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Sunday, February 5, 2023 Volume 32 Number 06

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee- Triodion Begins - Martyr Clement & Agathangelus

بدء التريودي - أحد الفريسي والعشار - الشهيد في الكهنة اكليمندس أسقف انقره، والشهيد أغاثانجلوس

Eothina: 11 John 21: 24-14 Epistle: Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14



*Doxastikon of the Ainoi, Matins Service (Tone Plagal Fourth)*

*O Lord, Thou hast condemned the Pharisee who justified himself by boasting of his works, and Thou hast justified the Publican who humbled himself and with cries of sorrow begged for mercy. For Thou dost reject proudminded thoughts, but Thou dost not despise a contrite heart. Therefore in abasement we fall down before Thee who hast suffered for our sake: grant us forgiveness and great mercy.*

*Kontakion (Tone Four)*

*Let us flee the proud speaking of the Pharisee and learn the humility of the Publican, and with groaning let us cry unto the Savior: Be merciful to us, for Thou alone art ready to forgive*

St George Orthodox Church  
1617 Southgate Ave.  
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## Sunday of the Publican and

### Pharisee

Triodion Begins Today

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.*

*Verse: God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel*

**The reading is from St. Paul's Second Letter to Timothy 3:10-15.**

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

### The Reading is from Luke

18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into 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 like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up 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, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

## أحد الفريسي والعشار

(بدء التريودي)

أندروا وأوقوا للربّ إلهنا

الله معروف في يهوذا واسمه عظيم في إسرائيل

فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول

الثانية الى تيموثاوس 3: 10-15

يَا وَلَدِي تِيمُوثَاوُسُ، قَدْ تَبِعْتَ تَعْلِيمِي، وَسِيرَتِي، وَقَصْدِي، وَإِيمَانِي، وَأَنَاتِي، وَمَحَبَّتِي، وَصَبْرِي، وَأَضْطِهَادَاتِي، وَالْأَمِي، مِثْلَ مَا أَصَابَنِي فِي أَنْطَاكِيَّةَ وَإِيقُونِيَّةَ وَلِسْتَرَةَ. آيَةٌ اضْطِهَادَاتٍ اِحْتَمَلْتُ! وَمِنَ الْجَمِيعِ أَنْقَذَنِي الرَّبُّ. وَجَمِيعُ الَّذِينَ يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يَعِيشُوا بِالتَّقْوَى فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ يُضْطَهَدُونَ. وَلَكِنَّ النَّاسَ الْأَشْرَارَ الْمُرُورِينَ سَيَتَقَدَّمُونَ إِلَى أَرْدَا، مُضِلِّينَ وَمُضَلَّلِينَ. وَأَمَّا أَنْتَ فَاثْبُتْ عَلَى مَا تَعَلَّمْتَ وَأَيَقَنْتَ، عَارِفًا مِمَّنْ تَعَلَّمْتَ. وَأَنَّكَ مُنْذُ الطُّفُولِيَّةِ تَعْرِفُ الْكُتُبَ الْمُقَدَّسَةَ، الْقَادِرَةَ أَنْ تُحَكِّمَكَ لِلْخَلَاصِ، بِالْإِيمَانِ الَّذِي فِي الْمَسِيحِ يَسُوعَ.

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس لوقا البشير

والتلميذ الطاهر 18: 10-14

قال الرب هذا المثل إنسانان صعدا إلى الهيكل ليصليا، واحد فريسي والآخر عشار. أما الفريسي فوقف يصلي في نفسه هكذا: اللهم أنا أشكرك أني لست مثل باقي الناس الخاطفين الظالمين الزناة، ولا مثل هذا العشار أصوم مرتين في الأسبوع، وأعشر كل ما أقتنيه. وأما العشار فوقف من بعيد، لا يشاء أن يرفع عينيه نحو السماء، بل قرع على صدره قائلا: اللهم ارحمني، أنا الخاطيء. أقول لكم: إن هذا نزل إلى بيته مبررا دون ذاك، لأن كل من يرفع نفسه يتضع، ومن يضع نفسه يرتفع.

## Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee



The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the first Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent. It marks the beginning of a time of preparation for the spiritual journey of Lent, a time for Orthodox Christians to draw closer to God through worship, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. It is also on this day that the Triodion is introduced, a liturgical book that contains the services from this Sunday, the tenth before Pascha (Easter),

to Great and Holy Saturday.

**Biblical Story:** The name for this Sunday is taken from the parable of our Lord Jesus Christ found in Luke 18:10-14. This is the story of two men, one a Pharisee, a member of a Jewish sect known for its diligent observance of the Law, and the other a Publican, a government official charged with the responsibility of collecting taxes. Both men enter the temple, and the Pharisee stands openly and prays, thanking God that he is not like other men, specifically extortioners, the unjust, adulterers, “or even this tax collector” (v. 11). He then begins to list his religious accomplishments by stating, “I fast twice a week, and I give tithes of all that I possess” (v. 12). In direct contrast to the pride of the Pharisee, the Publican goes to a place where he will not be noticed by others and beats his breast saying, “God, be merciful to me a sinner!” (v. 13).

Having told this story, Jesus affirms that it was the Publican who returned home justified and forgiven rather than the Pharisee. He states, “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (v. 14).

The theme of this parable is repentance. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of the journey to Pascha. To repent signifies far more than self-pity or futile regret over things done in the past. The Greek term *metanoia* means “change of mind.” To repent is to be renewed, to be transformed in our inward viewpoint, to attain a fresh way of looking at our relationship with God and with others. The fault of the Pharisee is that he has no desire to change his outlook; he is complacent, self-satisfied, and so he allows no place for God to act within him. The Gospel depicts him as a man that is pleased only with himself who thinks that he has complied with all of the requirements of religion. But in his pride, he has falsified the meaning of true religion and faith. He has reduced these to external observations, measuring his piety by the amount of money he gives.

The Publican, on the other hand, truly longs for a “change of mind.” He humbles himself, and his humility justifies him before God. He becomes, in the words of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3), “poor in spirit.” He acknowledges that he is a sinner, and he knows that salvation is only found in the mercy of God. Here we find an example of true humility, an essential aspect of repentance. A “change of mind” and the transformation of our lives can only happen when we humble ourselves before God, acknowledge our willingness to turn from sin, and receive His grace into our lives.

Our preparation for Lent thus begins with a prayer for humility, the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world. By entering Great Lent in humility and repentance, we can attain deeper communion with God as we receive His forgiveness and He blesses by guiding us to greater spiritual heights.

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# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2023

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS		THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>FEBRUARY 5th</b>		<i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week <b>FEBRUARY 12th</b>		<b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare <b>FEBRUARY 19th</b> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY		<b>The Last Judgement</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare <b>FEBRUARY 26th</b> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY		<b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 5th</b>		<i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY</b> Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 12th</b>		<b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 19th</b>		<b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 26th</b>		<b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 2nd</b>		<b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! <b>APRIL 9th</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS		<i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>APRIL 14th</b>		<b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! <b>APRIL 16th</b> NO FASTING!		<i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

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