

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

February 10, 2019

(Zacchaeus Sunday)

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 4:9-15 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 19:1-10

Next Week: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 18:10-14

*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's Liturgy.

Services: Sat., Feb. 16th **Great Vespers**
(Holy Sacrament of Confession to follow) **7 pm**

Sun., Feb. 17th **Sunday of Publican & Pharisee**
Church School **9:15 am**
Hours **9:45 am**
Divine Liturgy **10 am**

Announcements:

To all our faithful and generous parishioners of Holy Resurrection:

A huge thank you is being extended to all who helped in any way to make our appreciation dinner a huge success! Fr. Stephan, Toni, Gloria, Evelyn and Martha wish to thank you. Thanks to all of you who helped and to those who baked and donated the most delectable goodies to adorn our dessert table.

Thank you to those who were so very, very generous in the gifts to the Free Will Offering Basket to help the most needy through the Angel Bowl Fund. If anyone knows of a person or family of Holy Resurrection as well as others who are in need and could use some temporary assistance, please let us know. If the money is available, we will help them. Every name is kept confidential.

*In Jesus' name we pray,
Father Stephan, Toni Costella,
Martha Zeli.*

Our monthly Parish Council Meeting is **Tuesday, February 12 at 7 pm.**

A Note from our Parish President: Enclosed in today's bulletin are the minutes from last year's Annual Parish Meeting. For those who missed last year's meeting, here's a summary of what's going on at the Parish. For those who attended, please give your review and comment on the correctness of the facts. To help facilitate the progression of this year's Parish Meeting, please review the enclosed 2018 Minutes and have any corrections noted or be ready with your "Motions to accept the 2018 Minutes 'as read'." Also enclosed is a copy of the 2019 Pledge form. Pledge to support our Parish, our diocese and national church! Also, pledging is not just financial support. Support your Parish through your talents/gifts. Please return completed Pledge forms to the candlestand by **March 3rd**. *Return to God the first fruits of the blessings/gifts he has bestowed upon you.*

House Blessings: Father Stephan is finishing up blessing houses ~~ *Did you remember to give him a call and arrange one? Please let him know if there are any changes to your address and/or phone number.* He will contact you before he arrives. Don't worry about your mess, Father Stephan has had a lot of life experience with a house full of people and stuff. Traditionally one would want to have at least one clean spot with a clean white cloth that has a bowl of blessed water, an icon, candle, and a fresh herb that can be used for the blessing and later as seasoning.

Looking ahead: Please note these events on your calendars which will occur in ensuing month or so:

Parish Annual Meeting: Sunday, February 17th after Divine Liturgy.

Pre-Lenten Retreat: Saturday, March 9th. This year's speaker will be Fr. Mark Meholic who will speak on icons.

Collection: February 3rd: \$2,082

Hieromartyr Haralambos

By Fr. Lawrence Farley

Haralambos was a priest in the town of Magnesia in Asia Minor, serving there for many years. When persecution raged against the church there, Haralambos, by then over a hundred years old, also was arrested and condemned by Lucianus, the local governor. His torture was terrible and prolonged—for months he suffered, the enraged governor himself joining in the terrible work. But the martyr remained steadfast: while they were flaying him with iron scrapers, he said, "Thank you, brothers, for scraping off the old body and renewing my soul for new, eternal life!"

So great was his torture that he actually died from it before the executioner could behead him. He suffered and was glorified in about 202. His relics are now kept in the monastery of St. Stephen in Meteora, Greece.

Zacchaeus Sunday

As we head towards the pre-Lenten Sundays of the Great Fast, the Church puts before us the story of Zacchaeus, from the Gospel of St. Luke, a story of desire, humility, and joy. Zacchaeus grew rich from tax-collecting—that is, from working for the hated occupying Romans and from gouging his people—and as such, he was a hated man. Yet within his heart lived a desire for something better, for a second chance.

So it was that when the famous rabbi from Galilee, Jesus the wonderworker, came to town amidst an immense throng, Zacchaeus had to see Him, even if it meant making himself look ridiculous by climbing a tree to see above the crowd. To his great surprise, Jesus stopped under the tree and looked up at him. And instead of rebuking him publicly for his notorious greed and dishonesty, He asked him for hospitality, saying He must stay at his place.

Zacchaeus was stunned—and jubilant. In the hastily arranged banquet for Him that followed, he dramatically stood up to announce to the Lord and his guests his new resolution: he would give away half his wealth to the poor and make good whatever he had defrauded, and then some. The Lord accepted his repentance, saying that today salvation had visited that house, for Zacchaeus, though hated as a sinner, was still a son of Abraham, and was called by God into the joy of His Kingdom.

Through his humility in sacrificing his dignity for a sight of Jesus, and through his decisive determination to change his life, the little Zacchaeus found that repentance leads to joy. The Church puts that lesson before our eyes as we approach the Sundays of the Lenten Triodion.