

HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Cantor: Julia Revilak and Family
Altar Servers: Sdn . Raphael Ruggiero and
Emanuel Revilak

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

Sunday, January 29: 10:20am Rosary, 10:45am 3rd Hour, 11:00am Divine Liturgy

for the deceased John Katsur Sr., by Mary Anne Meredith

4pm Confessions and 5pm Divine Liturgy through Campus Ministry

Monday, January 30: Feast of the Three Holy Hierarchs

10am Confessions through Campus Ministry

Noon Liturgy will be at St. Pius in Carrick.

4:30pm Confessions, 5:30pm Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, February 1: 2pm Confessions through Campus Ministry

Father's day off due to the feast.

Thursday, February 2: The Meeting of Our Lord with Simeon and Anna

Noon Liturgy will be at St. Pius in Carrick.

4:30pm Confessions, 5:30pm Divine Liturgy

Friday, February 3: The Synaxis of Simeon and Anna

4:30pm Confessions 5:30pm Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 4: 4:30pm Confession, 5:30pm Great Vespers

Sunday, February 5: 10:20am Rosary, 10:45am 3rd Hour, 11:00am Divine Liturgy

4pm Confessions and 5pm Divine Liturgy through Campus Ministry

Confessions are available before Divine Liturgy. All divine liturgies are open for intentions. Call the office or fill out the request form in the back of church and leave it in the sacristy.

Parish Server Celebrated at Hierarchical Divine Liturgy 2/12: Emmanuel Revilak has received his "Light is Life" Emblem through the Boy Scouts of America. Archbishop William Skurla will be present at our Liturgy on February 12 to celebrate with us and bestow the award.

Meatfare Sunday Pot Luck 2/12: We will be celebrating Fasingy after Liturgy on February 12. Please sign up to bring a dish to pass in the back of the church.

Forgiveness Vespers and Adult ECF Sat. 2/18: Please don't miss the annual praying of Forgiveness Vespers at our usually scheduled time on Saturday, Feb. 18. After this, we will have our next Adult ECF lecture: "Preparing for the Great Fast." We will repeat only the service of mutual forgiveness on Sunday after Divine Liturgy.

EPISTLE: 2nd Timothy 3: 10-15

You have followed my teaching, way of life, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, persecutions that I endured. Yet from all these things the Lord delivered me. In fact, all who want to live religiously in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But wicked people and charlatans will go from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But you, remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it, and that from infancy you have known [the] sacred scriptures, which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL: Luke 18: 10-14

“Two people went up to the temple area to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.’

But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’ I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Important note regarding Liturgy intentions: If you are requesting a Divine Liturgy for the deceased, please note if the date requested is the anniversary of their death. If for the living, please specify if it is for a birthday, anniversary, etc. This will help schedule the Liturgy as accurately as possible, and will let Father know which setting to use. Thank you.

HOUSE BLESSINGS FOR THE THEOPHANY SEASON: Fr. Michael will be blessing homes as part of our Theophany Season tradition. Please sign up in the back of the church (narthex). This blessing can be done every year!

AS WE APPROACH THE LENTEN GREAT FAST... This is the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, which continues our preparatory period for the Great Fast. While **fasting looks different for everyone** based on their station in life, physical needs, and spiritual growth, now is a good time to begin discerning what the Great Fast will look like for you. Discuss with Fr. Michael or your spiritual father / mother what would be appropriate. You may choose to reduce certain foods or technology use, add to your prayer rule, or something else.

THE SECOND PREPARATORY SUNDAY FOR THE GREAT FAST.... Each year during the season of the Great Fast, the Church calls all of us to a spiritual renewal through intensified practices of repentance. Last week on the first pre-greatfast Sunday of preparation, the initial theme of desire was emphasized. Desire is the primary requisite for repentance, and the example of the diminutive tax-collector named Zacchaeus was given for our meditation. The second theme of the Great Fast is echoed today as our holy gospel lesson compares and contrasts two totally different men. In examining these two individuals, we are presented with the second aspect of repentance which is HUMILITY. The pharisee is a haughty, overconfident man whose religion is expressed by merely following the strict observance of the Law and its external rituals. In contrast, the publican, feeling unworthy even to approach the front of the temple, simply repeats a short prayer of humility: “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” Thus, it is this tax-collector’s sincere humility that makes him justified in God’s sight, and conversely, it is the lack of this virtue that condemns the legalist-ritualist before God. In order for God to respond to our own repentance and pleas for forgiveness, we must take example from the humble publican. We, likewise, must manifest this virtue of deep humility as demonstrated by the publican and avoid the disdainful pride so blatantly displayed by the pompous pharisee. Therefore, the first two requisites for repentance are desire and humility.

Please pray for the causes of our four Sainly Bishops and ask them to intercede for your specific intentions: O Almighty God, our Lord, we bless You, we praise You, and we thank you for all the graces which You, in Your infinite mercy have bestowed upon us. We are especially grateful for giving us four saintly and heroic Bishops: Bishop Theodore G. Romzha, Bishop Paul P. Gojdich OBSM, Bishop Basil Hopko, and Bishop Alexander Chira, who, by their courage, charity, and intrepid faith, inspired our Ruthenian people in the darkest moments of their history. By their great sufferings, humiliating imprisonment, and violent death they gave living witness to their Catholic faith and glorified Your exalted name. Therefore, O Gracious Lord, glorify them in return by Your divine power and inscribe their names in the book of Your Saints. For you are holy, our God, and we render glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever, Amen. With Ecclesiastical Approbation Acknowledgment of answered prayers: Postulator’s office, 54 Riverview Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15214, U.S.A.

PRAYER FOR SEMINARIANS: Saints Cyril and Methodius, Venerable Apostles of the Slavs and Patrons of our Byzantine Catholic Seminary, we place our Seminarians in your loving care. Help them to grow in humility, meekness and prudence. Enkindle in them a burning zeal for souls. May their hearts be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and may they learn to know and love the church so that they may always and everywhere think, speak and act with Her, the Glorious Spouse of Christ. May they become exemplars of generosity and detachment from the things of this world. But above all, O Venerable Patrons, help them to truly know, love and serve the Eternal High Priest, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Whose priests they aspire to be. Amen. St. Michael the Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, By the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen