



# St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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## SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS FEBRUARY 2, 2025

### TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

#### **Troparion – Tone 7**

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

#### **Troparion – Tone 1**

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, thou didst accept in thine arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,// Who grants us the Resurrection!

#### **Kontakion – Tone 7**

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

#### **Kontakion – Tone 1**

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb and didst bless Simeon’s hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,// O only Lover of Man!

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 7**

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace.  
V. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

#### **Prokeimenon – Tone 3**

My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

### LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

#### **Sunday of Zaccheus**

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he “sought to see who Jesus was” (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

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 has come to this house" (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology and Trisagion at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is in Tone 1, 3, 5, or 7) we sing the Troparion of the Resurrection: "Today salvation is come to the world, let us sing praises to Him Who arose from the tomb, and is the Author of our life. For having destroyed death by death, He has given us the victory and great mercy."

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.

Saint Zacchaeus is also commemorated on April 20.

## **EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS**

### **Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15**

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

### **Epistle: Hebrews 7:7-17**

Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better. Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives. Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him. Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron. For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law. For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. For He testifies: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

### **Gospel: Luke 19:1-10**

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

### **Gospel: Luke 2:22-40**

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the LORD"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit

that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, CAREGIVERS, AND DECEASED** (To add a name, please email daricekeyes@gmail.com)

**For the Sick / Caregiver**

**For the Deceased**

Anthony (1/12)	Kelly (1/26)
Carmine (1/12)	Alexandra (1/26)
Marianne (1/12)	Father Paul (1/26)
Dorothy (1/19)	Matushka Mary (1/26)
Michael (1/19)	Deborah (1/26)
Charlotte (1/19)	Betty (2/2)
Subdeacon Serge (1/19)	Tamara (2/2)
Melody (1/19)	Trudy (2/2)
Liam (1/26)	

**SERVICES**

**Service Schedule for the Week of February 2**

**Sunday February 2** – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

**Saturday February 8** – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

**Sunday February 9** – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by FOCA soup sale and Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

**DONATIONS**

**Weekly Giving**

January 26 – 73 adults, 19 youth, \$2,446

**ORTHODOXY 101**

**Sunday of Zacchaeus**

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday, the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation. Let us prayerfully reflect upon what it is that we desire. Let us ask God to provide us with the grace and purity of heart to desire Him above all else. (Information taken from the OCA website)

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Sunday February 9, the FOCA Club will have a soup sale fundraiser. Containers of soup, with a roll, will be sold for \$5 outside of the church – weather permitting. Otherwise, the soup will be sold in Daria Hall during Coffee Hour.

Today is the last day to donate to the Legacy of Life Foundation. In 2024, Legacy of Life saved over 400 babies; their goal for 2025 is to save 700. Please consider donating to this worthy cause to help make this a reality. Baby bottles for loose change will also be collected today. Thank you so much!

There will be a Men's Fellowship Club meeting next Saturday February 8, after Vespers.

Reminder to please clean up Christmas decorations at the parish cemeteries. Per the Cemetery By-Laws, all decorations are to be removed three weeks after the holiday. There is no trash collection at the cemeteries, so please take your items home with you. Thank you.

There is a sign-up sheet on the credenza in the back of the church for house blessings. Please sign up if you would like your house blessed, and Father Volodymyr will contact you to schedule a time.

Pierogies are for sale! Please see a member of the FOCA Club during Coffee Hour to purchase.

## **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Aftan Chowansky – February 3

Nancy Mitsos – February 3

Simeon Brasowski – February 3

Emily Dejesus – February 5

Adriano DiDonato – February 6

Zoey Kushlyak – February 7

Sophia Cassar – February 8

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

## **COFFEE HOUR**

**\* If you are unable to accommodate your hosting date, please advise Darice as soon as possible so changes can be made.**

Hosts are responsible for providing and setting up the refreshments in Daria Hall at 9:00 AM and after Holy Communion, cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing, drying and putting away dishes, taking out the trash, wiping down the tables, and cleaning up the Coffee Room including turning off and cleaning the coffee and tea pots. Hosts will be informed in advance if cream cheese, butter, or milk is needed. **PLEASE NOTE:** Your assigned Coffee Hour Support Person will provide guidance, however, the Support Person will leave Daria Hall at 9:55 AM to attend church services. If you have arrived late or are not finished, you will be provided the key to lock the Hall when you are leaving for church services. If you have any questions, please contact Alla Strauss.

### **SUGGESTED MENU:**

Bagels / Breads

Donuts / Pastries

Desserts are available to use from the two freezers in Daria Hall -

Let Alla know ahead of time if you will need desserts so they can be thawed on Saturday

Fruit

Salads

Tortilla Chips & Salsa

Hummus

Sugar-free dessert

Oreos (they are all non-dairy)

*If your menu includes a pork dish, please keep in mind that several of our parishioners do not eat pork, so please provide an alternative for them.*

NOTE: Hosts may provide a luncheon for a specific event or holiday (panikhida, birthday, anniversary, holiday) with advance notice to reserve the specific date to host the event. The hosts will be responsible for all food preparation for such a luncheon.

Feb. 2 Anna, Leon, & Simeon Brasowski, Brittani & Alex Brasowski

Feb. 9 Corneliu & Florica Balasa, Stefania Balasa

Feb. 16 Karina Kotelnicki, Paul & Patty Denko

Feb. 23 Paula & Ludwig Koerte, Manny & Lourdes Montiel

Mar. 2 **NO MEAT** Tony & Chris Villabon, Cole Johnson  
 Mar. 9 **FAST** John Cassar, Christina DiDonato  
 Mar. 16 **FAST** Viktoryia Baranava, Tamara Karkusova  
 Mar. 23 **FAST** Chris Kasmer, Nina Laushell  
 Mar. 30 **FAST** Herman & Francine Meyer, Madeleine Sekulich & Mark McDevitt  
 Apr. 6 **FAST** Christine Waite, Alla Strauss  
 Apr. 13 **FAST** Alex Godun, Melody Stavisky  
 Apr. 20 **PASCHA – No Coffee Hour**  
 Apr. 27 Alan & Mimi Berck, Isaiah Maldonado  
 May 4 James & Olga Bates, Walter & Tanya Tribbey  
 May 11 Nina Schmidt, Monia & Jim Pitra  
 May 18 Anne Cheslock, Darice Keyes  
 May 25 Inna Lebedeva, Mihaela & Tiberiu Milosav  
 June 1 Blake & Jessica Kilgore, Alex & Rebeca Medina  
 June 8 Grace Ramus, Virgiliu & Gabriela Plesa  
 June 15 Sami Bachir, Tyler Burger  
 June 22 **FAST** Matthew Anderson, Ramazi Shubitidze  
 June 29 Nancy Mitsos, Ekaterina & Stanislav Uritsky  
 July 6 Fiyori Habtesilasse, Lemlem Woldearegay  
 July 13 **FOCA Club & Ladies Altar Society** – Enhanced Coffee Hour for St. Vladimir Feast Day Celebration  
 July 20 Helene Hopkins, Mary Ellen Jones  
 July 27 Amber Touch, Eleni Athanatos & Tom Sowanick

*Have a healthy, blessed week!*