



Sunday February 05, 2017 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE — Tone 8. Afterfeast of the Meeting. Repose of St. Theodosius of Chernigov (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 Most-holy Theotokos, “SEARCH OF THE LOST”.

This Week’s Schedule

Saturday 02/11 Sacrament of Holy Baptism 4:00 p.m.

Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 02/12 Hours 8:40 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

Followed by coffee hour

Reader Schedule

DATE	3RD HOUR	6TH HOUR	EPISTLE
Feb-5	WALES	WALES	\WALES
Feb-12	SULPIZI	LEWIS	BRASOWSKI
Feb-19	RILEY	RILEY	RILEY
Feb-26	SOUDER	PECK	PECK

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 8 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

You descended from on high, O Merciful One!
You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Tone 1 Troparion *(Meeting of our Lord)*

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,
enlightening those who sat in darkness.
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,
you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,
Who grants us the Resurrection!

Tone 4 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee!
Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears!
Let us cry to our Savior:
“Have mercy on us,//
O only merciful One!”

Tone 1 Kontakion *(Meeting of our Lord)*

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb
and blessed Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God.
Now You have come and saved us through love.
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,
O only Lover of Man!

Tone 8 Prokeimenon *(Resurrection)*

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (*Ps 75/76:11*)

v: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel. (Ps 75/76:1)

Epistle 2 Timothy 3:10-15

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which

happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v :Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps 94/95:1)

v :Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! (Ps 94/95:2)

Gospel Luke 18:10-14

Two men went up to 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 as this tax collector.

‘I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise 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, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

(Instead of “It is truly meet ...,” we sing:)

Tone 3

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians,
protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you!
In the shadow and letter of the Law,
let us, the faithful, discern a figure:
every male [child] that opens the womb is holy to God.

Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of a Father Who has
no beginning, //
the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the
Lord. (*Ps 115/116:13*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This Week's Announcement

Family Promise: Family Promise invites us to join 3 local homeless families for a meal and conversation from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm on Feb. 13, 14 & 16 at St. Philips Lutheran Church (Limestone Road, Wilmington). We can spread Christ's love for our neighbors through our conversation and support for parents and their children (reading stories, playtime, etc). It's also week of Valentine's Day! Please sign up for Social Hour on Family Promise board in our narthex. Contact Ellen Gundersen with questions at puffins1@verizon.net or call 610.388.0695.

Perogie Making We will be pinching perogie in preparation for the Lenten season this Tues. Feb. 7th. Any and all help would be welcome

Baptism Saturday Next Saturday at 4p.m. we will welcome into the Church Cedric Peck by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. All are welcome to join us!

Memorial Service Next Sunday following the Divine Liturgy we will have a 40 day memorial service for Anwor Kawaja the brother of Alice Mojana. May his memory be eternal!

Study Group Our Study group will continue this Thursday at 10 am with the 15th Step from "The Ladder of Divine Ascent". All are welcome to join us.

Basics of Orthodoxy Update We will be offering the basics of Orthodoxy class on Friday evenings during the Lenten season.

We will begin the week of Meatfare, Friday evening Feb 24th .following vespers. All are welcome to attend.

St Michael's Food Pantry A small food pantry bin is available to place the non-perishables for those who may come to St. Michael's in need of food. We would like to ask our community to kindly bring food items that are frozen or non-perishable, as nutritious and as minimally processed as possible. We would like to include some items that are easy to open and require little or no preparation for those who might not have fully operational kitchens, (No junk food or highly processed foods please.) If you bring frozen items, please label them as "St Michael's Food Pantry" donation and place in freezer. Thank you!

To Suffer for Doing Right

On February 8 we celebrate the memory of the Greatmartyr Theodore Stratelates, whose title is often translated as "commander" or "general."

Theodore was one of those multi-gifted people who attract both admiration and jealousy. He was a brave soldier, and at the same time he was an articulate Christian who convinced many to join him in the faith. Several icons of Theodore depict an unusually handsome face with strong features.

The pagan emperor Licinius was well aware of his military commander's qualities, and those qualities worried him. He didn't want an enemy—Christianity—to have such a powerful advocate. So he called Theodore to the imperial court, and invited him to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Theodore came, and asked to take some of the pagan idols home, saying he would return with them the next day to offer sacrifice. What he actually did was to melt down the precious metal they were made of, and then distribute the valuable chunks to the poor.

Theodore would pay dearly for his dedication to Christ. He was tortured and crucified, and when those things miraculously failed to kill him, he was beheaded.

We remember Theodore as the patron saint of soldiers. But he also fulfilled a Biblical exhortation which we read on this day: "Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you" (I Peter 3: 15b). Theodore gave himself up to the emperor's men, and was heard to say, "Glory to God" as he died.

What does it mean in our lives, in our day, to "be prepared to make a defense" of our faith? For one thing, Christians should be ready to challenge public assertions that go against the words of Jesus Christ. One example is a recent book by Deepak Chopra, a well-known advocate of alternative medicine. In 2010 he produced a book called "Muhammad: A Story of the Last Prophet."

For Christians there is only one "last prophet" and that is John, the Baptist and Forerunner. Jesus says, "The law and the prophets were until John" (Matthew 11:13). These words tell us that the Old Testament law and prophecies have been fulfilled in Christ, to whom John was Forerunner. John's own words about Christ, found in John the Evangelist's writings (John 1:26-34), are also fulfilled. Christ has completed all the prophecies, and the time of prophets is done.

Some people say it's fine for everyone to believe as they wish; we can call John the last of the prophets and others can say the last is Muhammad. But calling Muhammad the last means that Islam's claims are true, and those of Christianity are false. This would be a denial of the One who ended all prophecy by fulfilling it, the One who, as Peter further writes, "has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to Him" (I Peter 3: 22).

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America.

This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.

Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

'Pray firstly to be purified of passions, secondly to be freed from ignorance and forgetfulness, and thirdly to be delivered from all temptation and forsaking.'

St. Nilus of Sinai

"Temptations and trials show what hides in the heart of a man. Temptation is similar to the medicine called an emetic. An emetic reveals what is hidden in the stomach. So temptations and trials make manifest what is inside a man."

St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

"Journey to Heaven"

'Love, unchangeable tranquility and our adoption as children of God are different from each other only in name. As light, fire and flame are present in the selfsame operation, so are these three manifestations of the Spirit. When someone is completely permeated with the love of God, the brightness of his soul is reflected by his whole personality as if in a mirror. Therefore the one who loves God also loves his brother or sister. Indeed, the second love is the proof of the first.'

St. John Climacus

'If you want with a few words to benefit one who is eager to learn, speak to him about prayer, right faith, and the patient acceptance of what comes. For all else that is good is found through these.'

St. Mark the Ascetic

Sometimes people find themselves brightly illuminated and refreshed by God's grace for a while, but then this grace may be taken away, and they can fall into depression and start grumbling and even give up dispiritedly instead of energetically renewing their prayers to call down again that assurance of salvation. Such behavior is like an ungrateful beggar taking alms at the palace door and then walking off indignantly because he was not invited in to dine with the king himself (To the Monks of India 70. Philokalia 1:291).

John of Karpathos

Prayers for the Departed: Nabil Gouda, Jesse Jones, Joseph Wojceichowski, Sofia Puit, Anwor Kawaja, Fred Salay

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. John Nightingale, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Finck, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Carson, Stephen, Maria, Aiden, Peck Family, Walter Danchenka, Anne Peck, George Coyle

Prayers for Women and the Child to be born: Tatyana Klimova

Prayers for Catechumens: William Wennburg, Stephanie Smiertka

Prayers for Newly Illumined/Chrismated: Emily (Theodora) Zushi, Misty (Mary) Robinson

Date	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>	<u>Library</u>
5-Feb	Potluck	Sulpizi/Fink	Gerassimakis	Skomorucha
12-Feb	Bacuta/ Fravel	Hojnicki/ Souder	Gerassimakis	Skomorucha
19-Feb	Meatfare Pot Luck	Sheeler/ Baldychev	Finck	Lewis
26-Feb	Cheesefare Pot Luck	Bunitsky/ Lewis	Skomorucha/ Lewis	Gundersen

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

DATE

VESPERS and LITURGY

Feb-5

Team Gabriel

Feb-12

Team George

Feb-19

Team Conover

Attendance

2/1 Vesperal Liturgy: 30 1/29 Liturgy: 114