

Russian Orthodox Church of the Resurrection of Christ

1201 Hathaway Lane NE

Minneapolis, MN 55432-5720

Phone: 763-574-1001 / Fax 763-574-7560

web site: www.skete.info/ email: rusmnch@att.net

Schedule for the Week of February 1 - 7, 2009

Sunday Feb 1	St Makarios of Egypt
Saturday Feb 7	5:30 PM Vigil
Sunday Feb 8	Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee Нед. О Мытаре и фарисее NewMartyrs & Confessors Of Russia Святых новомучеников Российских 8:30 AM Nocturns, Confessions 9:00 AM Liturgy / Литургия <i>Начало Триоди Постной The beginning of the Lenten Triodion</i>

Triumph of triumphs. Justifiably so, for as the Apostle Paul declares, if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain (*I Cor. 15:14*).

To help keep us focussed, the Church every year compresses for us the journey as it prepares us to greet the Feast of Christ's Resurrection, which is a foretaste of that eternal Pascha. We usually think of this preparatory time as the period of Great Lent, but in fact it begins three weeks earlier with the Sundays of the Publican and Pharisee, the Prodigal Son and the Last Judgment. Already a week before the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee, which opens The Lenten Triodion, we hear intimations of the approaching period of lent. The Gospel reading for that Sunday relates the story of Zacchaeus, "the chief among the publicans," a rich tax-collector despised for his extortionary practices. He must have been a hard man, but the voice of his conscience had not been completely stifled, for he came to realize that he had taken the wrong path in life. But what could he do? Perhaps the great teacher that people were talking about could help him. When he heard that Jesus Christ was to pass by, he climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to catch sight of Him over the crowd, for Zacchaeus was "short of stature." Any self-consciousness or concern that he, such a public figure, would be laughed at and scorned, was overcome by his intense desire to see the Lord, his desire to get help in order to set his life aright. And what happened? Jesus Christ not only acknowledged him, He came to his house. Zacchaeus' heart expanded in the presence of this Love; he resolved to make amends to the people he had wronged; in a word, he was on his way to a new life. As we approach the fast, we must have this same desire, the same state of mind as Zacchaeus. If we genuinely desire to catch sight of the Lord amidst the worldly vanities, God will visit us. We must simply have the desire to receive Him in the home of our heart.
(excerpted from Pravoslavnaya Rus, 1994)

Неделя о Закхее

За пять недель до начала Великого поста Церковь призывает нас вступить в подготовительный период.

Пост – время покаяния. Хотя покаянное чувство, сокрушение о своих грехах присутствуют каждый день в жизни истинного христианина, но Великий пост – это дни особого очищения души, особого внутреннего переживания, ведущего к познанию смысла Воплощения, Распятия и Воскресения Христова. Потому Церковь возвещает нам, находящимся на разных отрезках пути к совершенству, о сторонах покаяния и средствах, побуждающих к нему. Ибо сказано: “Если не покаетесь, все ... погибнете” (Лк. 13,3).

В евангельской истории о мытаре Закхее (Лк. 19,1-10), мы видим первый символ покаяния – жажда увидеть Господа, принять Его в сердце. Вместе с этим желанием возникает ощущение собственной нечистоты, греховности, которая не дает приблизиться к Богу, встает стеной между Ним и человеком. Видение греха своего, осознание недостойности – начало покаяния.

The center of the liturgical year in the Orthodox Church is Pascha, the celebration of Christ's Resurrection. It is extolled in the services as the Feast of feasts and

Reminder –

For those of you who may have forgotten, please remember that church membership dues are now due.