

## *Liturgical Book of the Triodion is Opened*

*About this Sunday...*

Today is called the "*Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee.*" On the eve of this day, on Saturday at Vespers, the liturgical book of the Lenten season-- the *Triodion*-- makes its first appearance and texts from it are added to the usual hymns and prayers of the weekly resurrection service. The develop the next major aspect of repentance: *humility*.

The Gospel lesson (Luke. 18:10-4) pictures a man who is always pleased with himself and who thinks that he complies with all the requirements of religion. He is self-assured and proud of himself. In reality, however, he has falsified the meaning of religion. He has reduced it to external observations and he measures his piety by the amount of money he contributes to the temple. As for the Publican, he humbles himself and his humility justifies him before God. If there is a moral quality almost completely disregarded and even denied today, it is indeed humility. The culture in which we live constantly instills in us the sense of pride, of self-glorification, and of self-righteousness. It is built on the assumption that man can achieve anything by himself and it even pictures God as the one who all the time "gives credit" for man's achievements and good deeds. Humility-- be it individual or corporate, ethnic or national-- is viewed as a sign of weakness, as something unbecoming a real man. Even our churches-- are they not imbued with that same spirit as the Pharisee? Do we not want our every contribution, every "good deed," all that we do "for the Church" to be acknowledged, praised, publicized?

### **To Our Visitors:**

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Just a reminder, however: the Sacrament of Holy Communion is a manifestation of the *unity of the Body of Christ*. As such, only those who are members in spiritual good standing of the Orthodox Church – and who have prepared themselves for the Sacrament – may partake of the Holy Chalice. However, *everyone* is welcome to come up with our people at the end of the service to receive blessed bread. *Please be sure to join us at Coffee Hour following Services.*

## Ss Constantine & Helen

Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Pacific



February 21, 2016

Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee

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February 21, 2016

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Commemoration of: Timothy the Righteous; John III, Patriarch of Constantinople; Eustathios, Patriarch of Constantinople

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Apolytikia - Entrance Hymns

*Ton sinanarhon Logon* (Resurrection Hymn) Tone 5

*Tu Stavru Su* (Hymn of the Church) Tone 8  
*Having seen in the sky the form of Your Cross and, like Paul, having received his calling not from men, Your apostle among Kings, Lord, placed his reigning city in Your hand, which forever you guard in peace, by the intercessions of the Theotokos, for You alone love mankind.*

Kontakion Tone 4

*Farisaiu figomen*  
*Let us flee the Pharisee's \* exalted parlance; \* let us learn the Publican's \* humble demeanor, and with sighs \* unto the Savior cry out and say, \* To us be gracious, O only forgiving Lord.*

Epistle Reading 2 Timothy 3:10-15

TIMOTHY, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into 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 like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up 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, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

### Activities & Announcements

Today

SUN 2/21– Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee; Triodion begins today; \*\*\*No fasting restrictions this coming week, including Wednesday and Friday.\*\*\* Peter

(Παναγιωτης) and Fannie (Θεοφανεια) Proskefalas Annual Memorial; Memorial for Hatzopoulou and Christ Family; Adult Religious Education: A Series on Keeping the Faith- "Is Jesus both God and man? Were two natures of Christ blended? The Third and Fourth Ecumenical Councils" with Dr. Robert Arakaki 12 to 12:40 p.m. in the Bookstore

This Week

TUE 2/23– Moms and the Orthodox Family 10 to 12 p.m.; Parish Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

SUN 2/28– Sunday of the Prodigal Son; Fr. Alexander departs for Metropolis Clergy-Laity Assembly and Clergy Retreat at St. Nicholas Ranch in California; Adult Religious Education: A Series on Keeping the Faith- "Did Jesus have one or two wills? The Fifth and Sixth Ecumenical Councils" with Dr. Robert Arakaki 12 to 12:40 p.m. in the Bookstore

Announcements

- ✘ **Congratulations to our Nisiotes Dancers and Wahine Aloha Youth Choir**– We are happy to announce the results from our participation at the Folk Dance Festival held in Anaheim, California, February 12th thru February 14th. Our Nisiotes Dancers received the "Founders Award." Our Wahine Aloha Youth Choir was awarded "2nd Place." Mr. Stelio Scordilis was given the "Director's Award" for Division 1 Choral Competitions. Congratulations to all our participants!
- ✘ **Food and Pastries for Sale**– Philoptochos has items available for purchase. Please see details posted on the kitchen door as you reach the top of the social hall stairs.
- ✘ **Moms and the Orthodox Family**- Moms and Grandmothers are welcome to join us for fellowship every Tuesday, 10 a.m. to Noon, unless services are scheduled. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to discuss matters of faith along with challenges and dynamics faced in parenting.

### Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

*"He who busies himself with the sins of others, or judges his brother on suspicion, has not yet even begun to repent or to examine himself so as to discover his own sins..."*

~St. Maximos the Confessor (Third Century on Love no. 55)

*"We advance toward humility by means of trials. He who rests on his virtue without suffering tribulation has the door of pride open before him."*

~St. Isaac of Syria

*"The man who cries out against evil men, who does not pray for them, will never know the grace of God."*

~St. Silouan the Athonite