



*I am the vine
you are the branches.*

John 15:5

be Grapevine

A NEWSLETTER OF ST. LAWRENCE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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*Zacchaeus Sunday
February 10, 2019*

Zacchaeus Sunday

“Behold I Stand at the Door and Knock”

The gospel for this Sunday (Luke 19:1-10) tells us about the conversion of the publican Zacchaeus. As Jesus passed through Jericho, this rich publican climbed a tree, the better to see him. Our Lord, having caught sight of Zacchaeus, says to him: “Make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at your house.” Jesus’ words to Zacchaeus remind us of those from Revelation which are so moving: “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hears my voice, and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” Jesus is saying to us what he said to Zacchaeus: he wants to come to our home, into our soul—not in a few days’ time, or tomorrow—but at this very instant. “Today I must abide at your house.” Why postpone the inner change that could make Jesus our guest? Through an inner act of repentance and of consecration, I can this moment open the door to the Lord. Let me lose no time, nor allow an opportunity to slip by which might be exceptionally favorable, and that might not come again. “Make haste, and come down.” I shall indeed hurry—and I shall come down. For Zacchaeus, to come down meant leaving his observation post in the sycamore tree and getting back to earth; for us, it also means renouncing all those poor artifices by which we try to raise ourselves above other men. “Come down”—so, leave the sycamore into which you have climbed, and leave behind all forms of vanity and pride; it is only on the ground that you will be able to meet Jesus.

Zacchaeus obeys. He hurries down. There are two points to notice in this gospel event: Zacchaeus receives Jesus “joyfully.” Jesus is not a guest with whom we have to stand on ceremony or welcome formally. We must not think of him as one of those visitors who come seldom and are only taken into the reception rooms, the front rooms. He is to be one of those visitors one welcomes “joyfully” and to whom one says “make yourself at home. You are one of the household, everything here is at your disposal. Go where you please.” We will not confine him to the sitting room, we shall take him all around, even into those

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CALENDAR

- Feb. 17 11:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- Feb. 21 - 24 Youth Group Snow Trip
- Feb. 24 11:30 a.m. Academy Open House

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FROM THE PARISH



ACADEMY CORNER

- Feb. 8** 12:15 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal
Feb. 9 Young Ensemble Showcase (YC)
Feb. 11 2:45 p.m. Youth Choir
Feb. 12 Fractured Olympics / 100th Day
Hot Lunch

If you teach children—your own or other people’s—let this work become a service to God; teach with zeal, study beforehand in order to make your teaching clear, intelligible, as complete as possible, fruitful.”

—St. John of Kronstadt

HOMILIES ONLINE!

An easy way to prepare for Sundays and feast days throughout the year is to listen to the previous year’s homily at www.slocc.com/audio. Take a listen!

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secret rooms—the nethermost regions of our soul—where we have let so much dust and dirt accumulate, and whose existence we conceal from strangers with such care. And then this: that Zacchaeus, who has just undergone an inner change, announces to the Lord that he is going to pay four times the value of anything he might unjustly have charged for, and that he is going to give half his goods to the poor. “Restitution” and “sharing,” in the fullest sense of the words, in their spiritual as well as their material senses: reparation for the harm we may have done, and sharing in common the benefits we have received: these are the first fruits of all conversion.

Those who witnessed this gospel scene murmured that “he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.” And Jesus declares: “The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” It is with this saying that the gospel for this Sunday ends. “That which was lost . . . to seek . . . to save.” Then is there also hope for me?

Here we reach a turning point in the liturgical year. For Jesus’ last words in today’s gospel announce a different climate from that to which the Nativity and the Baptism of Christ have introduced us. Going beyond the Gospel of the Incarnation, we enter into the Gospel of pardon and salvation. With the thirty-second Sunday after Pentecost, the time of Christmas and of Theophany comes to an end. Now another liturgical time is coming. Already, in the distance, a procession moves towards us which is no longer that of the shepherds and the Magi, of the Precursor and of his disciples, but a procession in which praises are mixed with curses. The standards of the King are coming and already, though still distant, shines the mystery of the cross.

*—from *The Year of Grace of the Lord*, by A Monk of the Eastern Church*



PERSON TO PERSON

FROM THE PARISH

Year-End Giving Letter

The year-end giving letters have been mailed. If you are a member of St. Lawrence and did not receive one, please contact the church office so we can correct our records. A friendly reminder: If your tithe and alms is given in cash, please use the tithe envelopes located in front of the tithe / alms box in the narthex, and write your name on the envelope. The parish's CA non-profit bylaws require a record of tithes in order for a member to be documented as a supporting member of the parish.

NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Need Something Recorded

Need a Notary Public? Please feel free to contact Joseph Mendes at 925-963-2366. Joseph can come to you!

Room Available

Dn. Paul Trigg has an upstairs room to rent. If you know of someone who needs a room, please call him for details: 336-8912.

2020 Summer pilgrimage to Greece

Trip to include a visit to Mt. Athos and many other monasteries, etc., including the Ormylia Monastery, the Monastery of St. John the Theologian where St. Paisios the Athonite is buried. Both Women and Men are welcome. To put together an approximate number of interested individuals please contact Joseph Mendes at josephm@theridehome-lending.com or 925-963-2366. Having good numbers a year or so ahead of the trip will greatly help with planning to drive down costs. The objective is to keep the average cost per night as low as possible (outside of airfare).

TRADING POST

Pres. Nancy had to get a printer that would print card-size, so is hoping to give away their one year old, gently used, HP



The Vicariate for Palestinian & Jordanian Orthodox Communities in America Monthly Schedule Sheet — February 2019 Very Rev. Fr. Damaskinos Alazrai Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne

Sunday, Feb. 10	Divine Liturgy	The Orthodox Church of the Annunciation 2525 Etiwanda Ave., San Bernardino 92410	10 a.m.
Sunday, Feb. 10	Pastoral Visit	St. Elias Orthodox Mission Anaheim, CA	3 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 16	Divine Liturgy	Theotokos "Joy of All Who Sorrow" & St. John Maximovitch Orthodox Mission 11002 N Saquaro Blvd. Fountain Hills AZ	10 a.m.
Sunday, Feb. 17	Divine Liturgy	All Saints of North America Orthodox Church 9502 W Hutton Dr. Sun City, AZ	9 a.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 20	Day of Prayer for Cancer Patients & Feast of St. Parthenios the Wonderworker	St. George Orthodox Cathedral 1617 Southgate Ave. Daly City, CA 94015 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy 5:00 a.m. The Holy Unction service 7:00 a.m. The Service of the Small Paraklisis to the Theotokos, the Pantanassa	All Day
Saturday, Feb. 23	Southern California Monthly Youth Group Meeting	For more information about the place and the time Please contact Father Damaskinos Tel: 951-289-1043	
Sunday, Feb. 24	Divine Liturgy	The Orthodox Church of the Annunciation 2525 Etiwanda Ave., San Bernardino 92410	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 26	Divine Liturgy For the Feast of St. Rafael of Brooklyn	St. George Orthodox Church 7311 College View Dr. Rohnert Park CA	7 p.m.

OfficeJet Pro 8715 printer. Still has ink, and includes an extra new black and a yellow cartridge. Please contact her, or Fr. Luke, soon if you are interested, 336-2114.

AWAKENING NEWS

Among Awakenings many new books is an amazing one, just translated from the Greek by the sisters of St. John the Forerunner Monastery in Goldendale, on the inspiring life of Mother Makrina, who was the beloved Abbess of both Mother Efraxia and Mother Markella for 30 years before they were sent to America. There are many photos and nearly 100 intricate, beautiful sketches by one of the sisters. Check it out at Awakenings!

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Setting up the Home Altar

It is essential to have icons of the Savior and the Mother of God. The image of the Lord Jesus Christ, which bears witness to the Incarnation and to the salvation of mankind, and that of the Theotokos—the most perfect of those who have lived on earth, and our loving intercessor before the throne of God—are an essential part of the Orthodox Christian home. Just as on a classic iconostasis, the icon of the Savior should be to the right, and the Mother of God to the left. We should not place an icon of a locally venerated saint above an icon of the Holy Trinity, the Savior, the Mother of God, or the Apostles.

SHOP THE ABBOT'S!

This Week You May Find

- ✦ Kennels
- ✦ Selfie stick
- ✦ Book cases
- ✦ Piggy banks
- ✦ Large kennel
- ✦ Cow cookie jar
- ✦ Valentine decor
- ✦ No Stress Chess
- ✦ Radiator heaters
- ✦ Bureau w/mirror
- ✦ Sock Slider helper
- ✦ Princess wall clock
- ✦ Blue enamel canner
- ✦ Kid's chopsticks, new
- ✦ Vases – fancy & simple
- ✦ Expo Glass desk, in box
- ✦ Magnetic Poetry words
- ✦ FreshLife auto sprouter
- ✦ Food Face plate (girl), box



SAINT LAWRENCE



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Return Service Requested

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Fri. Feb. 8 (Jan. 26)	<i>No Services</i>
Sat. Feb. 9 (Jan. 27)	7 p.m. Great Vespers
Sun. Feb. 10 (Jan. 28)	7:30 a.m. Matins 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy
Mon. Feb. 11 (Jan. 29)	<i>No Services</i>
Tues. Feb. 12 (Jan. 30)	<i>No Services</i>
Wed. Feb. 13 (Jan. 31)	7 p.m. Vespers
Thur. Feb. 14 (1)	Meeting of the Lord 6 p.m. Great Vespers (L) 7 p.m. Festal Matins

BIRTHDAYS

Seraphim Burkett	February 8
Dn. Lawrence Hulter	February 8
Nikiforos Young	February 9
Michael Pavich	February 10
Abraham Resnick	February 10
Dn. Joseph Patzke	February 11
Stephen Patzke	February 12

CLEANING TEAM

February 9	Susan M., Maria D., Tia G., Pres. Susan, Molly K.
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CONTACT THE GRAPEVINE

E-mail: newsletter@slocc.com
Phone: (831) 335-0300 Fax: (831) 335-0353
Submissions by e-mail are preferable!

Deadline for announcements: Tuesday noon for Friday's issue

Please specify how long you want the announcement to run. Default is 2 weeks.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For Sunday, February 10
1 Timothy 4:9-15
Luke 19:1-10

2019 Pilgrimages, Fun, and Feasts!

Summer Save the Dates

**Life Giving Spring Monastery
Benefit Dinner**

June 9

The Feast of Holy Pentecost

June 16

Saint John of Shanghai & San Francisco

July 2

Holy Leaders of the Apostles Ss. Peter & Paul

July 12

Men's Camping Trip

July 12-17

Russia Pilgrimage

July 27 - August 10

Transfiguration

August 19

St. Lawrence Feast

August 25

Dormition of the Theotokos

August 28