

**Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:****For eternal memory of:****Joseph**, father of Maribeth Romanofsky, 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary**Anthony** Jankowski, offered by parents Paul and Linda**Helen** Selima, sister of Bill Kuzemchalk**For the health of:****Katie** Gallagher, birthday, offered by Reader Charles and Nina**Readings:**

- Hebrews 13:17-21 (St Theodosius)
- Luke 6:17-23 (St Theodosius)
- **2 Timothy 3:10-15**
- **Luke 18:10-14**

**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 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."

**Sunday service:**

**Hours - 9:40 AM** **Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM**  
**(General Confession – 9 50 AM on the first Sunday of each month)**  
**(Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month)**

**Church School - 9:30 AM**  
 (no classes 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month)

**Coffee hour** after Liturgy

**We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy, downstairs, for Coffee hour.**

**Announcements:**

- **Memorial Saturday - On Saturday, February 18, we will be serving Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM.** Saturday is the day that the Church has set aside for the commemoration of faithful Christians departed this life in the hope of resurrection to eternal life. By praying for others, we bring benefit to them, and also to ourselves, because "*God is not so unjust as to forget your work and the love which you showed for His sake in serving the saints...*" (Heb. 6:10).
- **Our annual parish meeting will be held next Sunday, February 12, right after coffee hour.** All members of the parish are invited to attend.
- **Please contact Father Boris about having your home blessed.** Father Boris can visit all the members of the parish in order to pray with them in the place where they live, and to bless their surroundings with the sanctified water

**Special Announcements:**

- **Today, after coffee hour, there will be a meeting of Sisterhood of the Protection of the Theotokos.**
- **Meatfare Sunday**, the last day meat is allowed before Lent begins, is on **February 19<sup>th</sup>**. Look for more information regarding our annual meatfare luncheon next week.

**Reminder:**

- **Dues and assessments are being collected for the year 2012, Total Parish Membership Fee is now \$200.** Partial payments are gladly accepted.
- Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, downstairs, to indicate when you can help clean the church.

**Pre-lent:**

**Sunday Of The Publican And The Pharisee:**

The first Sunday of the TRIODION (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent) is devoted to the **Publican and the Pharisee**

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.

**Meeting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple:**

Last Thursday, the Church commemorated an important event in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ. Forty 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, a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple of God for forty 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 Mother of God, had no need of purification, since 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**". 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**".

Also at the Temple, was the 84-year-old widow **Anna the Prophetess**, daughter of Phanuel, 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.

See us on the web at:

[ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin](http://ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin)

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Sunday Bulletin

**Church of the Mother of God**  
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Publican And The Pharisee

Glory to  
Jesus Christ

Glory Forever

*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!*

Kontakion - Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

**On this day the Church remembers:**

- **Sunday Of The Publican And The Pharisee • Afterfeast of the Meeting of Holy Martyr Agatha of Palermo in Sicily (251) • Repose of St. Theodosius of Chernigov.** Martyr Theodula of Anazarbus in Cilicia, and with her Martyrs Helladius, Macarius and Evagrius (ca. 304)
- Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos, "SEARCH OF THE LOST".

**February 5, 2012**

**Tone 1** of the Octoechos.  
Triodion week 1

34<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost