

WEEKLY BULLETIN

February 14, 2021

Vol. 38 No. 7



St. ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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*His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA
Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector
Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached*

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 3
SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS. Ven. Auxentius of Bithynia
Repose of St. Cyril, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Teacher of the
Slavs

Saturday, February 13

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 14

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Joshua Wherley

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Joshua Wherley

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

With the Meeting of our Lord desired by the little man Zacchaeus on the road from Jericho to Jerusalem, we are being led to meet our Lord in His Passion, death and Resurrection. Next Sunday, the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, is the first of the Pre-Lenten Sundays and the Beginning of the Lenten Triodion, the Hymn Book of Orthodox Great Lent.

1st Pre-Lenten Sunday

36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 4

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

Saturday, February 20

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 21

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Reader Aaron Gray

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Reader Aaron Gray

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

**Throughout the following week there is a general
dispensation from fasting**

SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

Commemorated today, February 14, 2021

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 the Great Lent comes five Sundays before the 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 fined four times as much as he had taken. In this he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Exodus 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).

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. *“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”* (Romans 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues and take steps for spiritual effort and growth.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle: [1 Timothy 4:9-15](#)

⁹This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. ¹⁰That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe. ¹¹Command and teach these things. ¹²Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. ¹³Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. ¹⁴Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you. ¹⁵Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.

Gospel: [Luke 19:1-10](#)

¹Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ²A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. ⁵When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. ⁷All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." ⁸But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the LORD, "Look, LORD! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world great mercy.

Troparion *(Ven. Auxentius)*

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,
you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing
Father Auxentius. You received heavenly gifts
through fasting, vigil, and prayer, healing the sick
and the souls of those drawn to you by faith.
Glory to Him Who gave you strength!
Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!
Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam
exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and
Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty
of Your power.

Kontakion *(Ven. Auxentius)*

You delighted in abstinence, restraining the desires of
the flesh. Divinely wise and holy Father Auxentius,
you were revealed to be shining with faith,
blossoming like a plant in the midst of Paradise.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Our Parish Annual Meeting was held last **Sunday, FEBRUARY 7, 2021**, following the Divine Liturgy.. Thank you to all who attended and participated in Church or by “Zoom”.

The **Installation of the 2021 Parish Council at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy included the following members:** President: Subdeacon Terrence A. Bilas; Vice President: John Bohush IV; Secretary: Reader Aaron Gray; Treasurer: Anthony Dodovich. Members: Veronica Bilas, John Cheese, Sarah Niglio, Joshua Wherley. COCA Representative: Mary Marcin

“ZOOM” PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 16 at 7 :00 pm

REMEMBER THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr .Don and Popadia Donna
Egor Cravcenko. Son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravcenko

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Metropolitan Herman
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)
Sandra Dodovich (mother of Tony Dodovich)
Phyllis George (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Angelo Lambo and Florence Lambo
Larissa Freude Newman; Reader William Paluch
Martin and Rose Marie Vronick
Matushka Myra Kovaiaak and Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Chrisitne Zebren; Matushka Laryssa Hunt्यान

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, February 7, 2021

Candles: \$ 38.00

Sunday Offering: 969.00

Improvement Fund: 100.00

TOTAL: \$1,107.00

“Tithley” Electronic Donations: Jan. 10– Feb. 10: \$778.09

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

The custom of sending “valentines” on February 14th has made St. Valentine one of the most popular names in many parts of the world; but there is no connection, not even by way of legend, between the saint and this custom.



What appears to have happened is that that date was commonly supposed to be the one on which birds begin to pair, hence young men and girls would formally choose each other then, or at least send each other greetings; and, as it was on the Western Church's calendar, the day was the feast of St. Valentine, so the custom was, as it were, put under its protection.

What we know of St. Valentine is very little and that apparently he was a priest; and he was beheaded in Rome on February 14th, about the year 269, during the persecutions under the emperor known as Claudius of Goth.

Let us love one another, that with one mind we may confess - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Love, Superior to Gifts 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

13 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. ² And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body ^[a]to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

⁴ Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not ^[b]puffed up; ⁵ does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, ^[c]thinks no evil; ⁶ does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰ But when that which is ^[d]perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.

Important Guidelines on Attending the Divine Services

All services will continue to be *live streamed* by visiting our website www.saintelia.com.

In accordance with the State of Ohio, CDC, and Diocesan guidelines we all must follow these simple steps when attending:

- 1) If you or your family member is sick please stay home.
- 2) All must wear masks in church (disposable masks are provided in the vestibule).
- 3) Sanitize your hands before entering the church (sanitizer is located in the vestibule).
- 4) All are required to keep 6 feet social distancing. Pews are marked for available and not available seating.

5) Please... **THERE WILL BE NO GATHERING IN THE VESTIBULE, OFFICE OR PARISH HALL**

So sorry to say... but we cannot kiss the icons, cross, chalice, gospel book, and/or Father's hand.

Lastly, due to limited seating to ensure safe distancing and Diocesan Guidelines, parishioners must pre-register to attend liturgical services. Please call Fr. Don at 330-724-7009