

**SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE — Tone 1. Afterfeast of the Meeting.** Repose of St. Theodosius of Chernígov (1696). Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. Holy Martyr Agatha of Palermo in Sicily (251). Martyr Theodula of Anazarbus in Cilicia, and with her Martyrs Helladius, Macarius and Evagrius (ca. 304). Icon of the Mother of God “Seeker of the Perishing.”

**2 Timothy 3:10-15**

**Luke 18:10-14**

The Sunday after the Sunday of Zacchaeus is devoted to the Publican and the Pharisee. At Vespers the night before, the TRIODION (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent) begins.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful.

His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee’s religious piety, nor the Publican’s repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ’s teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

*--From [www.oca.org/saints/lives](http://www.oca.org/saints/lives)*

“So he said, “The narrow path, the royal path, is, yes, to be like that Pharisee and to keep those rules, but to keep those rules with an encounter with the living God, so that those rules open us to the grace of God in humility and gratitude and not thanking God [that we] were not like other people, but thanking God that he has been gracious to us. And then, when we keep those rules, then the strange thing is, no matter how righteous we are externally, we will still pray the Publican’s prayer. We will still pray, “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” So the pre-Lenten season begins when we meditate [on] this parable of the Publican and the Pharisee. So as the hymns of the Church say, “Let us flee from the boastfulness and the pridefulness of the Pharisee who just kept the rules externally, and let’s learn from the Publican’s tears.” And even the Holy Fathers say, “Without tears, no one can be saved.”

But what’s so interesting is that the more righteous, the more holy, the more full of grace, the more the fruit of the Holy Spirit is in a person, the more they repent, the more they weep, and the more they pray the Publican’s prayer: “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”

*-- Fr. Thomas Hopko*

## SCHEDULE

**Sunday, February 5**.....9:30am Third Hour  
*Publican and Pharisee* 9:45am St. Brigid Prayer Service  
10:00am Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, February 11**.....6:00pm Great Vespers

**Sunday, February 12**.....9:30am Third Hour  
*Prodigal Son* 9:45am General Confession  
10:00am Divine Liturgy  
11:30am Choir Rehearsal

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**God grant Many Years to those celebrating birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or name days during the month of February.**

**Birthdays:** Eugene Bohensky, Colleen Bohensky, Nicholas Bohensky, Nina Bohensky, Catherine Christensen, Matthew Comroe, Ruth Dardaganis, David Fichtner, Susan Fichtner, Nicholas Gakos, Boris Hersonski Jr., Nicholas Krawchuk, April Kirchdoerffer, Anastasia Leon, Sydney Morgan, Aleksander Olszowy, Erik Yarosh.

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**THANK YOU** to the Choir members for hosting Coffee Hour last Sunday. God grant them Many Years!

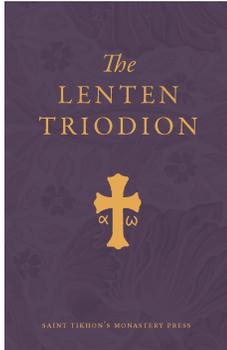
**PLEASE REMEMBER to:**

- **Attend Social Get-together & Pizza Night (Feb. 7)**
- **Order your Pascha breads & rolls**
- **Request 2022 tax documents from Eileen Soliman**
- **Consider joining the Choir**
- **Support the Care Committee endeavors**
- **Contribute Survival Kit supplies**

**Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee - Beginning of the Lenten Triodion**

**Kontakion — Tone 1**

*Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! / And learn humility from the Publican's tears! / Let us cry to our Savior, / have mercy on us, / only merciful One!*



The **Lenten Triodion** is the service book of the Orthodox Church that provides the texts for the divine services for the pre-Lenten weeks of preparation, for Great Lent, and for Holy Week. *The Lenten Triodion* is the title of a classic and popular English book translated with an extensive and helpful introduction by Metropolitan Kallistos and Mother Mary; it provides many (but not all) of the texts necessary to observe the Great Fast. In Greek and Slavonic it is simply called the *triodion*. It is called the *triodion* because the canons appointed for Matins during this period are composed of three odes each.

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*“In going to church, think that thou art going to the house of the King of Heaven, where with fear and joy one ought to stand as in heaven before the King of Heaven. While standing in church, do not look around to the sides and do not look at how someone is standing and praying, lest thou be condemned with the Pharisee, since thou didst not come to judge others, but to ask for mercy for thyself from God, the Judge and Knower of hearts. Gaze with compunction toward the altar alone, where the holy sacrifice is offered. More than anything else, beware of laughter and conversations, for whoever laughs or converses while standing in church does not render honor to the holy place and tempts others and prevents others from praying.”*

+ St. Tikhon of Zadonsk



**Holy, Righteous Anna the Prophetess**

*(Commemorated February 3)*

**Kontakion Tone 3:** Let the godly pair be praised together: Simeon the Righteous and Anna the Prophetess, well-pleasing to God. They became witnesses of the Incarnate Lord when they saw Him as an infant; together they worshipped Him.

**Holy Trinity Orthodox Church**

*Offering the Fullness of the Christian Faith*

**Orthodox Church in America**

**Diocese of New York and New Jersey**

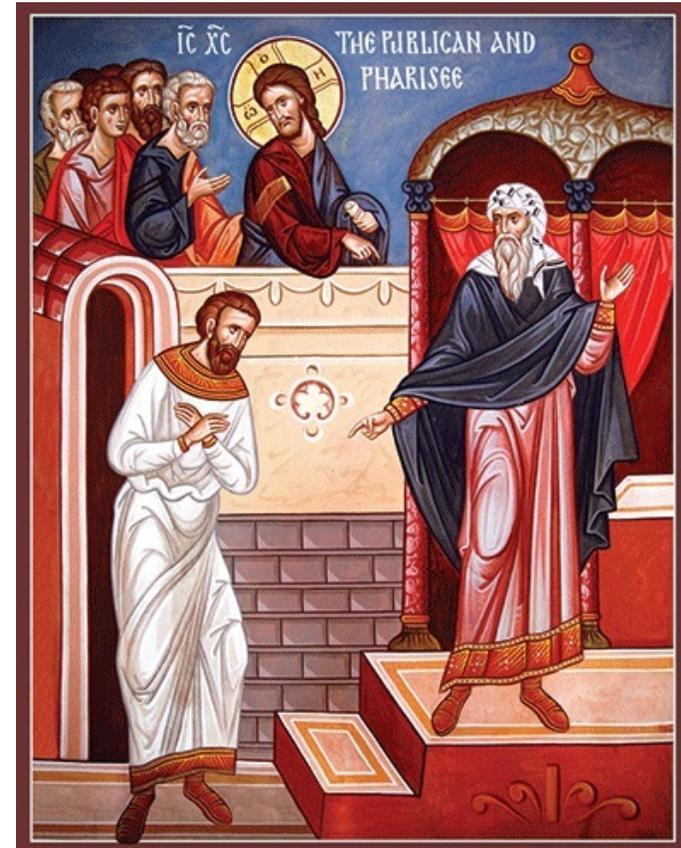
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**Mitred Archpriest George Hasenecz, Attached**

**Carol Wetmore, Choir Director**



***Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee***  
**February 5, 2023**