

Liturgy Propers

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee Feast of the Encounter of Our Lord with Simeon and Anna

February 2, 2020

[Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom]

Entrance Hymn of the Meeting – Tone 1 (p. 321)

Troparion of the Resurrection – Tone 1 (p. 125)

Troparion of the Meeting – Tone 1 (p. 321)

Kontakion of the Publican & Pharisee – Tone 3 (p. 215)

Kontakion of the Meeting – Tone 1 (p. 321)

Prokeimenon of the Resurrection – Tone 1 (p. 127)

Prokeimenon of the Meeting – Tone 3 (p. 322)

EPISTLES:

2 Timothy 3:10-15 / Hebrews 7:7-17

Alleluia of the Resurrection – Tone 1 (p. 127)

Alleluia of the Meeting – Tone 8 (p. 322)

GOSPELS:

Luke 18:10-14 / Luke 2:2-40

Magnification & Irmos (p. 322)

Communion Hymns (pp. 78-81 & 324)

PAGE NUMBERS REFERENCE GREEN LITURGY BOOK]

CELEBRANT: FR. LEE GROSS

Divine Liturgy Schedule

- Feb. 9...** **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.
- Feb. 16...** **Sunday of Meatfare**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.
- Feb. 23...** **Sunday of Cheese fare**
Mother of God School
10 a.m.

■ **All Souls Hramoty** – There are five All Souls Saturdays during the liturgical year of the Byzantine Church on which we pray the Divine Liturgy and remember our faithful departed by name.

The first All Souls Saturday this year is February 15. If you wish to add any names to the list of persons remembered in your family, known as “diptychs” or “hramoty,” please use the appropriate envelop in your offertory envelope box. Place the envelope in the Sunday collection with the list of names you wish to add along with your offering for their remembrance.

New members should list the members of those they wish remembered on the reverse side of the envelop. It is also permissible to simply list “all the departed of the (your family name) family” rather than each person by name. If you wish to update, delete, or add new names, please contact the Parish Office during office hours. Hramoty envelops must be received on or before February 5 to be remembered at all five All Souls Saturdays.

■ **God with Us Online** – The spring schedule of Adult Faith and Spiritual Enrichment is now available. The first offering is “Great Lent: A Spiritual Journey to Pascha” is offered by Fr. David Anderson. The online sessions are Wednesdays (Feb. 26, and March 4, 11, and 18 from 8-9 p.m. Using Fr. Alexander Schmemmann’s Great Lent as a text, we will examine the liturgies of the Great Faste to more deeply experience and benefit from them. All courses are offered as live webinars free of charge. Please go to www.easterncatholic.org/events to register.



Glory to Jesus
Christ!
Glory forever!

Slava Isusu Christu!
Slava na v'iki!

Announcements

■ **Today's Divine Liturgy Intention** – Today's Liturgy is offered by Ron Pytel for the blessed repose of Robert J. Diethrich. *Vičnaja jemu pamjat.*

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

– Revelation 21:4 (NKJV / OSB)

■ **Today's Commemorations** – Today on the Byzantine Church calendar is the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee and the Feast of the Encounter of Our Lord with Simeon and Anna. There will be anointing (*mirovanije*) and distribution of blessed bread today in commemoration of the Feast of the Encounter. All are welcome to receive anointing and blessed bread. *Christ is among us! He is and shall be!*

(Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee) The Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is the second of our Church's five pre-Lenten Sundays. The Gospel reading for this Sunday 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. However, he sought to make a change in his life by confessing his sinfulness and begging God for mercy. Consequently, he was justified and accepted by God.

(Continued on a following page.)

Epiphany of Our Lord
Byzantine Catholic Church



Montgomery County
Mission

Mother of God Community School
20501 Goshen Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879
301-482-0282
www.eolmission.org

Our community...

was established in October 1996 to meet the spiritual needs of Byzantine Catholics living in northern Montgomery County, southern Frederick County, and adjoining areas.

We celebrate our faith...

in a diverse community. We welcome all, regardless of ethnic or religious background who are committed to develop a deeper understanding of the Christian faith expressed in the Byzantine tradition and spirituality, and who wish to pray for and work towards the full communion of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches as sister Churches of the One Universal Church of Jesus Christ.

We continually resolve...

to gather in His Name, share the truth of our Faith, and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone.

Please Remember

"Is anyone among you sick? ...the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up."

James 5:14-15 NKJV/OSB

OUR MISSION COMMUNITY

- Ron Pytel.
- Lou Shanks.
- Rosemary Chisarick.
- Doris and Rich Fejka.

OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- Delores Moldowan.
- Yazmine Nickerson.
- Christine Dennis.
- Peggy Winkelmann.
- Laura Hinkle.
- Doran Coady.
- Ann Tracy.
- Travis Waters.
- Bertha Bergan.
- Arlene Kollar.
- Jamee Kruse.
- Joseph and Nancy Dillmann.
- Paul and Mary Ellen Sorensen.
- Tony Tworkoski.
- Linda Oros.
- Mike DiMarino.
- Robert and Doris Kreger.
- Lucy Fontenot.
- Patricia Minihane.
- Brother Joseph Comber, CFX.

SPECIAL INTENTION

- Elizabeth Basarab.
- Sally Pekarik.
- Fr. Lee Gross.
- Deacon Peter Turko.

Pray for Our Community

"Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; Look down from heaven and see, and visit this vine and the vineyard which Your right hand has planted, and the branch that You made strong for Yourself."



Psalms 80:14-15 NKJV/OSB

Food Pantry

Our community places a food collection basket near the information table as you enter the gymnasium. Don't forget those who are less fortunate. Nonperishable food items, diapers, baby food, and personal care items are always in demand. The Food Pantry Program, administered by St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church in Gaithersburg, supports the working poor of our area.



"...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited me; I was in prison and you came to Me. ...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Matthew 25:35-36, 40 NKJV/OSB

(Continued from a previous page.)

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 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."

(Feast of the Encounter) 40 days after His birth the God-Infant was taken to the Jerusalem Temple, the center of the nation's religious life. According to the Law of Moses (*Lev. 12:2-8*), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple of God for 40 days. At the end of this time the mother came to the Temple with the child to offer a young lamb or pigeon to the Lord as a purification sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin, the Theotokos, had no need of purification, because she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity without defilement. However, she humbly fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

At this time the righteous Elder Simeon was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he should behold the promised Messiah. By inspiration from above, St. Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and St. Joseph had brought the Infant Jesus to fulfill the Law.

The God-Receiver Simeon took the divine Child in his arms, and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy

word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (*Luke 2:29-32*). St. Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (*Luke 2:34-35*).

At the Temple was the 84-year-old widow Anna the Prophetess, "who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day. She arrived just when St. Simeon met the divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem" (*Luke 2:37-38*). The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous people of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet the Savior in the Temple.

■ **Abstinence Free Week** — The week following the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is free from fasting or abstinence. It is not by coincidence that the Orthodox and Byzantine Catholic Churches do not fast the week following the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. The Pharisee prided himself on his twice-weekly fasting. To guard against the danger of comparing ourselves to others (and favorably at that) the Church says: Don't fast. Instead, on this coming Wednesday and Friday, recall this Gospel text and remember the humility of the Son of God who became man.