

Warming Up for Great Lent I: The Stature of Zacchaeus From an article by Fr. Thomas Hopko:

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is itself 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 greatly changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Lk 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through lent towards Easter. 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 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

Weekend		Week Day	
Saturday	4:00PM Northern Cambria	Monday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
Sunday	9:00AM Northern Cambria	Tuesday	6:30PM Revloc
	11:00AM Revloc	Wednesday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
	5:00PM Northern Cambria	Thursday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
Liturgy schedule may change due to Holy Days throughout the year.			

Protection of the B.V.M.  
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Immaculate Conception -  
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Northern Cambria, PA 15714

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Our  
Weekly  
Bulletin

Week of January 7 to 14, 2018

Welcome to our Parish

Christ is Born!      Glorify Him!  
Christ is Baptized!      In the Jordan!

Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week		
Sunday, Jan. 7	Theophany of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ	The Chuff Family
Jan. 8	No Liturgy	
Jan. 9	No Liturgy	
Jan. 10	No Liturgy	
Jan. 11	No Liturgy	
Jan. 12	No Liturgy	
Jan. 13	No Liturgy	
Sunday, Jan. 14	Zaccheaus Sunday	✠ John Descavish

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# Blessing of the House

*When Father comes to bless your home,  
have a candle, a cross, and Holy Water ready for him to use.*

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: O God our Savior, the true Light, who was baptized in the river Jordan by John to renew all men by the waters of regeneration, and Who condescended to enter under the roof of Zacchaeus to bring salvation to him and to all his house, keep safe also from all harm those who dwell here; grant them Your blessing, purification and bodily health, and all their petitions for their salvation and life everlasting: for blessed are You, together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, gracious, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever, and ever.

People: Amen

Priest: This home is blessed by the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever, and ever. Amen.

## *Tropar*

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,  
worship of the Trinity was revealed; the voice of the Father  
bore witness to You, naming You the beloved Son,  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the word's certainty.

Glory to You, O Christ God, who appeared and enlightened the world.

Glory be... Now and forever...

## *Kondak*

Today You have appeared to the world and Your light, O Lord,  
has been signed on us, who with knowledge sing Your praises.  
You have come, You have appeared, O unapproachable Light.

## PARISH NEWS

**Catechism** - Sundays at 10:00AM

**Weekday Liturgy** - Tuesday evenings at 6:30PM (cancelled for 1-9-18)

**Weekly Exercise** - Thursday evenings at 6:30PM

**Weekly Collection** - December 31, 2017 - \$388.00. Thank you for your generous support.

**Blessing of Homes** - Fr. Andriy is planning to bless the homes of the parish on January 14 following the Liturgy.

## Upcoming Events

January 14 - Blessing of homes of the parishioners

February 12 - First day of Lent

March 3rd and 10th - Pysanky Classes

For the latest news, announcements and notifications, please like us  
on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/protectionofthebvm/>

## Prayer List

### Parishioners:

Francis and Rose Charney, Peter Datsko, Michael Lutak, Jessica Mizera,  
Phyllis Weimer, Michael Yendzik

**Friends of the Parish:** Troy, Lisa Callahan, Bernie Kordish, Jennifer  
Maurer, George Datsko, Brian Smith, Breanna Borlie, Lindsey Lamer,  
Robin Wagner

*To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.*

## Joke of the Day

The phone rings at the church office. "Hello, is this priest of the parish?" The caller asked. "It is." "This is the Internal Revenue Service. We wonder if you can help us." "I'll try." "Do you know John Newman?" "I do." "Is this man a member of your congregation." "He is." "Did he donate \$10,000?" "He will."