

The Word of Sts. Peter & Paul



February 5, 2023

Saints Peter & Paul UOC
 8410 West 131st St.
 Palos Park, IL 60464
 V. Rev. Vasyl Sendeha — Rector
www.sspeterandpauluoc.net
Rev.vasyl@yahoo.com
 708-361-5165

Publican and the Pharisee

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Once again we are reminded in today's gospel about importance of true repentance.

Repentance is not a dark and gloomy pursuit – the process is joyous, exciting and awe-inspiring as we heal, transform and elevate our minds and souls.

The idea of repenting is frightening to many – we

know that things aren't right within ourselves and we are slow to fully admit because we fear that God won't accept us because of these ailments. We call this spiritual despair Shame.

The Pharisee in today's Gospel narrative had wounds that were left dirty and untreated for so long that they became infected. The infection was manifested in his arrogance, conceit and judgement of others. The Pharisee used his position of power to hide the wounds and refuse treatment.

In addition to being an affliction that needs to be remedied, wounds are also a place where

light shines through – providing clarity and a greater understanding. Wounds on our spiritual bodies are the cracks in the wall of Ego. Were it not for these wounds, the Light of God wouldn't be able to shine through.

Many of us, myself included, have a great interest and enthusiasm for sports. We are bombarded by stories in the media about athletes suffering debilitating injuries, often times in the prime of their careers. Judging by their reactions in various interviews and soundbites, it is the first brush with mortality for many of them. Athletes are conditioned from an early age to play their game with maximum intensity and recklessly abandon for their physical condition. Athletes are more focused on the minute to minute battles of the sport than their own health – and so imagine the shock when their machine breaks down for the first time. The ego is hurt more than any structural injury, and the once invincible is rendered powerless. But, remember: these wounds let the light shine in and illustrate why we are not so great as the Pharisee thinks he is. Athletes who rehabilitate themselves come back from injuries more focused on maintaining their wellness and have a better understanding of their limitations.

So we need to take stock of our wounds in order to address them. The first awareness of a malady is the recognition of a negative behavior and the uneasiness that we feel while reflecting upon it. The source of this unease is the acknowledgement of a gap between who we are currently and who we would like to be. This is a frightful realization – it means that we haven't succeeded on our own and need help. When the feeling of uneasiness grows alongside the desire for change something wonderful happens – we discover Compassion. Those who show compassion to themselves only then are ready to open themselves to receive the compassion of the Almighty.

When our wounds are completely cleaned and ready to be treated, we can finally approach the Physician of Souls and hear him say "I accept you – don't be afraid. I am here for you and I will take care of you." A great burden is lifted from our shoulders and the healing process begins.

If we need any more reminders that God's attitude of Radical Acceptance towards humanity, then take a moment to look around the church and reflect on the image of Christ on the Life-Giving Cross. As we begin to prepare ourselves for Great and Holy Lent, remember that Christ's death the ultimate sign that God is saying to each of us: "I accept you – don't be afraid. I am here for you and I will take care of you." What kind of all-loving God would He be if he didn't accept us as we are?



Liturgical Schedule



<p>Sunday February 5 9:30am</p>	<p>Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. Tone 1 Hieromartyr Clement, bishop of Ancyra, and Martyr Agathangelus (296). Ven. Mausimas the Syrian (4th c.). Ven. Salamanes the Silent (ca. 400). St. Paulinus the Merciful, bishop of Nola (431). Commemoration of the Sixth Ecumenical Council (680-681). Matins (1): Mt. 28:16-20; Epistle 2 Tim. 3:10-15; Gospel Lk. 18:10-14;</p>
<p>Wednesday February 8 6:00pm</p>	<p>Akathist to the Mother of God Special intentions for healing of the sick with cancer. Special prayers for Ukraine in front of copy of miraculous Icon of Queen of All.</p>
<p>Saturday February 11</p>	<p>No Vespers</p>
<p>Sunday February 12 9:30am</p>	<p>Sunday of Prodigal Son. Tone 2 Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory the Theologian, and St. John Chrysostom. Hieromartyr Hippolytus, pope of Rome, and with him Martyrs Censorinus, Sabinus, and others (269). St. Zeno, hermit and disciple of St. Basil the Great (414). Martyr Theophilus the New (784). St. Peter, king of Bulgaria (967). St. Zeno the Faster of the Kyiv Caves (14th c.). 1 Cor. 6:12-20; Lk. 15:11-32; To Sts.: Heb. 13:7-16; Mt. 5:14-19</p>



Sunday School Recap for Jan. 29th

We are continuing our classes on the Sacraments:

BAPTISM:

The Sacrament of Baptism incorporates us into the Church, the Body of Christ, and is our introduction to the life of the Holy Trinity. Water is a natural symbol of cleansing and newness of life. The three-fold immersion in the waters of Baptism in the Name of the Holy Trinity, one dies to the old ways of sin and is born to a new life in Christ. Orthodoxy encourages the baptism of infants and the sacrament bears witness to the action of God who chooses a child to be an important member of His people. Through their family and the Church, children are expected to mature in the life of the Spirit.

The godparents or sponsors speak on behalf of the child and "receives" the child out of the baptismal water into the Church and cares for their spiritual life. The godparents must be members of the Church. (The baptism of adults is practiced when there was no previous baptism in the Name of the Holy Trinity).

CHRISMATION:

The Sacrament of Chrismation immediately follows Baptism and is never delayed until a later age. Chrismation, which is sometimes called one's personal Pentecost, is the Sacrament that imparts the Holy Spirit in a special way. The priest anoints various parts of the body of the newly-baptized with Holy Oil saying: "**The seal of the Gifts**

of the Holy Spirit". The Holy Oil, which is blessed by the bishop, is a sign of consecration and strength. The Sacrament emphasizes the truths that each person is a valuable member of the Church and each one is blessed by the Spirit with certain gifts and talents. The **Sacraments of Initiation** are always concluded with the distribution

of Holy Communion to the newly-baptized. This practice reveals that Orthodoxy views children, from their infancy, as important members of the Church.

In Christ,

Ms. Karen and Ms. Debbie

Parish Council

Parish Council meets once a month on the second Sunday of the month. Next meeting is **February 19, 2023** after the Divine Liturgy. Guests are welcome.

Annual Meeting of the Parish will take place on Sunday **March 12, 2023**. Please mark your calendars!

Soup-er Bowl



It's the time of the year again for

Soup-er Bowl Sunday February 12, 2023!

We are going to have our Annual Soup-er Bowl Sunday to raise funds for St. Andrew's Society Soup Kitchens for elderly in Ukraine
Eat in or take out!

We are looking for volunteers to shine with their cooking talents and create their masterpieces – soups. Bring them to Church to share with the parish family.

Never cooked before? No problem!

Try it and bring it over or you can bring supplies:

Bread, Oyster crackers, Bowls, Cups, Paper napkins
or donate towards the project

In the past 11 years our humble parish has raised over or close to \$2000.00 each time!!!

*If you would like to participate
please see Stephania Turiy or PM Olenka*



Sisterhood of St. Anne

God bless our volunteers!

Sisterhood is taking a break for January month.

Next sale is planned for March 2, 2023

The Work is scheduled for

Monday February 13 from 8:30am—Noon

Tuesday February 14 from 8:30am—Noon

Monday February 20 from 8:30am—Noon

Tuesday February 21 from 8:30am—Noon

Monday February 27 from 8:30am—Noon

Tuesday February 28 from 8:30am—Noon

Thursday March 2—Sale from 11:00am—3:00pm



Seven Day Vigil Candles

For the health and God's blessings of family members by Alvine & Mike Gbur

For the health of Patti Faye by John Batura
of my Goddaughter Tetiana on her birthday by Halyna Kashpar

For the health of my uncle Gregoriy on his birthday by Halyna Kashpar

For the health of my son Mikola and my granddaughter Stephania by Halyna Kashpar

For the health of Richard Kimak by Fr. Vasyl & PM Olenka

For the health of Anatoli & Pam Omelian by Sendeha Family

For the health of Father Taras Naumenko by Fr. Vasyl

For the health of Fr. Vasyl by Parish



In memory of sisters Joanne Yatczyshyn – Kelly, Betty Grega by John Yatczyshyn

In memory of my parents Pavlo & Polina. Heavenly Kingdom! Memory Eternal! Halyna Kashpar

May the memory of wife, Mother & Daughter in law Tina Marie Saunders be Eternal. May She rest in Peace. The Saunders & Nevels Family

In memory of Stefurak, Yaniv, Zerebny, Jurchik, Bahriy, Matviev, Marteklas families by Maria Zerebny



2022 Donation Statements

2022 Donation Statements are available.

To save on paper and postage statements are available electronically.

To receive yours Email John Grzymiski at JNGRZYMSKI@hotmail.com

For paper statements, please ask John Grzymiski in person.

Prayer Corner for the Month of February

We ask all of you to remember in your prayers the following individuals, who are in need of God's healing and grace: Andy, Irene, Bohdan, Ralph Palm, Patricia & Bob Lewandowski, Nikolai, Karoline, David, Irine, Zoriana, Lev, Louise Podlecki, Kevin & Polina, Borislav, Irene Belkow, Alla Grzymiski, Kathy Grzymiski, Pani Mary Donahue, Nicole, Elena, John & Patti, Michael, Barbara Patronik, Katie Bruce, Michael Kimak, Chloe McKinney, Yuriy Zmysly, Dorothy Seliga, Halyna & Wolodymer Kashpar, Mykola, Priest Vasyl Dovhan, Priest Taras, Priest Petro, PM Maria, Frankie, Orest, Alexander, Anatoli & Pamela, Paul & Melissa, Olga, Janet and Natalia.



Pray for soldiers in Ukraine: Marian, Slavko, Mikola, Victor, Taras, Yuriy, Stepan, Volodimer, Mykola, Svitlana, medic Stella, Oleg, Yuriy, Dmitro, Bohdan, Roman, Mykola, Kostia, Vitaliy, Volodimer.

Pray for Our expecting mothers: Kristina, Lilia

If there is anyone who is in need of prayers, and you want to add them to the prayer corner, please notify Fr. Vasyl Vasyl

If you would like me to visit with the Sacraments of the Holy Confession and Eucharist, please call the rectory to set up an appointment. I will gladly visit everyone.

Fr. Vasyl

Panahyda February 12



February 12

In memory of my Father Pavlo on the first anniversary of his passing into eternal life. In memory of Polina, Fedir, Oksana, Tekla, Korniy, Mikola, Vasyl, Katerina, Vira and Nina Requested by Halyna Kashpar.

February 19

In memory of Mother Mary Yarka on the 40th day of her stepping into eternal life. Requested by Mary Lamantia

Coffee Hour Schedule



We are back to sponsored coffee hours

You can sponsor coffee hour monetarily by donating \$50.00 to cover the cost of one coffee hour.

If you would like to volunteer, please let Mary Wisniowski or Fr. Vasyl know.

January 29 - Jr. UOL Pancake Flip

February 5 - *Supilowski Family*

February 12 — Soup-er Bowl Sunday

February 19 - *Mary Lamantia*

Mark your calendars



Sunday February 12, 2023 at Noon

Following Divine Liturgy

Our 13^h Annual Super bowl Sunday aka Soup-er Bowl Sunday

Please come and share a bowl of soup for a good cause.

All proceeds will be donated to Soup Kitchen in Ukraine.

All you can eat — \$15.00 or more. Kids eat free.

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine



Saturday February 25, 2023 at 1:00pm

joined prayer for peace in Ukraine.

Remembering innocent victims of war in Ukraine.

May God hear our loving petition and soften the heart and minds of many of those who have the ability to stop this war.

Bible Study



Next Bible Study group meeting is
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Via zoom. We are going to work on Psalms.

Resources; Orthodox Study bible. Reflection on Psalms by C.

S Lewis. *If you are interested in joining the study, please see Fr. Vasyl*