



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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February 5, 2023

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

TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

Troparion – Tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Troparion – Tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, thou didst accept in thine arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,// Who grants us the 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!”

Kontakion – Tone 1

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb and didst bless Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,// O only Lover of Man!

Prokeimenon – Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!

V. *Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just!*

Prokeimenon – Tone 3

My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

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.

Two weeks before the beginning of the Fast, as part of our preparation for Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha, the Church prescribes the reading of Saint Mark's Gospel. From Monday to Friday the focus is on the end times, and the Savior's death and burial.

EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS

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.”

SERVICES

Service Schedule for the week of February 5

Sunday February 5 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday February 11 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday February 12 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by FOCA Breakfast Fundraiser in Daria Hall

Upcoming Holy Days

Monday February 27 – Beginning of Great Lent

DONATIONS

Weekly Giving

January 29 – 70 adults, 23 youth, \$3,003

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for House Blessing. If you would like Father to bless your home, please sign up and Father will contact you to schedule an appointment.

Donations for the Diocese of Sitka and Alaska: During the four Sundays in February, a collection basket will be behind the pews to collect donations for the struggling Alaska Diocese. Cash or checks (payable to St Vladimir Orthodox Church) will be accumulated, and one check for all donations collected will be sent to the Diocese at the end of the month from the parishioners of our church. **Envelopes for your donation will be available at the candle desk.** After February, parishioners may donate directly to the Diocese. Any questions please see Father Volodymyr or a member of the Parish Council.

The Parish Cemeteries will be cleaned up this Saturday, February 11 starting at 9:30 AM. Please bring gloves and large trash bags for removal of holiday decorations and debris.

The Ladies Altar Society has set up a Ladies Boutique in Daria Hall through next Sunday February 12. Stop by to shop for Valentine's Day for the special lady in your life!

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church for a FOCA Club Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday February 12 in Daria Hall. The cost is \$10 for breakfast with a Mimosa drink, \$7 without a Mimosa drink, and free for children 5 and under. There will be no Coffee Hour that day.

The Ladies Altar Society will have a meeting next Sunday, February 12 in Daria Hall during Coffee Hour. Members, please attend – there is much to discuss.

A Parish "Directory" with photos and identifying names of all parishioners is in the works. This will help us all with "putting a face to the name"! A camera will be set up in Daria Hall, and when you are in attendance with your family members please make a point to get your picture taken. John Cassar and Awet Tesfa are leading this project.

Please remember to clean up and remove holiday decorations at the parish cemeteries. Per the Cemetery By-Laws, holiday decorations are to be removed three weeks after the holiday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Gallons of spring water are needed for Coffee Hour. Please bring your donation of water to Daria Hall. The water is used for tea and coffee. Thank you!

Catechism classes are being held every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM in the church basement through March 16. Classes will be taught on a rotating schedule by Father Volodymyr, John Cassar, Herman Meyer, and Alan Berck. Everyone is invited to attend, but classes are mandatory for those wishing to convert to Orthodoxy. Classes will be finished before Pascha, at which time the Catechumens will schedule services to become Orthodox.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Emily Dejesus – February 5

Adriano DiDonato – February 6

Sophia Cassar – February 8

Luwam Tesfa – February 10

Catarina Kasmer – February 10

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

If you do not see your birthday listed above during your birthday week, please let Darice know and she will add it to the schedule!

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Please remember the Coffee Hour Helpers do not normally bring any refreshments for Coffee Hour, but are there to assist in setting up for Coffee Hour. The host/hostess is responsible for bringing whatever refreshments they wish to serve – if desserts are needed please let the Helper know ahead of time as there are desserts in the freezer that can be used. Host/Hostess is responsible for setting up in the morning starting at 9:00 AM, with guidance from the Helper, and for cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing and drying dishes, and taking out the trash. If you have any questions please contact Melody Stavisky, Alla Strauss, or the Helper assigned to your Coffee Hour date. Thank you!

Feb. 5 Anna Brasowski, Francine Brady
Feb. 12 FOCA Club Breakfast Fundraiser
Feb. 19 Carmen & Cezar Mateiescu, Darice Keyes
Feb. 26 NO MEAT Sami Bachir, Awet Tesfa
March 5 FAST Matthew & Nana Barrett, Darice Keyes
Mar. 12 FAST Awet Tesfa, Nebiat Tesfa
Mar. 19 FAST Alan & Mimi Berck, Francine & Herman
Mar. 26 FAST John Cassar, Nina Laushell
April 2 FAST Anne Cheslock, Nancy Mitsos
April 9 FAST Francine Brady, Herman Meyer, Alla Strauss
April 16 PASCHA – No Coffee Hour
April 23 Madeleine Sekulich, Mark McDevitt, Nancy Mitsos
April 30 Fiyori Habtesilasse, Awet Tesfa
May 7 Betty Kavchok, Nancy Mitsos
May 14 Nina Schmidt, Alla Strauss
May 21 Aftan Chowansky, Nina Laushell
May 28 Christina DiDonato, Francine Brady & Herman Meyer
June 4 Darice Keyes, Nancy Mitsos

June 11 Bill & Margie DiCicco, Chris Kasmer, Nina Laushell
June 18 FAST Timothy & Valeria Srock, Awet Tesfa
June 25 FAST Alla & Perry Strauss, Christine Waite
July 2 Alex & Brittani Brasowski, Melody Stavisky