

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Publican & Pharisee, February 13, 2022



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone One:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

- RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION, Tone One:

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master, Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage, and cries to Thee: Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ.

- KONTAKION OF THE TAX-COLLECTOR AND PHARISEE, Tone Four:

Let us flee the Pharisee's conceited vaunting; let us learn the Publican's humility, and cry with groans unto the Savior: Thou Who alone art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, Feb. 12: 9 AM, Garden Work Party (weeding and trimming)
5 PM, Vigil / Confessions
- Sunday, Feb. 13: 9:40 AM, 3rd and 6th Hours
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal resumes this week
- Wednesday, Feb. 16: 5 PM, Vespers — **Fast Free Week**
- Thursday, Feb. 17: 7 PM, Bible Study with Fr. James via Zoom
- Friday, Feb. 18: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
- Saturday, Feb. 19: 3:30 PM, Catechism, beginning of the second semester, *On Holy Baptism*
5 PM, Vigil / Confessions
- Sun., Feb. 20: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy — Sunday of the Prodigal Son
Noon, Blini luncheon

- BEGINNING OF THE LENTEN TRIODION—SUNDAY OF THE TAX-COLLECTOR AND PHARISEE: The Orthodox Church uses many different books and collections of hymns in the Divine Services. On

the *Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee*—this Sunday—we begin to use the Lenten hymn book called the *Lenten Triodion* (it contains many three-ode hymns). The magnificent collection of hymns were composed by saintly hymnographers from the 3rd–18th centuries, among those whom we can identify are St. Romanos the Melodist (6th century), St. Kosmas the Melodist, Bishop of Maiouma, St. John of Damascus and St. Andrew of Crete (all three from the 8th century), and the 9th century Leo the Emperor and nun St. Kassiani. The earliest hymn in the book, *Beneath thy compassion, we take refuge, O Theotokos...* can be traced to a Coptic manuscript dating from about 250 AD. Much of the material contained in the *Triodion* was compiled and arranged by St. Theodore the Studite in Constantinople during the course of the 8th–9th centuries. There is a pious tradition from the Greek island of Zakynthos regarding the “opening” of the *Triodion* at the Vespers of the Publican and Pharisee. The *Triodion* book (hymn book of Great Lent) is placed on a table under the icon of Christ, to the right of the Royal Gate on the iconostasis. Following the Resurrection hymns at “Lord, I Have Cried,” the head chanter comes before the Icon of Christ and receives from the priest the book of the *Triodion*. He then begins chanting the appropriate hymns, thus inaugurating the *Season of Repentance*.

- FORGIVENESS SUNDAY VESPERS – March 6:

On Sunday, March 6 we will serve the *Vespers of Forgiveness* at 1:15 PM, following the Agape Meal. During the service the cloths which cover the icon stands will be changed to the Lenten purple—a royal and rich color, yet darker and more mournful too. From that point on we are in Great Lent, and the Lenten melodies will be used for the Litanies. At the end of this unique Service we will ask forgiveness of each other, each person approaching the priests, then each other. Those who can, do a prostration before one another; those who cannot, simply ask forgiveness; either way is just fine. We say: “forgive me” and answer back, “Forgive me. God forgives.” The important thing is to *ask* for forgiveness and then *give it*. The act of forgiveness is **not** one in which we expect all interpersonal difficulties will be erased or resolved, it does, however, have the potential to remove the poison of sin and resentments from our “spiritual blood stream.” It’s a beginning to our Fast. —Fr. Lawrence

Blini Brunch

*Complete with sour cream, lox, herring,
and caviar...and of course, butter, syrup, fruit and bacon!!*

Church Hall
Sunday, February 20, Noon

*Please come enjoy Blini with us as we prepare to enter that
wonderful time of Lent.*

- ON HUMILITY:

Grass does not sprout in trampled ground; likewise, passions and wickedness do not sprout in a humble soul. As long as we lack humility, God will not stop humbling us through trials until we learn this important and most salvific lesson. —Elder Ephraim of Arizona, *reposed December 7, 2019*

- CONFESSION:

Our practice here, as taught by the Holy Synod of Bishops, is to prepare ourselves for a weekly participation in Holy Communion by a regular confession (monthly at the least), prayers before Holy Communion, fasting and attending Church services. If you cannot remember when you last made a confession, it was probably too long ago. At Confession we stand before Christ, we say our sins to Him, with the priest as our witness, and hopefully sometimes our guide. Let’s be eager to be with the Lord in our repentance, awaiting the grace and forgiveness that pours into our hearts. —Fr. Lawrence