

Mission Statement

Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Parish is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish Family. Pre-Baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Simeon to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish Family. Must meet with Fr. Simeon before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Simeon. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the scription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Simeon is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Simeon whenever a loved one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Simeon before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of Saints Peter and Paul Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a Parish Member, they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this Parish Family. Worship at this Parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the Pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the Parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Lisa Mosko is in the Parish office from 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Father Simeon is available on other days and times by appointment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LISA MOSKO –

THIS MONTH'S LUCKY WINNER OF THE LADY BUG BOX! 

YOU HAVE TO PLAY TO WIN! Tickets are being sold in the Social Hall for chances to win the contents of the Lady Bug Box. This box contains Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards. Proceeds from this fundraiser will be going towards our 100th Anniversary Celebration. We would like to continue this fundraiser monthly with your support. Any donations of Cash, Instant Lottery Tickets and/or Gift Cards would be welcome and greatly appreciated.

This month's drawing will be held on Sunday, February 27th, after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy.

Will You Be The Next Lucky Winner???????

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2021

... are ready for pick-up in the Social Hall. They are in alphabetical order to make it easier for you to find. Please, do not pick up anyone else's statement unless they have specifically asked you to do so.

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

If you haven't picked up your contribution envelopes for 2022, they are in the parish office. You will need to call the office at 330-372-1875. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

FREE ADULT EDUCATION

Live webinars, free of charge. Register at EasternCatholic.org/Events.

Wednesdays, February 9 & 16.

8:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**“ORTHODOXY & HETERODOXY”: The History of the Ecumenical Councils
by Rev. Christiaan Kappes, Ph.D., SLD**

Join us as Rev. Christiaan Kappes leads us through the breathtaking story of the battle of the Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils to preserve the integrity of the faith against heresy in the decisive first centuries of Church history.



Divine Liturgy Attendance weekend of January 29:

5:00 PM: 38; 9:00 AM: 36; 11:00 AM: 39

Our return to the Lord for all He has given us: \$2,594.00



- **Sun., Feb. 6** ECF Classes today 10 AM to 10:45 AM.
- **Tues., Feb. 8** Parish Guild Meeting at 6 PM (new time). Light supper will be served to celebrate the Guild's Anniversary. New members are welcome. **Please sign up in the Social Hall.**

THE WEEK FOLLOWING THE SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE IS A FAST FREE WEEK –FEB. 6 – 12.

FAST-FREE WEEK

Today we celebrate the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. This is the second Sunday of preparation leading into the season of the Great Lenten Fast. Following this Sunday, we have a fast free week, in which any foods can be eaten every day, including Wednesday and Friday. The reason for this fast-free week is to remind us of paradise, and to contemplate the only way we can regain paradise fully in our lives. In addition, by not permitting a fast during the beginning of our preparation for Great Lent, the Holy Church accuses the pride of the Pharisee, who vainly praised himself for fasting twice a week, and, in agreement with this accusation, acts contrary to his hypocritical and proud fast.

ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

During our Liturgical Year our Byzantine Church remembers its faithful departed in a special way on All Souls Saturdays. The first All Souls Saturday is *February 19th*. There is an envelope in your offertory box for these All Souls Remembrances. If you wish to have your loved ones remembered by name on these special days, please submit the names, **printed**, with an offering in the envelope by **February 6th** so that the names can be organized. *If you have submitted the names of your deceased family members previously, please do not rewrite them...just submit any additional names.* If there are no additions, and you want your loved ones to be remembered by name, just write "NO CHANGES" on your envelope, put your offering in the envelope, and drop the envelope in the collection basket. Thank you for your prompt attention.

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC WORLD

....New subscribers and those wishing to renew their *Byzantine Catholic World* subscriptions, please use the envelope provided in your envelopes box, and return in the collection basket by **February 13th**.

LITURGY STIPENDS

The Divine Liturgy Stipend has been increased to \$20 by the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh effective July 1, 2021.

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday	6 Feb.	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. Post-festive Day of the Encounter. Our Venerable Father Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna. The Holy Martyr Silvanus, Bishop of Emessa, and Companions. Our Venerable Father and Confessor Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople</i>
(Sun. Vigil)	5:00 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Nancy Danko – Betty Zombar & Jen & John Welch. +Eve Steenberg – Betty Blake Intention of Rosary Society Members
Monday	7 Feb.	<i>Post-festive Day of the Meeting. Our Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus. The Passing of the Martyr and Priest Peter Verhun (1957).</i> No Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	8 Feb.	<i>Post-festive Day of the Meeting. The Holy Great Martyr Theodore. The Holy Prophet Zechariah.</i>
(SPP)	8:30 AM	+Mary Prest – Infant Jesus of Prague Social Club
Wednesday	9 Feb.	<i>Leave-taking (Otdanije) of the Encounter. The Holy Martyr Nicephor.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Thursday	10 Feb.	<i>The Holy Martyr Charalampas.</i>
(SPP)	8:30 AM	+Sister Mariam Konkus – Benedictine Sisters
Friday	11 Feb.	<i>The Holy Martyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste.</i> No Divine Liturgy
Saturday	12 Feb.	<i>Our Holy Father Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch.</i>
(Vigil Liturgy)	5:00 PM	+Andrew Greskovich, Sr. – Buddy & Mary K. Greskovich
Sunday	13 Feb.	<i>SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON. Our Venerable Father Martinian..</i>
	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	+Jim Johnson, Sr. – Connie Reed Health/Welfare of Mary Beth Byers & Greg Lazor – Ted Falatic



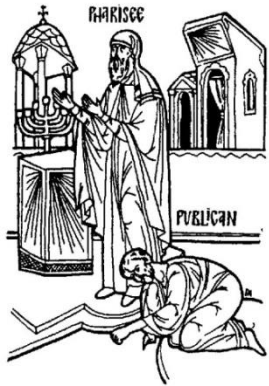
Attentive to the Word
SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

Luke 18: 10 – 14

Tone 4 Res. Trop. Pg. 141 &

Trop. of Feast Pg. 321;

Kontakions Pgs. 215 & 321 & then Pgs. 322 – 324



Today is the second pre-Lenten Sunday offered by the Church to prepare us for the upcoming season of the Great Fast. The second step in our approach to Great Lent and Pascha and the theme of the second pre-Lenten Sunday is one of humility. Nothing begins without the desire to see Jesus Christ – and when we truly see Him, then and only then are we able to *see ourselves*.

The Gospel reading for this *Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee* is taken from Luke 18:10-14. Two men went to the temple to pray. The Pharisee was actually a very religious man. He fasted, prayed, and gave away ten percent of his goods. Yet he boasted about his accomplishments and, as a result, his prayers were rejected by God. The Publican, on the other hand, was truly evil, a genuine sinner. He sought to make a change in his life, however, by confessing his sinfulness and begging God for mercy. Consequently, he was justified and accepted by God.

Like the Pharisee, we too are filled with pride and boastfulness; unlike the Publican, we often refuse to acknowledge our sinfulness, confess it, and beg for mercy.

On this Sunday we are invited to take a deeper look inward, to search the depths of our souls and to beg for mercy. We are called, through our vision of Jesus Christ, to acknowledge our sins and to fall before the face of God in repentance, making the Publican's prayer our own: *God, be merciful to me, a sinner!*

The Pharisee, overcome with his pride, and the Publican, bent down in repentance, came before You, the only Lord. The first trusted in himself and was deprived of your blessings; the other spoke but a few words and received your blessings in abundance. Behold my tears and strengthen me, O Christ our God, for You are indeed the Lover of Mankind.
(Vespers for the Publican & The Pharisee)

THE VIRTUE OF TRUE HUMILITY

There is a story about a monk who was sent from one monastery to another to serve as abbot. When the new abbot arrived at the monastery, he was not recognized by the other monks. Moreover, he said nothing to them about his true identity. The monks of the monastery decided that their new visitor was too unimpressive for any important duty, so they assigned him to perform the most menial tasks in the monastery kitchen. Uncomplaining, the new but unrecognized abbot spent his days cleaning pots, washing floors and shelling beans.

One day, however, the bishop came to call on the monastery and desired to speak to the new abbot. The monks told the bishop that their new abbot had not yet arrived. The only new guest in the monastery, they told the bishop, was an unimpressive little monk who was working in the kitchen. The bishop took the other monks into the kitchen and formally introduced them to their new abbot. On that day they received not only a new abbot, but also a lesson in true humility which would last them a lifetime!

The virtue of true humility is also found at the center of today's Gospel lesson of the Pharisee and the Publican. The latter prayed with true contrition, "O God be merciful to me a sinner," while the former prayed with head unbowed and extolled his own virtues. A characteristic of true humility is the admission of our own sinfulness without making excuses. As the Season of the Great Fast draws near, let us approach this time with the true humility of the Publican!

When the Pharisee went up to the temple in his vain glory and the Publican bowed in his repentance, they both stood before You, O Master! The one lost his reward through boasting; while the other won Your blessing through his sighs. Because I too am sighing in Your presence, strengthen me, Christ God, for You are the lover of mankind ...Almighty Lord, I have known how effective tears are, for they saved Ezekiel from the teeth of death and delivered the sinful woman from her repeated iniquities. As for the Publican, they justified him instead of the Pharisee. Wherefore I beseech You to count me among the former and have mercy on me.

Stichera of the Triodion. Vespers, Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee.