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

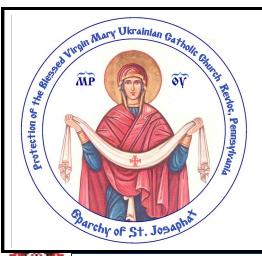
| Weekend | | Week Day | |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| Saturday | 4:00PM Northern Cambria | Monday | 8:30AM Northern Cambria |
| Sunday | 9:00AM Northern Cambria | Tuesday | 6:30PM Revloc |
| | 11:00AM Revloc | Wednesday | 8:30AM Northern Cambria |
| | 5:00PM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

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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 Theophany of our Lord The Chuff Family Sunday, Jan. 7 and Savior, Jesus Christ Jan. 8 No Liturgy Jan. 9 No Liturgy Jan. 10 No Liturgy No Liturgy **Jan. 11** Jan. 12 No Liturgy No Liturgy Jan. 13 Zaccheaus Sunday Sunday, **Jan. 14**

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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:

\$10,000?" "He will."

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