

# Holy Apostles Orthodox Church

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## January 21, 2018

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – Tone 8.** Sunday of Zacchæus. Ven. Maximus the Confessor (662). Martyr Neophytus of Nicæa (303-305). Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian, and Aquila, at Trebizond (3rd c.). Virgin Martyr Agnes of Rome (ca. 304). Martyr Anastasius, disciple of Ven. Maximus the Confessor (662). Ven. Neophytus of Vatopedi (Mt. Athos). Ven. Maxim the Greek (1556).

**EPISTLES:** 1 Tim 4:9–15: A faithful saying.

**GOSPELS:** Luke 19:1–10: Zacchæus seeks to see Jesus.

**COFFEE HOUR:** This week: Johnson

Next week: Tarallo

**SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY:** In addition to instructing that special prayers be read at the Liturgy, Metropolitan Tikhon has written a beautiful and powerful letter for this “Sanctity of Life Sunday.” Copies are available in the back of church and of the OCA website.

**PARISH FOCUS GROUPS:** We’ve had our two parish focus groups on parish vision, but we still want to hear from the rest of you. If you haven’t gotten to participate in one, please sign up in the back of church today, either for the last scheduled meeting or to

arrange a different time. See Fr Joel or any of the parish council for more information.

**HOUSE BLESSINGS:** House blessings are underway: if you haven’t set up a time to have your home blessed, please see Fr Joel.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** We’re planning the annual parish meeting for Sunday, February 11. Please plan to attend!

**UPCOMING BAPTISM:** Thaddeus Brown’s baptism will be scheduled, Lord willing, for next weekend. Details will be announced in the coming week!

## PRAYER SCROLL

| <u>LIVING:</u>      |                     |                      |                                | <u>REPOSED:</u> |                       |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Apr Timothy H       | Mary & Susan        | Zachary              | Micah, Danielle, &             | Apr John U      | James R               |
| Apr Herman S        | John & Carmine      | Helena               | Family                         | Priest Matthew  | Vasily                |
| Apr Sergius K       | Nathan              | Natasha, Lena, Vera, | Gregory & Ashley               | Priest John     | Mordecai              |
| Apr Thomas E        | Leah                | Sergei               | Petruta                        | Apr Alexander   | Alexandr              |
| Apr John R          | Helen               | Caleb                | Ivan                           | Priest William  | Ron                   |
| Apr Patrick C       | Lindsey             | Danielle             | Elizabeth                      | Apr Stephen M   | John                  |
| Apr Maryan          | Elizabeth           | Larry, Mark, Katie   | Anastasia                      | Pdn Keith       | Eleanor               |
| Pr James & Family   | Mary                | Ann                  | Galina                         | Pdn Gregory     | Harold                |
| Pr Seraphim         | Joe A               | Dorothy              | Michael                        | Dn Mark         | Alfred                |
| Pr Adam S & Angie   | Daniel              | Ronald               | Jenny, Gina, Paula             | Rdr Gregory     | Edward                |
| Pr Christopher      | Andrew & family     | Sheryl & Lacey       | Kim                            | Daniel          | Michael               |
| Mother Raphaela     | Carol               | Alexander, Angela,   | Annemarie                      | Ada             | Mat Julianna          |
| Mother Christophora | Elizabeth           | Anton                | Salaria & Family               | Lillian         | Mario                 |
| Mat Joanna B        | David               | Peter                | Anne                           | Joseph          | Robert                |
| Mat Katya           | Shirley             | Gregory & Ann        | Katerina, Christina,           | Marie           | James                 |
| Mat Mary G          | Christina           | Raymond              | Adrianna                       | Joseph          | Wilhelmina            |
| Mat Rebekah         | Jim & Kim           | Vincent              | William, Julia, Julia          | Laura           | Barbara               |
| Pani Amy            | Rachel              | Photini              | Daniel                         | Martha          | Sr Theophano          |
| Joshua              | Constantine & Maria | Robert               | <u>Children:</u> Anthony, Mia, | Stanley         | Walter                |
| Brittany            | Gaetan              | Dianna               | Isabel, Bear, Victoria,        | Taissia         | Martha                |
| Gretchen            | Christine           | Elizabeth            | Iva Bell, Panagiotis,          | Steluța         | Olga                  |
| Marianne            | Samuel              | John                 | Ada, Grace, Elias, Jack,       | Theophan        | Hilarion              |
| Terrence            | Lisa                | Felicia              | Everett, Thomas, Logan         | Lynda           | Priscilla             |
| Helen               | Lyudmila            | Tom                  | <u>Seminarians:</u> Dcn Ivan,  | Florence        | <b>Newly Reposed:</b> |
| Judy                | Nickolay            | Vladimir             | Rdr Robert                     | James           | Ann                   |
|                     | Anetta              | Lou                  |                                |                 |                       |

**BY THE NUMBERS:** Last Collection: \$289. MTD: \$1365.

## PRAYER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

Again, we pray to Thee, O Lord our God, that Thou wouldst renew us and this parish by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Fill us with love and longing for Thee. Grant that we would seek not our own will, but to do Thy will in all things and to be willing to lay down our lives out of love for Thee and for our neighbor. Draw thirsty souls to this place and remove their spiritual blindness, granting them through Thy grace to see the beauty of Thy Holy Glory in this place. Fill this community with new life, spiritual vigor, and an insatiable desire to live godly and holy lives. Forgive us all of our sins as we fall down before Thee. Bring us all to a greater repentance and to an amendment of our lives as we look to Thee, the only merciful and loving Lord, Who calls all to salvation. We beg Thee, our merciful Lord, hear us, grant all of these petitions and all of our requests unto salvation: we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

## SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

### *With Daily Readings*

**Sunday, January 21:** 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour • 1 Tim 4:9–15; Luke 19:1–10

**Monday, January 22:** No services • 1 Peter 2:21–3:9; Mark 12:13–17

**Tuesday, January 23:** 8:30 AM Morning Prayer • 1 Peter 3:10–22; Mark 12:18–27

**Wednesday, January 24:** 8:30 AM Matins • 1 Peter 4:1–11; Mark 12:28–37

**Thursday, January 25:** 9 AM Divine Liturgy (St Gregory the Theologian) • 1 Cor 12:7–11; John 10:9–16; 1 Peter 4:12–5:5; Mark 12:38–44

**Friday, January 26:** 8:30 AM Morning Prayer • 2 Peter 1:1–10; Mark 13:1–8

**Saturday, January 27:** 6 PM Great Vespers • Heb 7:26–8:2; John 10:9–16; 2 Tim 2:11–19; Luke 18:2–8

**Sunday, January 28:** 9:10 AM Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Social Hour • 2 Tim 3:10–15; Luke 18:10–14

*Confessions are heard before and after Vespers, after Morning Prayers Tuesday–Thursday, or by appointment.*

## WEEKLY HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

### **Troparion, Tone 8** (*Resurrection*)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!  
You accepted the three day burial to free us from our  
sufferings!//

O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

### **Troparion, Tone 8** (*Maximus the Confessor*)

Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship,  
enlightener of the universe and the adornment of hierarchs:  
all-wise Father Maximus, your teachings have gleamed with  
light upon all things.//

Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

### **Troparion, Tone 4** (*Martyr Neophytus*)

Your holy martyr Neophytus, O Lord,  
through his suffering has received an incorruptible crown  
from You, our God.

For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//  
Through his intercessions save our souls!

### **Kontakion, Tone 8** (*Resurrection*)

By rising from the tomb, You raised the dead and resurrected  
Adam.

Eve exults in Your Resurrection,  
and the world celebrates Your rising from the dead, O greatly  
Merciful One!

### **Kontakion, Tone 6** (*Maximus the Confessor*)

The Thrice-radiant Light took up abode in your soul, O all-  
blissful father,  
and displayed it as an elect vessel, manifest to the ends of  
the earth.

O blessed Maximus, you explained hard-to-grasp doctrines  
with brilliance and clarity.//  
proclaiming the transcendent and unoriginate Trinity to all.

### **Kontakion, Tone 4** (*Martyr Neophytus*)

You shone forth from the mount like lightning,  
glorifying Christ through your struggles and death as a  
martyr.//

Therefore, you have received an unfading crown, Great-  
martyr Neophytus.

### **Prokeimenon, Tone 8** (*Resurrection*)

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!  
v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

### **Alleluia, Tone 8**

v :Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise  
to God our Savior!

v :Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make  
a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## SAINTS OF THE DAY

**Saint Maximus the Confessor** was a crucially important theologian in the seventh century. He fought against the *Monothelite* heresy, which claimed that Christ had only a divine will but not a human will. Saint Maximus, following the teaching of the Fathers before him that Christ encompasses and sanctifies *all* of human nature, insisted that in Christ there is a human will which submits voluntarily to the divine. Thus our submission to the will of God is not a matter of the human will being obliterated but of its being sanctified by coming into harmony with the Will of God. While Saint Maximus' teachings were eventually vindicated at the Sixth Ecumenical Council, he himself suffered greatly during his lifetime from the Emperor Constans, who supported the Monothelite teaching.

Saint Maximus also wrote extensively on the Christian understanding of creation, human nature, and the spiritual life. Many of his spiritual writings are in the form of "Centuries:" short sayings in groups of 100. Here are some excerpts from the *Centuries on Love*, found in Volume 2 of the *Philokalia* (Translated by Palmer, Sherrard, & Ware):

"Just as the thought of fire does not warm the body, so faith without love does not actualize the light of spiritual knowledge in the soul" (1.31).

"The person who has come to know the weakness of human nature has gained experience of divine power. Such a man, having achieved some things and eager to achieve others through this divine power, never belittles anyone. For he knows that just as God has helped him and freed him from many passions and difficulties, so, when God wishes, He is able to help all men, especially those pursuing the spiritual way for His sake. And if in His providence He does not deliver all men together from their passions, yet like a good and loving physician He heals with individual treatment each of those who are trying to make progress" (2.39).

"God, full beyond all fulness, brought creatures into being not because He had need of anything, but so that they might participate in Him in proportion to their capacity and that He Himself might rejoice in his works, through seeing them joyful and ever filled to overflowing with His inexhaustible gifts" (3.46).