

THE ST. ELIZABETH'S PARISH NEWS

St. Elizabeth's Orthodox Mission

2263 E. Cherokee Dr. Woodstock, GA

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

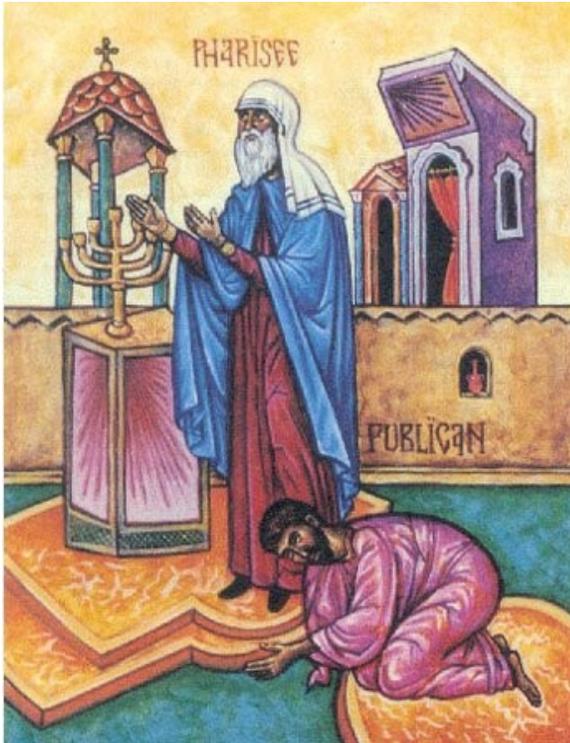
Reverend Father Matthew Dutko, Pastor

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Sunday February 21st 2016 Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

Glory be to Jesus Christ!!!



Tropar and Kondak Tone 5– Blue Book pg.93Red Book pg. 108

Kondak of the Publican and the Pharisee Tone 3

As the Publican, let us bring cries of sorrow to the Lord,* and let us fall before Him as sinners at the Master's feet.* For He desires the salvation of all men;* He grants forgiveness unto all that repent* and He has for our sake taken flesh,* though He is God co-eternal with the Father.

Weekly Schedule:

Tuesday 2/23 9AM– Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 2/24 7:20PM– Moleben (Prayer Service) Followed by Discovering Orthodoxy Class

Saturday 10:15 AM– Moleben to the Mother of God– **11AM**– Pysanky demonstration by Deacon Lazarus and CRS Meeting
4:30PM– Great Vespers

Sunday 2/28 10AM– Divine Liturgy

Who was the Pharisee? When we hear the story of the Publican and the Pharisee we don't get a great many details about the lives of the two men from Christ's parable. The Publican, or Tax-Collector, we know to be a sinful man, because this was part of what his career entailed. As for the Pharisee, we know that he was a religious leader. We know that he was not an executioner, that he was not unjust, that he was not an adulterer, and that he was not a tax collector (Luke 18: 11). We also know that the Pharisee fasted twice a week and gave tithes (10%) of everything he owned to the Church.

By all accounts if we look at this information, we can assume that the Pharisee was a good and faithful man. Giving the Pharisee the benefit of the doubt we can assume he had many other great qualities, and that all in all he was a "good" person.

On the other hand, we can assume that the Publican was a great sinner, known by all to be a liar and a cheat. Yet what is it that Christ says about these men? Christ tells us that it is the Publican who goes home justified. Christ tells us that "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:14).

To be a Christian means infinity more than being a "good" person, The Publican was after all a "good" person and yet it is the Pharisee who goes home **justified**. This lesson is so important for us as we prepare for Great Lent, and that is why the Church reminds us every year at this time to be humble. If we, like the Publican, wish to go home justified we must pray to the Lord, asking for His mercy, admitting our sinfulness, and asking Him for more humility: before Him and before our brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Publican and the Pharisee

P I J B A Z S N Q Z P E X P M
 L O S V F F T A I D N P P G T
 U G U P N I H A Z O W O S H V
 F X I C T A I V I S B D U D D
 I X X Q J G C N S Q M K H E E
 C P W V Z I U I X L A A I E N
 R H A P T M Z J L W E F R A C
 E A Y C M V E A Z B I E R M U
 M R Y O W X F F X T U O R B V
 N I C D A R D P S C L P I H W
 X S F L E V D U M B K I G N T
 Q E T N B T J X Z S X G O S H
 O E N S J Y T I L I M U H E W
 D I Y U R Q I V I B E R T Y K
 S H U P I W K K S A B C Y E F

1. Another name for a tax-collector...
2. This person did not leave the Temple justified.
3. The tax collector "raised his ___ to heaven"
4. The tax collector said "God be _____ to me a sinner"
5. The tax collector came before the Lord in....
6. This many weeks until Great Lent begins...
7. If we come before the Lord just like the Publican, then we too will go home _____.
8. We say the same words as the Publican in the prayer before Holy _____.
9. "God be merciful to me a ___"

Announcements: **Our Annual Parish meeting has been rescheduled for two weeks from today, Sunday, March 6th.**

It is time for home blessings! Please sign up soon!

If you have yet to do so, please turn in your pledge card for 2016

This Saturday February 27th there will be a meeting of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society at St. Elizabeth's. The members of this group are mostly of a Carpatho-Rusyn ethnic back-round, however, everyone is welcomed! Anyone interesting in meeting new people, joining in prayer for a Moleben, eating foods from Eastern Europe, or learning about Pysanky eggs from our friend and local area expert Deacon Lazarus. This is a great opportunity to showcase our loving family, beautiful Church, and the Orthodox Faith with some who may never have experienced it before! The Moleben begins at 10:15 AM. Please see the poster on the bulletin board or speak with David Novak if you are interested or have any questions.

Prayer List

Evelyn Melnikoff, Fr. John and Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Johanna, James, Herbert and Mary Schleining, Patricia James, Anna, Basil, David, Dianna, Denise, Alex, Jason, Athanasia, Ethel, Kathy, Lester, Sally, Jack, Angela, Tyler, Maria, Bezerra Family, Jeff, Lesley, Page Family, Stephen (Blessed Repose), The Blonar Family, Anna (Blessed Repose), Louise, Emma Rae, The Floyd Family, Phillip (Blessed Repose), Zachary, George, Fred and Helen Mileszko, Robin, Michael, Dean, Margaret, Jenny and Keith Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!