



January 24, 2021

**SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE**

**Parish Schedule**

**Jan. 23 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**  
*+Mary Brentzel req by Ann Prodan*

**Jan. 24 (Sun) SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**  
*+Ruth Seech req by Paul & Sherry Bergamasco*

**Jan. 30 (Sat) FEAST OF THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS  
Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**  
*+John Fekete req by Chris & Jamie Fekete*

**Jan. 31 (Sun) SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**  
*+Ruth Seech req by Richard & Robin Henry*

Our Tithe to our Parish - January 17, 2021 - \$5,144.00

To all those who have been so faithful in your donations, especially during these trying times, we offer a huge Thank You! Our parishioners have been very conscious in the support of our church that allows us to continue to meet our expenses and even the extra items that come up.

**NO FASTING THIS WEEK**



During the week of the Publican and Pharisee, there is no fasting ... even on Wednesdays and Fridays. The spiritual writers of the Church tell us that we do not fast this week ... lest we become puffed up with the unholy pride of the Pharisee who boasted about his fasting.

*Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.*



Tillie Abraham, Diana Abraham, Ron Bishop, George Bodnar ,  
Jude Bodnar, Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick,  
Kevin Ianni, Ted Race, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi, Rose Marie Rupnik,  
Joseph Rusinko Sr.



The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of Our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of January 24 thru January 30 for the health and well being of Eugene Heinack req by brother Norman.



**CALENDARS AND ENVELOPES**

The 2021 Church calendars and offering envelopes are now available in the entrance of the Educational Wing. They may be picked up after the Liturgy or on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm when our secretary Eileen Heinack is in the office.

**2020 Offertory Statements.** If you wish to receive a 2020 offertory statement, please call the office on Tuesday mornings, or send a note. The information will be mailed to you.

## A HUGE THANK-YOU



Recently the Board of Directors of the GCU, the Fraternal Insurance Organization, voted to give each of the Byzantine Catholic parishes in the U.S. \$1,000.00 to help with the expenses during the COVID-19 crisis. We have received the check for our parish, and it is included in last week's collection total.

We are deeply grateful to Mr George Juba, President and CEO of the GCU and to the Board of Directors for their kind consideration and generosity with this gesture. The GCU has always been a great support to our Church, to the Seminary and to the religious communities. This is a sign of fraternalism at its best.

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## HRAMOTY REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEPARTED

Each year we remember the departed members of our families, loved ones and parish in a series of commemorations in and around the Great Fast season. These are called the Saturdays of the Departed.



As we have done in the past, we shall continue to remember our departed loved ones this year on the particular Friday evenings, following the Presanctified Liturgy.

In your box of church envelopes, there is one marked for the "Hramoty," the Remembrance of the Departed. If you have listed names in the past, we have those on record.

If you wish to add to or change your list, you may do so at this time.

These Liturgies of the Presanctified will be live-streamed each week as will the Remembrance of the Departed.

## SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & PHARISEE

Jesus is the *light that came into the world ... the light that shines on in darkness ... a darkness that did not overcome it.*

All of us who are his followers are called to live in that light ... the light that is magnificently seen in the brightness of the radiant celebration of the Resurrection!

Who can ever forget the brightness and joy of the Paschal celebration of the Byzantine Tradition! It is the center of our life and the high point of our liturgical year.

But ... to arrive at that light ... we must make a journey ... from the darkness that often surrounds us ... into the marvelous light of the Resurrection.

To use a weak human analogy ... we are called to discard the darkness that covers us (because darkness only absorbs light ... it does not reflect it) ... and become as radiant as crystal that gives us the full spectrum of light.



The pre-Lenten season as well as the Great Fast itself is given to us as a time of purification ... a cleansing of all that keeps us from shining brightly with the light of Christ.

The Gospels of these pre-Lenten Sundays offer us images of different types of sinners (darkness). Zacchaeus ... who does not know if he has sinned; the Publican ... who definitely knows that he has sinned; the Pharisee ... who sees himself as sinless; and the Prodigal Son ... who goes to the extreme in sin.

They give us different models of coming to know their inner darkness (except the Pharisee!) ... and they show us the different paths we take to return to the light.