
St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

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Sunday February 17, 2019 SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE – Tone 5. Beginning of the Lenten Triodion. Greatmartyr Theodore the Tyro (“the Recruit” – ca. 306). Hieromartyr Germogén (Hermogenes), Patriarch of Moscow and Wonderworker of All Russia (1612). Ven. Theodore the Silent, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves – 13th c.). St. Mariamne, sister of Apostle Philip (1st c.). Uncovering of the Relics of Martyr Menas of Alexandria (867-869). The weeping “TIKHVIN” Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos on Mt. Athos.

This Week’s Schedule

Wednesday 2/20 Little Angels 9:30 a.m.

Thursday 2/21 No Study Group

Saturday 2/23 Great Vesper 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 2/24 Hours 8:40 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

followed by Coffee Hour

Reader Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>3RD HOUR</u>	<u>6TH HOUR</u>	<u>EPISTLE</u>
Feb-17	SULPIZI	PECK	PECK
Feb-24	RILEY	RILEY	RILEY
Mar-3	SOUDER	PECK	PECK
Mar-10	LEWIS	SULPIZI	LEWIS



Hymns and Prayers

Tone 5 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious 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 5 Prokeimenon

You, O Lord, shall protect us and preserve us from this generation
forever. *(Ps 11/12:7)*

v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly. (Ps 11/12:1)

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 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: I will sing of Your mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your truth from generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)

v: For You have said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)

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."

Communion Hymn

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

This Week's Announcement

Fast Free Week The week of the Publican and the Pharisee is fast free. Please use this week to finish up most of the non-lenten foods in the freezer or pantry in preparation for great lent. Enjoy!

No Study Group Our study group will not meet this Thursday due to the construction. We will resume Feb 28th at 10 a.m. with the 5th chapter of St. Matthew. Join us!

Women's Book Study Our Women's Book Study will continue on Tuesday evenings for the next few weeks. We will continue reading

“Touch and the Healing of the World”, by Daniel B. Hinshaw. We hope you can join us Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Calling All Library Books We asking everyone to try and return parish library books by March 1st. Our librarians will be performing an inventory of our books. The books can be checked out once again after the inventory is complete. Thanks for your cooperation.

Great Lent to Begin Our Lenten journey will begin with Forgiveness Vespers on Sunday, March 10th following coffee hour. All should make a sincere effort to begin the Lenten season with this service and the “Mutual Rite of Forgiveness”. “On Forgiveness Sunday, we sing of Adam’s exile from paradise. We identify ourselves with Adam, lamenting our loss of the beauty, dignity and delight of our original creation, mourning our corruption in sin. We also hear on this day the Lord’s teaching about fasting and forgiveness, and we enter the season of the fast forgiving one another so that God will forgive us. If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses (Mt 6.14–18).”

Orthodoxy Sunday/Mission Service March 17 St. Michaels will be hosting a Lenten Mission Service (Orthodoxy Sunday) on Sunday March 17 at 4:00 p.m. We are asking for volunteers to help organize and put the meal together. We will need everyone’s help as we will be hosting The Philadelphia Clergy Brotherhood as well as the faithful from our surrounding area. Please email Alice Morjana at namorjana@aol.com or see Alice to let her know you can help.

Lenten Retreat on Marriage and Family St. Michaels will be hosting a Lenten retreat with guest speaker and author Dr. Philip Mamalakis. Friday evening and Saturday March 22nd & 23rd. There will be more details to follow on Dr Mamalakis’ agenda. Please see Jeff Kendall or Alice Morjana to volunteer.

Parish Giving We continue to progress to the diocesan proportional giving of 10% of our operating budget to the National and Diocesan Church. The yearly National and Diocesan Assessments are determined based on the parish approved budgets. As a result of the approved 2019 parish budget for St. Michael’s and moving to a level 4 Tithing, the annual assessment for each adult over 18 will be \$189 per year. This can be paid at one time or easier quarterly payments of \$47.25. Envelopes

are available in the Narthex if you wish to use them as a reminder. Thank you for your continued support.

House Blessings House blessings are still available. Please see Mat. Daria or Fr. Barnabas at coffee hour for scheduling.

Keeping the Life You Hate or Losing the Life You Love

In the Gospel of John 12: 19-47, Jesus Christ describes the kind of life His followers should pursue.

His words need careful attention. He says, "He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." At a superficial glance, a reader might almost think that what He is saying sounds unkind. It could seem that Jesus is saying that you'll have your life forever if you hate it, but if you love your life you'll lose it. But this is why a reader should always look more deeply into the words of Scripture than many people do. These words in John's Gospel are nothing less than a promise of the eternal joy of the Kingdom—but they place the decision of whether or not that will be our destiny squarely on us. Jesus tells us this by saying, "If any man serves me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall my servant be also; if any one serves me, the Father will honor him."

So, what does it mean to hate one's life? It doesn't mean that we should despise or reject God's gift of being born and living as a person in this world. We are meant to live a full, rich earthly life. But if we limit ourselves to this life, never looking beyond it to eternal life with God, we will not be doing His will. To follow Christ means we must be ready to suffer for Him, because this fallen world will bring suffering. If we deliberately avoid suffering for Christ, we will no longer be following Him, and we will not find our way to the Kingdom. We will have loved our life in this world, and tried to preserve it, at the cost of the eternal life God wants to give us.

To hate our life means to see that the present life, while precious, is brief and fleeting. By contrast, eternal life will never end. Loving that eternal life, we are willing to "give up" this earthly one. We can endure hardship and tribulation for Christ while we live it, because we know that by so doing we are following Him; we are on the way to the place where we will be with Him forever in joy.

Jesus goes on to say, "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, for this purpose I have come to this

hour." These words show that Jesus, like us, is fearful and apprehensive at the coming of death. He, too, loves the life in this world that God has given. But He is ready to do what He has called us to do. He will give up this life in certainty that He will be with His Father in eternal life. That life is His by nature. It is ours by adoption and immeasurable grace.

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

"My children, beware of all unrighteousness, and do not give in to envy or slander. Refrain from anger, and do not practice usury. Beware of unjust judgment. Do not swear an oath falsely, but rather fulfill it. Do not indulge the bodily appetites. Always be meek and bear all things with love. This virtue is the beginning and root of all good."

- St. Barlaam, Abbot of Khutyn (12th century)

"Self-reform and peace are not achieved through the patience which others show us, but through our own longsuffering towards our neighbor. "

- St John Cassian

"Do you want to have good done to you? Do good to somebody else. Do you want to have mercy shown to you? Show mercy to your neighbor. Do you want to be praised? Praise somebody else. Do you want to be loved? Love. Do you want to get to the top? Make way for somebody else. Do you hate being cursed? Don't curse other people. Do you hate being envied? Don't envy others. Do you hate it when people deceive you? Don't deceive other people. If you remember that, you won't need any other instruction."

- Saint John Chrysostom

"It has become a bad habit, that once we learn something about our neighbor, we go to trumpet it everywhere. Our tongue burns us and we rush to tell others what we saw or heard. We forget that we have no right to judge our neighbor because it is not our business, but God's, Who is the Supreme Judge, and Who knows the heart of man and can yield a just judgement. But we condemn our neighbor and often with strong words. We do not consider that our brother may repent and perhaps already left his sin, because he deeply repented."

- St. Luke the Physician of Simferopol

"Those who hope in the Lord don't set their hope on money or the amount of power they have, but are content with the help that God will give them. They're full of faith and love, they live in the courage of their clear conscience, they stand before the heavenly Father as His children and call for His kingdom to come on earth and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven."

- Saint Nektarios of Pentapolis

"Light is the property of a star, as simplicity and humility are the property of a holy and God-fearing man. Nothing distinguishes more clearly the disciples of Christ than a humble spirit and a simple way of life. The four Gospels shout this aloud. Whoever has not lived in this humble manner is deprived of his share in Him who 'humbled Himself... to death, even the death of the cross' (Phil. 2:8), the actual Lawgiver of the divine Gospels."

- St Hesychios the Priest, "On Watchfulness and Holiness

Written for Theodoulos," Philokalia, Vol. 1

"Any place can be a place of Resurrection, as long as you live in Christ's humility."

- Abbess Gavriila (1897-1992), a 20th century Greek Orthodox nun

Prayers for the Departed: Virginia Sekerak Marie Holowatch, Maria Proch, Mark Gundersen, John Berket, George Sarmousakis, Alfred Mokhiber.

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. John Nightingale, Fr. Deacon James Carpenter, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Lemlem Resat, Peter Melnik, Olga Riley, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Mary Anne Farrell, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Benjamin, Patrica, Lubov Baldychev, Stephanie Hojnicky, Michael Sinovich, Laura Cristina Najemy, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides,

Prayers for Catechumen: Robert Jaquette

Prayers for Women and the Child to be born: Ruth Kendall, Bisrat Gabriel

Date	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>	<u>Library</u>
17-Feb	Pacienza/George/Grishin	Sulpizi/Finck	Suplizi	Skomorucha
24-Feb	J. Peck/Weins	Hojnicki/Souder	Riley	Maloney
3-Mar	Hojnicki/Flynn/Roberts	Telep/Baldychev	Bunitsky/Finck	Gundersen
10-Mar	Gerissimakis/Bunitsky	Bunitsky/Morjana	Farrell	Farrell
17-Mar	Riley/Souder	Riley/Riley	Clause/Whalen	Skomorucha

Upcoming Dates to Keep in Mind

Meatfare Sunday March 3rd

Cheesefare / Forgiveness Sunday March 10th

Beginning of Great Lent March 11th

Annunciation Monday March 25th

Palm Sunday April 21st HOLY PASCHA April 28th