

## St. Michael's Orthodox Church

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Fr. Peter Henry, Rector

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### Sunday Bulletin, February 9, 2020

**34<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 1. SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE. LEAVETAKING OF THE MEETING. MARTYR NICEPHORUS OF ANTIOCH IN SYRIA. HIEROMARTYRS MARCELLUS, BISHOP OF SICILY, PHILAGRIUS, BISHOP OF CYPRUS, AND PANCRATIUS, BISHOP OF TAOROMINA. VEN. PANCRATIUS OF THE KIEV CAVES.**

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#### Service Schedule:

Sunday, Feb. 9: 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy (Hours at 9:10) followed by pot luck meal and annual parish meeting.  
Monday, Feb. 10: 7 AM Matins  
Tuesday, Feb. 11: 7 AM Matins  
Wednesday, Feb. 12: 7 AM Matins  
Thursday, Feb. 13: 7 AM Matins  
Friday, Feb. 14: 7 AM Matins  
Saturday, Feb 15: 5 PM Great Vespers  
Sunday, Feb 16: 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy (Hours at 9:10)

#### Remember in Your Prayers...

**Health / General:** Stella Krenitsky, Michael Jadick, Helen Chesniak, Marie Buranich, Helen Wytovich, Rosemary Kuzmich, Tammy Wytovich, Fr. John Nightingale, Bernie Elko, Sandra Pritchkyk, Marie Pasternak, John Pritchkyk, Matushka Myra Kovalak, Lillian Mathews, Nadia Macheska, Dr. David Lezinsky, Tom Krenitsky, Lillian Kite, Matushka Mary Lynn Henry, Rose Krenitsky & Sandy Pregmon.

**Memory Eternal:** Alan Skoritowski, Jessica Pritchkyk & Mary Slenska.

#### Offerings:

**Vigil Lights: In Memory of:** Mary Marko by Helen & Tammy Wytovich; Mary Adamcik by Helen & Tammy Wytovich; Ellen Pasternak by Marie Pasternak; Mary Slenska by Marie Pasternak, Ann Tyrpak; Alexandra Toczko by Marie Pasternak; Marie Horek by Al Horek;

**Vigil Lights: For the Health of:** James Thomas Coyne by Dr. & Mrs. James Batton.

**Parastas: In Memory of:** Ellen Pasternak & Family by Marie Pasternak (served 2/6/2020).

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**Announcements:**(Please submit any announcements no later than the Thursday before they are to be posted)

**Welcome Visitors:** We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

**Fast Free Week:** February 9<sup>th</sup> thru February 15.

**Orthodox Scouting Sunday:** The Church celebrates scouting today. Thank you to all who have served in the Scouts. Please see scouting letter on the bulletin board by His Eminence Archbishop David of Alaska.

**St. Michael's Orthodox Church Food Pantry:** Will be open Saturday, (2/15) from 11 AM – 12 Noon. The following individuals / organizations made donations to the pantry in the last couple of weeks: **Kris Mitchell, Jo Ann Perrige, Russell Rinaldi & Pat Jones.**

**House Blessings:** Fr. Peter plans to visit as many families as possible for a house blessing. It is customary to have a table covered with a white table cloth. An icon, candle and a bowl for the holy water is needed. The holy water that is sanctified by the Holy Spirit from Theophany will be provided by Fr. Peter if you don't have any. It is not necessary to buy a white table cloth if you don't have one. You may

also want to have a list of names (living and departed) to be remembered. Fr. Peter will call parishioners to set up a time. Parishioners are also welcome to call Fr. Peter to set up a time for the House Blessing.

**Parish Annual Meeting:** Will be held today, February 9<sup>th</sup> after Divine Liturgy. We will have a potluck meal followed by the meeting. Thank you to everyone handing in their reports on time. The reports were available last week. It was disseminated by email to those who are on our parish electronic distribution list. Hard copies are available in the Narthex.

Please consider praying to see if you are willing to serve the church by being on the Parish Council. God may be calling you to serve and we pray that you will respond to that calling. Any parishioner willing to serve on the parish council must be in good standing (having received communion and confession within the last year and regularly meets the financial requirements).

**Lenten Mission Services will start at 4 PM:**

March	8	Sunday of Orthodoxy	Holy Resurrection Cathedral	Wilkes-Barre
<b>March</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>St. Gregory Palamas</b>	<b>St. Michaels</b>	<b>Old Forge</b>
March	22	Sunday of the Cross	St. John	Dundaff
March	29	St. John Climacus	St. John	Edwardsville
April	5	St. Mary of Egypt	Holy Cross	Williamsport
April	12	Palm Sunday	Holy Resurrection Cathedral	Wilkes-Barre

**Today's Holy Scripture Readings:**

**2 Timothy 3:10-15 (Epistle)**

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

11 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.

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

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

14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

15 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.

**Luke 18:10-14 (Gospel)**

10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

11 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.

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

13 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!’

14 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.”

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

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.