilment of the promise granted in the Protoevangelium drew closer and closer throughout the entire history of salvation, up to the time of the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ: “The child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God” (Lk 1:35). “He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end” (Lk 1:33). (#161)



Sing With Understanding: Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Church Music Day - Saturday, February 22, 2020 - Saint John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall, PA

The Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will devote a day to a coordinated effort to foster and invigorate our church singing as we enter the Great Fast. **Both events are free!**

Saturday morning from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.: Meeting of all cantors – All current cantors and assistant cantors in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh are invited to this meeting, which will be moderated by Deacon Jeffrey Mierzejewski of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute.

Saturday afternoon from 2:00 – 4:00 PM.: Church singing for congregations –The afternoon presentation, in the cathedral church, will provide a basic orientation to our church music that goes beyond what you learn simply by attending services: • *The role of the cantor* • *The essence of our chant, and why it matters* • *Singing beyond chant: hymns before and after Liturgy for the Great Fast* • *Singing together: how you can harmonize chant and hymns as a congregation.* **All members of our church are invited to participate.** Music for the Great Fast from our forthcoming hymnal will be taught in both English and Slavonic; copies of the DRAFT version of this 400-page hymnal will be available for purchase at \$25 per copy.

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org



**Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, David Klacik,
Louisa Hersh**

**E.C.F. coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh
Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff**

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Before and after Liturgies
Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the church office
Holy Mystery of Anointing Ask prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the church office eight months prior to wedding
Religious Education Classes September through May, following Sunday Divine Liturgy
Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month, Sept. through May
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club Everyone welcome to participate

*Even if Catholics faithful to tradition are reduced to a handful, they are the ones
who are the true Church of Christ.*

St. Athanasius