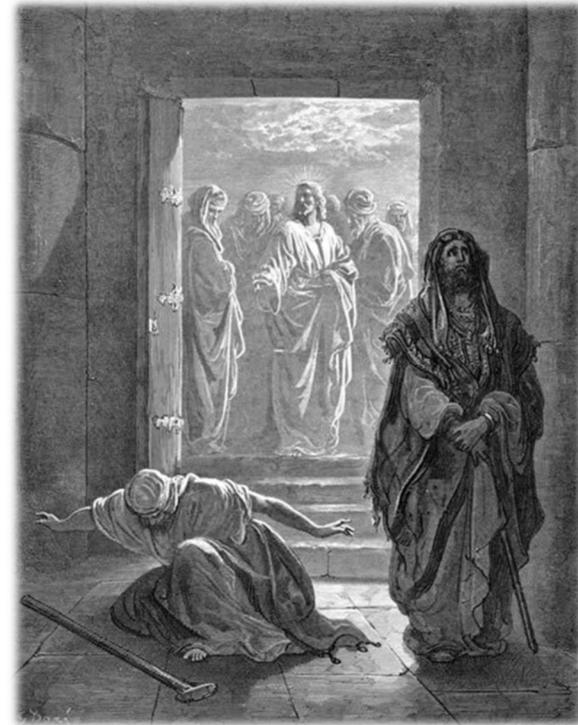


St. Cyril of Alexandria on the Publican and the Pharisee

“For what profit is there in fasting twice in the week, if doing so only serves as a justification for ignorance and vanity, and makes you superiorly arrogant and selfish? You tithe your possessions, and boast of it: but you in another way provoke God's anger, by condemning men generally on this account, and accusing others; and you are yourself puffed up, though not crowned by the divine decree for righteousness, but heap, on the contrary, praises upon yourself...” Moderate yourself, O Pharisee: "put a door to your tongue, and a lock." You speak to God Who knows all things. Await the decree of the Judge. None of those skilled in the practice of wrestling ever crowns himself: nor does any man receive the crown of himself, but awaits the summons of the judge. Lower your pride: for arrogance is both accursed and hated by God...

But what of the publican? He stood, it says, "afar off," not even venturing, so to speak, to raise up his eyes to heaven. You see him abstaining from all boldness of speech, as having no right to it, and hit by the reproaches of conscience: for he was afraid of being even seen by God, as one who had been careless of His laws, and had led an unchaste and dissolute life. You see also that by his external manner, he accuses his own depravity. For the foolish Pharisee stood there bold and broad, lifting up his eyes without scruple, bearing witness of himself, and boastful. But the other feels shame at his conduct: he is afraid of his Judge, he hits his breast, he confesses his offences, he shows his sickness as to the Physician, he prays that he may have mercy.”

“Let us Attend!”



“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted...”

A PARISH BULLETIN OF
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Olyphant, Pennsylvania

13 February 2022 – Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Opening of the Lenten Triodion

Bulletin, Sunday, 13 February 2022

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE —

Tone 1. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. St. Seraphima (Sezhenovo, Russia—1877). Saints Martinian, Zoe, and Photina of Caesarea in Palestine (5th c.). Ven. Stephen (in monasticism Simeon), the Myrrhusher, Prince of Serbia (1199). St. Eulogius, Archbishop of Alexandria (607–608). Appearance of Christ to Saint Martin of Tours (316).

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10–15

Gospel: Luke 18:10–14

Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.

Schedule of Services:

Wednesday, 16 February 2022: Parish Council Meeting, 6PM.

Sunday, 20 February 2022: Sunday of the Prodigal Son. Divine Liturgy, 9:30AM. Followed by Coffee Hour Agape.

Announcements ~We warmly welcome to back to All Saints Fr. Michael Shepherd, and we and thank Father for serving and preaching this morning.

~ A warm welcome as well to all visitors. Please join us for coffee hour Agape fellowship downstairs following the Liturgy.

~ Before the rigors of the Great Fast that is quickly approaching, the Church gives us this week as free from fasting.

~ Our thanks to all that came together this week to make pierogi. God bless you for your dedication.

~ The parish will be holding a pre-order only Lenten Food Sale on Friday, 4 March 2022, with food pickup between 11am–and 3pm. Please tell your friends and neighbors. If you wish to place an order, please be in contact with Ann Schlasta or Anne Naughton. Orders must be placed by February 25th.

~ The parish is presently in need of purchasing a set of dark vestments to be used during Holy Week services, as services during the weeks of the Great Lent. Those interested in contributing, please see Dr. Paul Witek.

~ There once was a man who had a beautiful tree in his front yard. His neighbors always commented on how beautiful the tree was, and how wonderful it looked in the yard. One spring he asked a tree surgeon to cut some limbs that had broken during the winter. After looking at the tree, the tree surgeon gave the man some bad news — the tree had to be taken down as soon as possible. The man was shocked: “Why? It looks perfect? Why does it have to be cut down?!”. The tree surgeon then told the man the problem: “Unfortunately, the tree is dying. It is rotting from the inside out. If there is a serious storm it could possibly fall and seriously damage your house or your property.” And then the surgeon gave the worst part of the news. “If we caught this earlier we could have done something, but now nothing can be done to save it.” Today’s Gospel reminds us that outwardly we can look just perfect, but our inner soul could be rotting inside. Great Lent affords us the opportunity to examine our inner thoughts, attitudes, and dispositions. And if we, like the Publican in the Gospel, can see our shortcomings and brokenness we can come to the Lord asking for Mercy, and seek internal healing that alone can save us.