



So he ran ahead  
and climbed a sycamore tree  
in order to see Jesus.

Luke 19:4

## THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### OCTOBER 30, 2022

Zacchaeus was a tax collector and a wealthy man; it is likely he had amassed his wealth by charging more taxes than were due. While materially wealthy, he was derided by his fellow Jews, known as a sinner, isolated from the company of his people. He had become curious about Jesus. So much so that he climbed a tree to see Jesus as he passed by. And from that vantage point, he saw his weaknesses and failings clearly. When Jesus called, he responded, a changed man. Are we ready to go up in a tree of prayer and reflection, peer into our hearts and lives, and grow in readiness to change?

#### COME DOWN QUICKLY

“Come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house.” Jesus’ call to Zacchaeus was likely as surprising to Zacchaeus as it was to those who watched this encounter. The Gospel story is not only about Zacchaeus’ change of heart. It is also about Jesus’

eagerness to bring Zacchaeus into the fold, to show him mercy and forgiveness, to “seek and to save what was lost.” Jesus calls us out of our sinfulness, too. He is ready to forgive and to stay with us, to be near to us as we embrace new life as his disciples. Zacchaeus claimed his sinfulness and named what he would do to repair his relationship with God and others. This is what we do in the sacrament of Reconciliation—we name our sins, make a promise to do penance, repair our relationship with God and others, and receive forgiveness, restored in our relationship with Christ. Reflect on Zacchaeus’ example: what failings and sinfulness to you need to claim? Are you ready to hear Jesus’ call to you? Come down quickly. Receive the mercy of the Lord and know that salvation can be yours.

Today’s Readings: Wis 11:22 — 12:2;  
Ps 145:1–2, 8–9, 10–11, 13, 14; 2 Thes 1:11 — 2:2; Lk 19:1–10  
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**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael T. “Mike” Snider  
Deacon John Erdag

#### Celebration of the Sacraments:

**Mass:** Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 AM  
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:  
45 minutes before Mass

#### Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six  
(6) months prior to the

## Holy Spirit Catholic Church

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# Welcome Visitors!

*We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us  
and felt welcomed in our church as your “home away from home.”  
Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years,  
you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!*

## Zacchaeus

By Deacon John

Today's Gospel is a story of God's benevolence, compassion, and His forgiving mercy for sinners. And it's about repentance and conversion that can happen within us. It describes the conversion of a tax-collector named Zacchaeus and how God's grace worked in him to lead him from curiosity to repentance, conversion and amends.

Jericho was a very wealthy, commercial town in the Jordan valley. Being a wealthy city, the tax collectors in Jericho had no problem taking advantage of the people, and Zacchaeus became rich by swindling them out of large sums of tax moneys. Obviously, even though he was rich, he was not a popular fellow.

It was Passover time, which meant that thousands of Jewish pilgrims were arriving at the toll booth at Jericho to pay their taxes. Jesus also made this trip and, since He had become very famous by that time, people in Jericho wanted to see Him. They lined the streets looking for Him. Naturally, Zacchaeus was curious to see the rabbi from Nazareth who welcomed tax-collectors and sinners as his friends.

To avoid the crowd and get a clear vision of Jesus, he climbed a sycamore tree and sat hidden in its leafy branches. Yet, Jesus noticed him and called to him, "Zacchaeus! Come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house!"

At that moment, Zacchaeus realized that Jesus accepted him. Zacchaeus' dignity was restored, his heart was changed, and he repented of his sins. He fully accepted the forgiving grace from Jesus, and during the banquet, he showed his gratitude by committing to giving half his possessions to the poor and returning payment fourfold to the defrauded.

What a wonderful story of Christ's mercy and forgiveness to even the worst of sinners, and the transformation it brings. But what does it mean to us? Well, exactly the same thing.

We may not be the worst of sinners, yet we are all sinners to a greater or lesser degree. Regardless of our level of sinfulness, through today's Gospel message, Jesus is inviting each one of us to complete conversions. He wants us to be repentant of all our weaknesses and injustices, no matter how large or how small. He loves us despite our ugly thoughts and broken actions, and He wants to put us back on the straight road to Heaven.

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus ministers to us individually, just as he interacted individually with Zacchaeus. As Zacchaeus did, we need to leave the perches of our pride, become repentant, and allow the mercy of Jesus to forgive us. If you haven't been to Confession recently, I strongly urge you to take advantage of this wonderful healing grace.

Next, we need to love all people as Jesus loves us. Jesus loved the sinner Zacchaeus and by that love Zacchaeus was transformed. How often are we reluctant to help or love someone because we judge them by their sins? The drug addicted homeless person, the young unwed pregnant woman, the illegal immigrant, the gang banger in jail. Jesus shows us that we must love and accept others despite their sin, just as He does.

Lastly, we are called to actively live a life of faith. Zacchaeus was changed from being greedy to being generous, from selfishness to selflessness. There was a change deep within his heart. Jesus wants every one of us to continue to move forward from small and feeble faith to a greater and more powerful faith, just as Zacchaeus did. When we accept God's presence within us, that grace melts our coldness and selfishness and lead us to repentance and a change of life.

How do we respond to Jesus' demand, "I must stay at your house today?" Well, Jesus has visited the homes of each and every one of us. Through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, we have received the spiritual indwelling of God the Holy Spirit within us. Through the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, we receive His physical presence into ourselves; into our homes.

How are we reacting to that? Are we excitedly welcoming Jesus into our homes and accepting His grace that will build our faith and our lives? Or are we ignoring His invitation to enter our houses and trying to live by ourselves instead?

Let us ask the Lord to reach out to us as He reached out to Zacchaeus. Let us be thankful to Him for coming to our houses. And let us find the true repentance that brings transformation, sanctification, and salvation.

## Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

**We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:**

Ben Clymer. John & Nitja McGrane. Pat Schmeier. Ethan Cowles. Cayla Goodson. Ruth & David Barber. Msgr. Ron Diegel. Richard & Dottie Schuetz. Tom Fabitz. Jodie Woods. Doris Hoffman. Yolanda & Eldon Boyd. Wanda & George Duke. Jean Hamilton. Kathleen Fleming. Jaye Anderson. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Charlie Parker. Jacob Stephens. Elise Sugg. Avery Boultinghouse. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE TO REMOVE OR ADD A NAME TO THE PRAYERS OF THE SICK.**

**Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:**

Dawn Quinn, US Army PFC (Granddaughter of Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike Stephens). 1LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Staff Sergeant, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Petty Officer 2 Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE TO REMOVE OR ADD NAME & RANK TO THE ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE.**

**Mass—Intentions**

- Sat. 10/29 Ben Clymer** (M/M Clymer)
- Sun. 10/30 Wanda+ & Mike Stephens 59th Anniversary** (Mike Stephens)
- Tues. 11/01 9:00am Mass—Holy Day of Obligation**
- Wed. 11/02 9:00am Communion Service**
- Thurs. 11/03 9:00am Communion Service**
- Fri. 11/04 9:00am Communion Service**
- Sat. 11/05 Gena Roth+** (M/M Clymer)

**PARISH SUPPORT**

Average weekly amounts for the year of 2021  
**Expenditures** \$ 3,666  
**Regular and debt & maintenance collections** \$ 3,799  
**Attendance:** 10/22 Saturday: 52 10/23 Sunday: 82

One can Give without Loving...But one cannot Love without Giving.

**November Second Collections:**

- 5th & 6th: "Building & Maintenance Fund."
- 12th & 13th: "Archdiocese of the Military Services."
- 19th & 20th: "Catholic Charities—Diocese of Tyler."
- 26th & 27th: "Christmas Flowers."



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*Dr. Tim Gray & Dr. Elizabeth Klein*



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**Purgatory by Dr. Scott Hahn** This remarkable talk is an essential resource for answering the various objections that Protestants make to the Catholic Faith, including the authority of the Pope, the doctrine of Purgatory, devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints, the Sacrament of Confession, and the Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist. Copy & paste to your browser: <https://watch.formed.org/videos/purgatory-by-dr-scott-hahn>

**Pope's Intention for November:**



**For children who suffer.** We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday:** Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** Halloween
- Tuesday:** All Saints
- Wednesday:** The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)
- Thursday:** St. Martin de Porres
- Friday:** St. Charles Borromeo; First Friday
- Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

**Anyone involved in any Ministry at our Parish, you will need to be compliant on your ethics and integrity training with VIRTUS. Please notify our contact person to get signed up contact person Justin Mahaffey 903-714-3649 or**

**Legion of Mary— Pilgrim Statue:** Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749. If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

### OCTOBER NEWS & EVENTS

**Sat., Oct. 29th & Sun., Oct. 30th:** Just in time for Christmas shopping, we are having a clearance sale on religious items, after each Mass. They will be half price in the hallway by Bridget's office. After that they will revert to full retail.

**Sun., Oct 30th: Coffee & Donuts** after 9:00am Mass, **Fall Festival 5—7pm at Summit Heights.** Fun for all ages! FREE food, games & inflatables. Presented by: Holy Spirit, Holly Tree Bible Church, First Assembly of God of Hawkins and Summit Heights Fellowship.

### NOVEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

**Tues., Nov. 1st: "All Saints Day" Holy Day of Obligation 9:00am Mass.** Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm.

**Wed., Nov. 2nd—Fri., Nov. 4th:** 9:00am Communion Service

**Sat., Nov. 5th: 9:00am Communion Service. Then join us for the Patriotic Rosary** especially with the election coming up on Nov. 8th. 5:00pm Mass. **Don't forget before you go to bed set your clocks back one hour.**



**Sun., Nov. 6th: K of C Breakfast after 9:00am Mass.** Adults \$ 5.00. Children through senior year in high school is free.



**Tues., Nov. 8th:** 9:00am Communion Service. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm. **Election Day!!!**

**Wed., Nov. 9th:** 9:00am Communion Service

**Thurs., Nov. 10th:** 9:00am Communion Service. Fr. Mike attending Wellness Day in Tyler **and it's his BIRTHDAY.** K of C Meeting 7:00pm.

**Fri., Nov. 11th:** 9:00am Mass. Veterans Day.



**Sun., Nov. 13th:** Coffee & Donuts after 9:00am Mass.

**Tues., Nov. 15th:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm.

**Wed., Nov. 16th:** 9:00am Mass.

**Thurs., Nov. 17th:** 9:00am Mass. Immediately following Mass Fr. Mike will be attending a Deanery Mtg. in Winnsboro.

**Fri., Nov. 18th:** 9:00am Mass.

**Sun., Nov. 20th:** Coffee & Donuts after 9:00am Mass

**Tues., Nov. 22nd:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm.

**Wed., Nov. 23rd:** No Mass. Diocese & Church Office closed

**Thurs., Nov. 24th:** Thanksgiving Day 9:00am Mass. Diocese & Church Office closed

**Fri., Nov. 25th:** No Mass. Diocese & Church Office closed

**Sun., Nov. 27th:** No coffee & donuts after 9:00am Mass

**Tues., Nov. 29th:** 9:00am Mass. Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm.

**Wed., Nov. 30th:** 9:00am Mass. **LAST DAY OF NOVEMBER!**



### Angel Tree and Food Baskets

For those who are in need of help, or know of someone needing help with their **children's Christmas this year**, please encourage them to **sign up at "Helping Hand"** in Hawkins.

Helping Hand then gives area churches the list of toys/clothes to buy and they distribute them to the families of Wood County. They can also sign up for a **Thanksgiving and/or Christmas food basket** at that time. Sign up starting **Tuesday, Oct.**

### Reminisce

*Fall is in the air and we are grateful!*

Join us on

**Thurs. Nov. 3rd @ 11:00**  
**Free Lunch will be served**

**Special Guests:**

**The Hawkins Bell Choir**  
**Holly Brook Baptist Church**

Hosting a gathering for individuals with any cognitive concerns and their caregiver. Invitation is extended to include those who would just like to join our care atmosphere and socialize with us around the table. Your presence helps stimulate conversation and **ALL** are welcome. For more info call Janet @ 903-769-2387

**The Holy Spirit Food Ministry would like to thank everyone that helped with our Food Drive. Many blessings to you for the generous monetary donations and for over 1,000 lbs of food donations.**

**Looking for volunteers to get involved with the Food Ministry.** Call or email Bob Mailliard at 503-559-6022 or theduckdude@att.net



**Thank you, Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans; Al Murfin. Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team**

### Wednesday Mornings With the Holy Spirit

A few of us (Holy Spirit parishioners) gather each Wednesday morning (except the 1st Wednesday of the month) to have coffee/biscuits/donuts and, oh yes, Sacred Scripture. We meet in St. Jude's Hall at 10:30am and usually study/discuss the Bible till noon-ish. The facilitator provides reading/study material on weekends prior to the Wednesday morning sessions. We currently have room for a 2 or 3 more "Bible Buds". Please feel free to meet with us at our next meeting, November 9th, at 10:30; and in the meantime please read 2 Kings, chapters 1-6 in your Bible (or if you do not have access to a Bible, you can either find it on line at the USCCB website or ask the facilitator and he will find a Bible for you). If you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact Randy Munoz at 972-971-4067.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

**Pastoral Council:** Seeking parishioners will to accept a "nomination" to Holy Spirit's Pastoral Council. An election will take place at Mass on the weekend of Nov. 12th & 13th (tentative). New members will be determined by a vote of the parish community. Five members will be selected from all the nominees based on vote totals. Those willing to consider running for this position should understand it is a very important and serious commitment to the future growth and well being of our Parish. Your purpose will be to focus on the welfare of the community, uniting the whole community and pursuing the mission of the Church. Please consider seriously your call to serve the parish community as counselors to our Pastor. The term is 3 years, renewable. Those willing to submit their name for nomination can use the "sign-up" sheet in front of Bridget's office. **Please turn in a picture and a bio and if you would like more information, contact Bridget Rich 903-769-3235.** The open nomination period will close at the end of the day on Tues., Nov. 8th.

*God Bless. Rev. Mike Snider*

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 26 October 2022 Edition  
(Submission date: 21 October 2022) Submitted by Randy Munoz

**Annual Fall Festival at Summit Heights**, Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 P.M. Sponsored by Summit Heights, Holy Spirit, Holly Tree Bible Church and First Assembly of God of Hawkins. Hot dogs, live music, nachos, chili (Holy Spirit famous chili) games, inflatable's, desserts & soft drinks. All are welcome to join us in the fun.

For those who are in need of help, or know of some needing help with their children's Christmas joy and celebration, this year, please encourage them to sign up at "**Helping Hand**" in **Hawkins**. Helping Hand will then give the area churches the list of toys/clothes to buy and then distribute them to the families of Wood County. They can also sign up for a Thanksgiving and/or Christmas food basket at that time. Sign-ups are ongoing through mid-November.

A few words about Guardian Angels. <https://www.catholic.org/saints/angels/guardian.php>

Psalm 91: 10-12

*10 No disaster can overtake you, no plague come near your tent;  
11 he has given his angels orders about you to guard you wherever you go.  
12 They will carry you in their arms in case you trip over a stone.*

A Guardian Angel is a heavenly spirit assigned by God to watch over each of us during our lives. The doctrine of angels is part of the Church's tradition. The role of the guardian angel is both to guide us to good thoughts, works and words, and to preserve us from evil. Since the 17th century the Church has celebrated a feast honoring them in October throughout the Universal Church. Since the last calendar revision this feast is Oct 2.

He has charged His angels with the ministry of watching and safeguarding every one of His creatures that behold not His face. Kingdoms have their angels assigned to them, and men have their angels; these latter it is to whom religion designates the Holy Guardian Angels. Our Lord says in the Gospel, "Beware lest ye scandalize any of these little ones, for their angels in heaven see the face of My Father." The existence of Guardian Angels, is, hence a dogma of the Christian faith: this being so, what ought not our respect be for that sure and holy intelligence that is ever present at our side; and how great our solicitude be, lest, by any act of ours, we offend those eyes which are ever bent upon us in all our ways!

Daily Prayer for a Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my Guardian dear, to whom His love commits me here, ever this day (or night) be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.



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