



Weekly Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

A Community of the Orthodox Church in America

Witnessing to the Apostolic Faith in Lake County for over 45 Years

Father Andrew Clements, Pastor

Volume 35

2021

Number 7

Sunday	Feb 14	<i>36th Sndy aftr Pntcst / Tone 3 / Zacchaeus / Venerable Auxentius</i>
		10:00 am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour
Wednesday	Feb 17	<i>Eve of St Leo, Pope of Rome</i>
		6:30 pm Vespertal Liturgy
Saturday	Feb 20	<i>St Leo, Bishop of Catania</i>
		12:00 pm Hoover Crowning
		5:30 pm Great Vespers Confession
Sunday	Feb 21	<i>37th Sndy aftr Pntcst / Tone 4 / Publican & Pharisee</i>
Fast Free Week		Readings: 2 Tim 3:10-15 Lk 18:10-14
		10:00 am Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour

STEWARDSHIP / Feb 7

Operating	\$2,452
OCA Assessments	349.00
Maintenance	40.00
Icons	28.00
Uganda	180.00
Charities	20.00
Wi Fi	15.00

COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, February 18 at 6:20 pm.

2021 ASSESSMENT

\$195.00 per person.

BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS

Anyone interested in sharing their thoughts on a spiritual reading is welcome to join us for conversation and fellowship.

When: Saturday, Feb. 20 (then every other week following) after vespers. Where: Church hall. What: Bring any book you are reading along with a passage that you'd like to throw out for discussion. Books to borrow will be available. Coffee and tea will be available. Please email Cindy Banjoff (cabanjoff@gmail.com) to confirm your participation.

PRAYER CORNER + + + + +

Perry (Capitan), Sbdcn Leonard, Ted Geletka, Julian, John Clements, Sarah Crivella, Joella (LuAnn D's dghtr), our Parish Faithful, the Furman family, Marie Gaydos (Maryann S' csn), Mary Ellen (Ruth B's mom), Fred Bessel (Jean M's frnd), Dr Michael Soroka, Mike Nadolski (Gloria H's frnd), Richard Mirauntz, Ruth Bede, Tim Price, Francis James (Anna

D's frnd), suffering Christians in the Middle East.

Birthdays: Pamella Roth (2/14), Laura Abernathy, Evangeline Kingsbury (2/17), Debbie Clements, Anna Dombrovskaya (2/18).

Expecting: John & Michelle, Matt & Michelle, David & Maria, Patrick & Deanna, Jairus & Riley.

Newly Departed: Nick Stchur (Tom A's frnd 2/7), Fr Daniel Hubiak (Deb's cousin 2/5), Prtdcn John (Fr A's frnd 2/1), Fr Alexander Cutler (1/26), Sotire Agapetus (1/24, Adam C's Godfather), William (Fr A's frnd 1/3).

Our Holy Father Auxentius

Auxentius was a distinguished administrator in Constantinople who was set aflame by the love of Christ. He became a monk and remained only a short time in Constantinople. When men began to praise him, he fled and settled on a mountain near Chalcedon. They began to bring the sick to him to be healed, and he healed many of them. When he was asked to pray for the healing of someone, he excused himself with the words: 'I also am a sinful man.' But, constrained by many requests, he approached the healing in the following way: either he called all present to pray with him for the sick person, or he first stirred up the faith of the people and told them that God would give according to their faith, or he said over the head of the sick person: 'The Lord Jesus Christ heals you.' He did this that the wonder worked should not be attributed to him but to almighty God. He took part in the Fourth Ecumenical Council at Chalcedon and powerfully defended Orthodoxy against the Eutychian and Nestorian heresies' He lived to a great age; then, in 470, God took his youthful soul to Himself.

Sunday of Zacchaeus

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 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 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 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.