



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee *Beginning of the Lenten Triodion* February 17, 2019

Troparion – Tone 5

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

Kontakion – Tone 4

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! Let us cry to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, O only merciful One!"

Prokeimenon – Tone 5

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly!

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee *Beginning of the Lenten Triodion*

The Sunday after the Sunday of Zacchaeus is devoted to the Publican and the Pharisee. At Vespers the night before, the TRIODION (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent) begins.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Service Schedule for the week of February 17

Today – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday February 23 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday February 24 – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Weekly Giving

February 10 – 38 adults, 15 youth, \$1,469

Parish Announcements

The sign-up sheet for House Blessing is in the back of the church. Please include your name, phone number, and your preferred date and time for Father’s visit. All house blessings must occur prior to Great Lent, which begins on March 11.

Bible Study classes will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 PM in the church basement. The next classes will be held on Wednesday February 27 and Wednesday March 13. All are welcome to attend!

Please remember to turn in your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Cards as soon as possible. They may be turned in to Nina Laushell, Father Volodymyr, Ludwig Koerte, or Herman Meyer. Pledge cards are used by the Parish Council for financial planning and expense budgeting. Thank you.

Father Volodymyr will have a prosphora baking class for the parish children in Daria Hall on Saturday February 23 starting at 9:30 AM. Adults are welcome to attend as well. Class will be followed by a pizza lunch.

Former parishioner Valerie Kozak passed away on Tuesday February 12 after battling several chronic and severe health problems. Her viewing will be held at the Wilson Apple Funeral Home, Pennington Circle (Rt. 31), on Monday February 18 from 6:00–8:00 PM. The funeral service will be held at Mother of God Church, 904 Cherry Hill Road, Princeton on Tuesday February 19 at 10:00 AM, followed by burial at St. Vladimir’s Cemetery. Memory Eternal.