

January 24, 2010

Fr. Caleb Abetti
Priest (802-485-9615)

Susanna Toolan
President

✠ ✠ ✠ Service Schedule ✠ ✠ ✠

Sunday, January 24th. **33rd Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 8. Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee.**

[Beginning of the Lenten Triodion]. Ven Xenia of Rome and her two female slaves (5th c.). St Gerasim, Bishop of Perm (1441). Martyr John of Kazan' (1529). Martyrs Babylas (Vavila) of Sicily, and his two disciples: Timothy and Agapius (3rd c.). St Macedonius, Hermit, of Syria (ca. 420). Translation of the relics of St Athanasius the Persian (7th c.). Ven Dionysius of Olympus (16th c.). Ven Philotheus, founder of Philotheou Monastery (Mt. Athos – 10th c.). Bl Xenia of St. Petersburg (19th c.).

3rd and 6th Hours: 9:10 am.

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

Epistle: 2 Tim. 3:10-15; Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14.

Wednesday, January 27th.

Daily Vespers: 6:00 pm. Meal and study group to follow: Archimandrite Webber's *Bread and Water, Wine and Oil: An Orthodox Christian Experience of God.*

Saturday, January 30rd.

Great Vespers of the Resurrection: 5:00 pm.

Sunday, January 31st. **34th Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 1. Sunday of the Prodigal Son. New Martyrs and**

Confessors of Russia. Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John, and with them Martyrs Athanasia and her daughters: Theoctiste, Theodotia, and Eudoxia at Canopus in Egypt (311). Ven Nikita of the Kiev Caves, Bishop of Novgorod (1108). Martyrs Victorinus, Victor, Nicephorus, Cladius, Diodorus, Serapion, and Papias, of Egypt (251). Martyr Tryphaenes of Cyzicus. St Arsenios Of Pharos (1877).

3rd and 6th Hours: 9:10 am.

Divine Liturgy: 9:30 am.

Epistle: 1 Cor. 6:12-20; Gospel: Luke 15:11-32.

✠ ✠ ✠

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Commemorated on January 24

(from oca.org)

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.

✠ ✠ ✠

Kontakion – Tone 4

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee!
And learn humility from the Publican's tears!

Let us cry to our Savior,
have mercy on us,
only merciful One!

✠ ✠ ✠

"Today is the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee. We have heard the Pharisee praying with self-esteem and pride, and the Publican praying with repentance and self-accusation, beating his breast and saying, '*God be merciful to me a sinner*' (Luke 18:13). Self-accusation, an expression of deepest repentance, is the easiest and surest way for man to ascend towards God, and for his prayer to rise as incense before Him. Self-accusation is a sign of an Orthodox disposition."

- Hierotheos, *Hesychia and Theology: The Context for Man's Healing in the Orthodox Church*

Upcoming Services and Events

Vespers Service at Middlebury College

A Vespers service will be held in the Old Chapel at Middlebury College on Thursday, January 28th, 2010 at 5:15 pm. Dinner and a talk by Father Caleb will follow.
If you would like to carpool, we will be leaving from Montpelier at 3:45 pm.
See Father Caleb for details.



Lenten Retreat

This year's Lenten Retreat will be held at Saint Jacob of Alaska Orthodox Church on Saturday, March 6, 2010. The retreat is entitled:
**The Whole Earth Is Sanctified:
Reclaiming the Christian Vision of Creation**

Dr. Elizabeth Theokritoff will be presenting two talks:
Saved through a tree: Insights from Orthodox worship and theology, and
Concelebrating the cosmic liturgy: Exploring the witness of holy lives.

The retreat begins at 11:30 am. Lunch will be served at 1:00 pm.
There will be a Vespers service at 5:00 pm followed by dinner at 6:30.



Upcoming Services and Events

Vespers Service at Middlebury College

A Vespers service will be held in the Old Chapel at Middlebury College on Thursday, January 28th, 2010 at 5:15 pm. Dinner and a talk by Father Caleb will follow.
If you would like to carpool, we will be leaving from Montpelier at 3:45 pm.
See Father Caleb for details.



Lenten Retreat

This year's Lenten Retreat will be held at Saint Jacob of Alaska Orthodox Church on Saturday, March 6, 2010. The retreat is entitled:
**The Whole Earth Is Sanctified:
Reclaiming the Christian Vision of Creation**

Dr. Elizabeth Theokritoff will be presenting two talks:
Saved through a tree: Insights from Orthodox worship and theology, and
Concelebrating the cosmic liturgy: Exploring the witness of holy lives.

The retreat begins at 11:30 am. Lunch will be served at 1:00 pm.
There will be a Vespers service at 5:00 pm followed by dinner at 6:30.



