

A Sermon of St. Nicholai of Zicha on Zacchaeus

“Today Salvation has come to your house.” Thus spoke He whose word is life, joy and the restoration of the righteous. Just as the bleak forest clothes itself in greenery and flowers through the breath of spring, so every man--regardless of how arid and darkened he is by sin--becomes fresh and youthful from the nearness of Christ. For the nearness of Christ is like the closeness of some life-giving and fragrant balsam that restores health, increases life, and gives fragrance to the soul, to the thoughts and to the words of man. In other words, distance from Christ means decay and death, and nearness to Him means salvation and life.

Today is salvation come to thy house, said the Lord upon entering the house of Zacchaeus the sinner. Christ was the salvation that came, and Zacchaeus was the house that He entered. Brothers and Sisters, each one of us is a house in which sin dwells as long as Christ is distant, and to which salvation comes when Christ approaches. Nevertheless, will Christ approach my house and your house? That depends on us. Behold, He did not arbitrarily enter the house of the sinner Zacchaeus, rather He entered as a most desired guest. Zacchaeus of little stature climbed into a tree in order to see the Lord Jesus with his own eyes. Zacchaeus therefore sought him; Zacchaeus desired Him. We must also seek Him in order to find Him, and desire Him in order that He would draw nearer to us. Then, with our spirit, we must climb high in order to encounter His glance. Then He will visit our house as He visited the house of Zacchaeus, and with Him salvation will come.

Draw near to us, O Lord; draw near and bring to us Thine eternal salvation. To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

“Let us Attend!”



“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.”

A PARISH BULLETIN OF
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Olyphant, Pennsylvania

6 February 2022 – 33rd Sunday After Pentecost

Afterfeast of the Meeting of the Lord– Sunday of Zacchaeus

Bulletin, Sunday, 6 February 2022

33rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 8. Afterfeast of the Meeting. Sunday of Zacchaeus.

St. Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna (ca. 100). St. Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople (891). Ven. Barsanuphius the Great and John the Prophet (6th c.). Virgin Martyr Dorothy, two sisters—Christina and Callista, and Theophilus, at Caesarea in Cappadocia (288–300). Martyr Julian of Emesa (312). Virgin Martyr Fausta, and with her, Evilasius and Maximus, at Cyzicus (305–311). Virgin Martyrs Martha and Mary, and their brother Lycarion, in Egypt.

Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9–15

Gospel: Luke 19:1–10

Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.

Schedule of Services:

Wednesday, 9 February 2022: Funeral Services for the New-Deported Johanna Hoynak. Visitation at the Church 10–11am. Funeral Service 11am, with burial to follow in All Saints Parish Cemetery.

Sunday, 13 February 2022: Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee – Opening of the Lenten Triodion. Divine Liturgy, 9:30AM. Followed by Coffee Hour Agape.

Announcements ~We warmly welcome to back to All Saints Fr. Michael Shepherd, and we and thank Father for serving and preaching this morning. God grant you many blessed years. And many years to Father's son Blaise who will celebrate his names day on Friday, 11 February.

~ A warm welcome as well to all visitors. Please join us for coffee hour Agape fellowship downstairs following the Liturgy.

~ Church candles were blessed on the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord. Please consider purchasing a blessed candle to take to your home for prayer, and special meals.

~ As Great Lent approaches, please be aware that the parish is working with Fr. Nicholas Solak to have Lenten services as well as services during Holy Week. An overall schedule will be forthcoming. There will also be opportunities before appointed services for partaking in the Sacrament of Confession. Details will be shared soon.

~ The parish will be holding a pre-order only Lenten Food Sale on Friday, 4 March 2022, with food pickup between 11am–and 3pm. Please tell your friends and neighbors. If you wish to place an order, please be in contact with Ann Schlasta or Anne Naughton. Orders must be placed by February 25th.

~ This Friday the Church commemorates the Holy Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste (316). Saint Blaise was known for his powerful prayers to effect healing of the sick. Saint Blaise extended this gift to both people and animals. He finally gave his life for Christ in martyrdom after numerous tortures. We offer up our prayers this week to God through the intercessions of the Holy Hieromartyr that Lord heal those dear to us who are sick and infirm, and bless those creatures made by God that give us comfort and bring us joy.