

SAVE THE DATE

- **Little Angels Play Date:** February 9th
- **Hope & Joy Valentine's Day Party:** February 11th-Please bring your children to the gym after church school. Contact Christiana Hillier: christiana.hillier@gmail.com or Austin Van Camp: Austin.vancamp@outlook.com with questions.
- **Greenwood Village Churches Blood Drive:** February 17th – Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church (8:30 – Noon) Please sign up at donors.vitalant.org, Enter zip code of 80111, then select advance search and enter 02/17/2024 for the date or call 877-258-4925
- **God Parent/ God Child Sunday:** Feb. 25th

2024 Calendar & Ministry Booklet

St. Catherine 2023 Stewards please pick up your 2024 packet from the Fellowship Hall after service today. The packet contains the 2024 Ecclesiastical Calendar, 2024 Ministry Booklet and a letter from Fr. Theodore. The packets are labeled and in alphabetical order and will be available for the next few Sundays during Coffee Hour.



COFFEE HOUR

Please consider hosting coffee hour 2/4, 2/18, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31.
Sign up using the QR code or use the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

SAINT CATHERINE STEWARDSHIP

For 2024, as of January 24th we have 249 stewards pledging \$803,386 and we have received \$86,894. If you did not receive a stewardship packet at home, you may pick one up in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall. Contact Jenée Horan at: Jenee@stcatherinechurch.org.

ST. CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

5555 South Yosemite Street, Greenwood Village, CO, 80111

303-773-3411 • www.stcatherinechurch.org • stcatherinechurch.onechurchsoftware.com

Clergy: Father Theodore Dorrance, Protosphyter • Father Dino Sinos, Ekonomos •
Deacon Konstantinos Bardossas

Staff: Jenée Horan, Office/Facilities Manager • Valerie LeVier, Executive Assistant to Father Theodore/Communications Coordinator • Mary-Elaine Priddy, Accountant • Presvytera Stacey Dorrance, Lead Chanter
Maja Buck, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Director • James Tavlarides, IT Support •
Stephen Woodruff, Facility Assistant

Parish Council: Alex Buck (President), Judy Jones (1st VP of Fellowship), Elena Paich (2nd VP of Stewardship),
Mike Hillier (Treasurer), John Holder (Secretary), Kris Bates, Dr. Nicholas Gagner, Dr. Andrew Gaines, Dr. Leon Greos,
Todd Hallberg, Douglas Kasten, Pete Papilion, Jamie Payne, Niko Poulos, Evan Stathopoulos.



WELCOME TO SAINT CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

"There are no strangers here; only friends you have not met!"

15th SUNDAY OF LUKE, JANUARY 28, 2024
SAINT EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN

A Visit from Jesus

Jesus was passing through the well-known sin city of Jericho. Living there was the man named Zacchaeus who was a tax collector. Tax collectors became rich by overcharging people and keeping the surplus for themselves. Everyone knew they were stealing but nothing could be done about it. Rabbinical writings categorized tax collectors as thieves.

A crowd of people followed Jesus as he walked. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus but could not because he was shorter than most people. Instead he used his physical strength and craftiness to climb a nearby 80-foot sycamore tree to get a better view where he knew Jesus would be walking by soon.

Jesus saw him in that tree and invited him to get down quickly because Jesus needed to stay at his house with him. Zacchaeus was very joyful and welcomed Jesus into his home. We do not know what conversations, if any, happened while they were at his house.

Based on what we do know about Zacchaeus' pledge on the spot means we can presume that they had a talk similar to when Jesus talked with the Samaritan Woman. What else would cause someone to stand up with a dignified guest at their house and say 'Look! Look what I'm doing right now!'

Jesus' response further confirms that this son of Abraham is finally acting like one. Jesus visited Zacchaeus because he was wandering away from God-he was lost, but now he is saved.

Discussion Topics & Questions:

1. Jesus the Messiah is always home with us in our heart and we are home with Him in His body as the Body of Christ. As we take time to pray each day-talking to God-how much time do we spend listening to His responses?
2. What does it mean that Zacchaeus was **finally acting like a son of Abraham**?
3. This event is about conversion. **Notice Jesus does not call Zacchaeus a convert.** Think about how we use labels in the Church today. Cradle. Convert. A convert is actually a Christian but today people keep the naming themselves and others convert instead. Why? This is not biblical. It is a recent innovation in the Orthodox Church. Perhaps today we convert away from using these labels and follow Jesus' example rejoicing that after baptism, chrismation, and repentance we are called children of God, godly, holy, saints, and Christians!

HYMNS AND READINGS FOR THE 15TH SUNDAY OF LUKE

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION MODE 1: The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body. O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Where by all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ. Glory unto Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation, O You, alone who loves all.

FOR SAINT EPHRAIM THE SYRIAN MODE PL. 4: Out of Paradise, a river floweth, flooding all the earth with joy unending, cheering souls with compunction and saving fear: Ephraim, the winebowl of gladness inspired of God, from all eternity chosen to light the Church with his sacred hymns, his sermons, his shining canticles, whereby he filleth faithful souls with godliness.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. CATHERINE-5TH TONE: We sing praises in memory of the bride of Christ, Catherine the Holy Protectress of Holy Mount Sinai, of her who is our helper and our comforter, silencing the impious ones with her brilliance. All by the power of the Spirit! And she pleads for us all great mercy, since she has been crowned a martyr of the Lord.

KONTAKION MODE 1: You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us. Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity.

THE EPISTLE READING IS FROM PAULS FIRST LETTER TO TIMOTHY 4:9-15: Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

THE GOSPEL READING IS FROM LUKE 19:1-10: At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaio; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaio, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaio stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."



Saint Catherine BOOKSTORE MINISTRY

Stop by our table today in the Fellowship Hall to learn more about us and about the deep history of Orthodoxy in America!

THINGS WE CARRY

Books

Icons

Prayer ropes

Crosses

Greeting cards

Home altar supplies

Prosfora seals and pans

Gifts and gift cards

Baptism or wedding candles

We can often special
order items for you!

Contact:
[bookstore@stcatherine
church.org](mailto:bookstore@stcatherinechurch.org)



ST. CATHERINE'S IOCC MINISTRY TEAM

— Invites You to Support the —

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING DRIVE

DONATE
money to
International
Orthodox
Christian Charities
(IOCC)

Drive begins
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21
and runs through
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

← →
**THERE ARE TWO WAYS
TO SUPPORT THIS EVENT**

COLLECT
non-perishable
food items
for a
local
food bank

IOCC's goal is to raise \$5,000

Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry Needs:

Canned Proteins (beans, meat, nut butters) • Canned Fruit/Vegetables
Canned Soup/Chili • Canned Tomato Sauce
Pasta/Noodles • Dry Beans

Food Items may be placed on the credenza
by the outer doors of the Fellowship Hall



A love offering basket will
be in the Narthex or go to
iocc.org/Denver to donate

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

in turning the biggest event in football into a SUPER time of giving!



WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

- **15TH SUNDAY OF LUKE** Orthros 8:15am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am
- Memorials: Today we will have a 40-day memorial for Fady Hanna and a 1-year memorial for Tula Vinihakis. May their memory be eternal!
- Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by The Bookstore Ministry, Julie Keegan & Family in memory of Tula Vinihakis and the Hallberg Family in memory of Fady Hanna.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

- Men's Spiritual Discussion 7am-(Hybrid)-In person or on Zoom link at: stcatherinechurch.org/calendar
- **SYNAXIS OF THE THREE HIERARCHS-PRE-COMMUNION PRAYERS 8:15am,
DIVINE LITURGY 8:30am**
- Bible Study 10am-(Hybrid)-In person or on Zoom link at: stcatherinechurch.org/calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

- Choir Practice 7pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- **FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD INTO THE TEMPLE
VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY 5:30pm**
- Community Potluck to follow Liturgy

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- **Great Vespers 5pm**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- **15TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW** Orthros 8:15am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am

SAINTS OF THE WEEK CORNER

Saint Ephraim the Syrian-Today

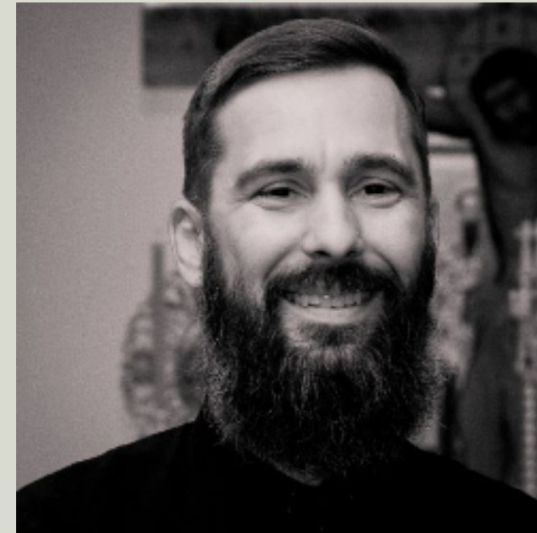
St. Ephraim was born at the beginning of the fourth century in the city of Nisibis (Mesopotamia) to poor Christian parents. In his youth, he had a quick temper, and often got into fights and other trouble. In his later teenage years, he was unjustly accused of stealing and was thrown into prison, which scared him greatly. While in prison, he heard a voice in a dream calling him to repent and correct his life, which he did. Not long after this incident, Ephraim went off to pursue the monastic life. He became the disciple of St. James of Nisibis. Under his direction, Ephraim attained Christian meekness, humility, submission to God's will, and the strength to undergo various temptations without complaint. St. James trusted him to preach sermons, instruct children, and he took Ephraim with him to the First Ecumenical Council. After James's death, St. Ephraim went to a monastery near the city of Edessa. The Lord gave him the gift of teaching, and many people began to come to him. Both verbally and in writing, Ephraim instructed everyone in repentance, faith and piety, and he denounced the Arian heresy.

During his long life, he wrote many hymns, prayers, commentaries on Scripture, and parts of services. He is most famous for his prayer of repentance—Lord and Master of my life...—said by Orthodox Christians during Great Lent. St. Ephraim met some of the great Saints of his day, even meeting St. Basil the Great. Neither spoke the other's language, but by the grace of the Holy Spirit, they were still able to communicate with each other. It was at the insistence of St. Basil, that Ephraim was ordained a deacon, in which rank he remained until his death.

The Presentation of our Lord in the Temple—Thursday evening, Vespertine Liturgy

This Feast is described in Lk. 2:22-40. Forty days after His birth, Jesus was brought to the Temple at Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple for forty days. At the end of the time of her purification, the mother went to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb, two turtledoves, or pigeons to the Lord as a sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity. Out of humility, however, she fulfilled the requirements of the Law. At this time the righteous Elder Simeon was living in Jerusalem and waiting for the coming Messiah. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he beheld the promised One. By divine inspiration, St. Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and St. Joseph had brought the Child Jesus to fulfill the Law. Simeon received the divine Child in his arms, and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: "Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel" (Lk. 2:29-32). Also at the Temple was an 84-year-old widow, St. Anna the Prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, "who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day." She arrived just when Simeon met the Divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem" (Lk. 2:38). Before Christ was born, the righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, example of righteous persons of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet Him in the Temple. The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church.

Join us February 8, 2024 Theology Thursday



FR. JOSEPH COLLINS



HOLY APOSTLES
ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Fr. Collins will talk about Active Love:

1: Love forgives

2: Love suffers for others to become

3: Love is creative

Refreshments & Fellowship start at
6:00pm, followed by the presentation at
6:30pm. St. Catherine Fellowship Hall
Scan the QR code to register.

