

**Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee**  
**Sunday of the Word of God**  
**January 21, 2024**

8:40 AM Rosary  
 9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for all Parishioners**  
 Catechism Classes

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**Monday, January 22**

9:30 AM **+ Anna, Joseph, Sr. and Christopher Skubiak** – by Annette Dressler

**Tuesday, January 23**

9:30 AM **H/B for Danny** – by Steve Syvanych

**Wednesday, January 24**

5:00 PM Confessions in the Sacristy (or by appointment)  
 5:30 PM Rosary  
 6:00 PM **Moleben in Times of War: For the Suffering Land of Ukraine and her Children**

**Thursday, January 25** NO SERVICES

**Friday, January 26**

9:30 AM **+ Archpriest Canon Taras Durbak** – by Mary Covert

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**Saturday, January 27**

NO SERVICES

**Sunday, January 28** **Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

8:40 AM Rosary  
 9:00 AM **Health/Blessings for all Parishioners**  
 Catechism Classes

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**Spaghetti Dinner at St. Paul Church:**

Join us for a heartwarming evening at Saint Paul Church in Akron, Ohio, on March 9, 2024, from 4:30-7:00 PM! Akron Ohio For Ukraine, is hosting a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for the Hapii family, soon arriving to Akron. Preview fantastic raffle baskets on Saturday Feb. 17, 12-3 PM and after Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost Church on February 18. Tickets are just \$1 each or six for \$5. Winner need not be present. Drawings will be during Spaghetti Dinner. We are grateful for your support!

**DONATIONS January 14th:**

Sunday: \$854.25  
 Cleaning: \$30  
 Theophany: \$10  
 Ukie Display: \$55.75  
 Yearly Dues: \$180  
 Priests in Ukraine: \$20  
**Total: \$1.231**

*«...Бог гордим противиться, а покірливим дає благодать» (1 Пм 5, 5)*

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

Last week **Tetiana Palyvoda (1/17), Katherine Ross (1/19) and Sophia Shevchuk (1/20)** celebrated their birthday. **Nicholas & Lauren Griffiths (1/14)** celebrated their wedding anniversary. We wish you a wonderful celebration, and a year of health and blessings flavored with pure joy, and **many blessed years... mnohaya i blahaya lita!**

**Job opportunity:**

Quadriplegic man needing home healthcare, \$45,000 per year tax-free, work, one week, second week off, must live in his home in Tallmadge, interview required: contact Steve Syvanych for more information 330-860-0949

**PLANNING AHEAD:**

February 10<sup>th</sup> – Retreat for Married Couples (in Ukrainian) 5pm  
 February 12<sup>th</sup> – Great Lent begins  
 February 17<sup>th</sup> – pyrohy project  
 February 21<sup>st</sup> – Fr Joseph Tuscan is coming to hear confessions & offer a reflection **5pm**  
 March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Ladies Day out @ 11am  
 March 9<sup>th</sup> – Pyrohy Project  
 March 16<sup>th</sup> – Choir workshop

**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY:**

World Marriage Day takes place on February 11, 2024. World Marriage Day is an observance sponsored by the Catholic Marriage Encounter movement observed on the second Sunday of February each year. Its purpose is declared to be “World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life.” Bishop Bohdan Danylo in conjunction with the Department of Family Life of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat would like to recognize and honor the couples of our parish who are celebrating the 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th anniversaries of their marriage during this year of 2024. Please inform the parish office of the date of your anniversary and how many years you are celebrating no later than January 26th, 2024 so that we can report the information to the Chancery Office.

**COMMEMORATION OF THE DECEASED: SOROKOUSTY:**

On Saturdays during the Great Fast (Lent), we pray for all those who have fallen asleep in the Lord. If you would like to request that your departed loved ones be remembered by name during the services, there is a special envelope in your donation envelope box. If you had already given the names last year, there is no need to write all the names on the envelope since we have the lists from last year. If all the names are the same, please print “SAME AS LAST YEAR” and add any additional names you wish. Please print your name at the bottom of the envelope. Please drop the envelopes in the collection basket.

## **1. Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee**

The Church designated the first Sunday of preparation for acceptance of the Message of the Resurrection of Christ, with the Parable of the Tax Collector and Pharisee being read. The root of evil, arrogance, should be uprooted and replaced with the virtue of humbleness, which is the teaching of this Parable. The highest degree of man's arrogance is when a person speaks to God in prayers as did the Pharisee, who said, "God I thank thee", only for the opportunity to enumerate his achievements publicly, comparing himself to others who, according to him, were sinners, saying "I am not like other men, sinners, or even like this tax collector". He extolled himself saying, "I fast, I give tithe", which he did. But the more he boasted, the more he condemned himself through arrogance.

On the other hand, the tax collector confessed: "God be merciful to me a sinner". The repentance of the tax collector is the basis of Christian life; it is the passage into the Kingdom; it is the reestablishment of the image of God in the soul of His creature. Humbleness is the queen of all virtues. Thus, the first phrase of the hymnology of the day is: "Let us not pray Pharisee -like. . . . Open to me the doors of repentance". The combination of almsgiving, prayer and piety, along with the intention of repentance like that of the tax collector, is imperative in the life of a Christian. The attitude of the tax collector made him a steward of divine gifts. Repentance and confession of faith is the same two-sided coin.

## **ПРИТЧА ПРО МИТАРЯ І ФАРИСЕЯ ДУХОВНЕ ЗНАЧЕННЯ**

Ця притча свідчить, що Господь Бог не дивиться на особу чи її стан, але дивиться на її серце й душу. Тут розуміємо правдивість слів Святого Письма, в якому сказано: «... Бог гордим противиться, а покірливим дає благодать» (1 Пт 5, 5).

Тож зрозуміло, що Бог не прийняв молитви гордого фарисея, зате вислухав молитву покірного митаря. Гордість належить до головних гріхів і є найбільшою перепоною до навернення і покаяння, а покора – це початок справжнього навернення і основа правдивого покаяння й посту.

Отже, свята Церква бажає, щоб і ми, наближаючись до Великого посту, готувалися до нього великою покорою та свідомістю нашої гріховності, бо тільки тоді буде в нас добра воля до скрухи серця, посту й покаяння. Без покори нема навернення, нема жалю за гріхи й нема повернення до Бога.

«Тікаймо від фарисеєвої хвальби, – сказано в кондаці, – і навчимося митареві величі слів смиренних, і кличмо у покаянні: Спасителю світу, очисти рабів Твоїх.