

# SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE



*Icon of the Publican and Pharisee*

## *Faults of the Pharisee*

Many are the faults of the Pharisee. First of all, he is boastful, and without sense, for he praises himself, even though the Sacred Scriptures cry aloud, "Let a neighbor praise you, and not your own mouth: a stranger and not your own lips" (Prov. 27:2). ... Our virtue, therefore, must not be contaminated with fault, but must be single-minded and blameless and free from all that can bring reproach. For what profit is there in fasting twice a week, if you so doing serve only as a pretext for ignorance and vanity, and if it makes you prideful, haughty and selfish? You tithe your possessions and make a boast of it; but in another way you provoke God's anger, by condemning men generally on this account and accusing others. And you yourself are puffed up, though not crowned by the divine decree for righteousness, but on the contrary, heap praises upon yourself. For I am not, he says, as the rest of mankind. Moderate yourself, O Pharisee: "Set a guard, O Lord, over your mouth, keep watch over the door of your lips" (Ps. 140:3).

You speak to God Who knows all things. Await the decree of the Judge. None of those skilled in the practice of wrestling ever crowns himself; nor does any man receive the crown of himself, but awaits the summons of the arbiter. Lower your pride, for arrogance is both accursed and hated by God. Although, therefore, you fast with puffed up mind, your so doing will not avail you; your labor will be unrewarded; for you have mingled dung with your perfume. Even according to the law of Moses a sacrifice that had a blemish was not capable of being offered to God; for it was said unto him, "Of sheep, and ox, that is offered for sacrifice, there must be no blemish therein" (Lev. 22:21). Since, therefore, your fasting is accompanied by pride, you must expect to hear God saying, this is not the fast that I have chosen (Cf Isa. 58:5) ... You offer tithes, but you wrong in another way Him Who is honored by you, in that you condemn men generally. This is an act foreign to the mind that fears God.

*St. Cyril of Alexandria*

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Glory to Jesus Christ!  
Slava Isusu Khristoo!

Feb. 5-6, 2022  
Publican, Pharisee

THIS WEEKEND WE PLAN TO Livestream the Holy Liturgy on Sunday, Feb. 6 at 9 am on the Youtube platform. Be sure to tell all your friends, and relatives about this wonderful chance to sing and pray with us. Next weekend we plan to again livestream the Liturgy on the Youtube platform on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 6 pm.

THIS WEEKEND WE WILL continue to pray for our dear Ukraine and all our brothers and sisters therein. A glimmer of hope is rising that this crisis may be resolved through diplomacy and not war. Keep praying.

OUR WONDERFUL Sunday School Program is now in full spring session, as our dedicated ten teachers continue to instruct the students in the basics of our Faith and our Church. To enroll your children in this program, simply get on the parish website and fill out the registration form and we will contact you for your invitation to join our school program. It is all free and all for you!

THE ROOFING PROJECT AT THE rectory is just about complete with only a day or so left to finish the job. We thank all our dear faithful for their financial support for this needed project. God bless all of you with much joy and great health in this New Year!

NEW BEAUTIFUL CHURCH CALENDARS are now available in the church basement as well as collection boxed envelopes for all our folks. Please check out these items today and take them home for yourself and your family.

PLEASE PRAY TODAY for all our parish elderly and ailing folks, including Lidia, Dottie Dolgash, Earl Church, George Baran, Pat Pasquale and Tom Newmaster. Perhaps a prayer, a card, a kind word...?

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Feb. 5, 6 pm	+George, Anna Ferenz (Margaret Dudas)
Sunday, Feb. 6, 9 am	+David, Alexander (Vera Tryciecky)
Saturday, Feb. 12, 6 pm	+Dorothy Saboe (MaryEllen Hitchens)
Sunday, Feb. 13, 9 am	+Anita Chomiak (Russell Chomiak)

TODAY'S TROPAR:

When the women disciples of the Lord learned the glad tidings of the Resurrection, and had cast aside the curse of their Forefathers, they called out to the Apostles: "Death is overthrown, Christ God is risen, , granting great mercy to all the world. GLORY TO THE FATHER AND...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

Like the Publican, let us offer our sighs to the Lord, and let us approach the Master as sinners. He wants all people to be saved and offers pardon to all who repent. It was because of us sinners that He became man, for He is the Eternal One like His Father and Spirit, amen.

TODAY'S PROKIMEN:

O Lord, Your works are glorious, for in wisdom You created all the universe, amen.

HOPE & PRAY!  
The Rev. Ronald