

38th Sunday After Pentecost

February 26th - March 3rd, 2024

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Fast Free Week

February 26, 2024 Monday

4:30pm. Family Dinner

6pm. Vespers

February 27, 2024 Tuesday

9am. Divine Liturgy

February 28, 2024 Wednesday

1PM to 4 PM and 5 PM until 8 PM. Pierogi Making Party

6pm. TownHall Meeting

8pm. OCF @ SU

February 29, 2024 Thursday

1PM to 4 PM and 5 PM until 8 PM. Pierogi Making Party

9pm. Food Recovery

9pm. Panera Pick Up

March 1, 2024 Friday

1PM to 4 PM and 5 PM until 8 PM. Pierogi Making Party

9:30am. Schools Pick Up Dinners

10am. Outreach Street Food Ministry

March 2, 2024 Saturday

3:30pm. Foundations

4:30pm. Panikhida for Robert B.

5pm. Great Vespers

5:45pm. Choir Rehearsal

March 3, 2024 Sunday Prodigal Son

8:15am. Ridesharing

8:45am. Holy Confessions

9am. Choir Rehearsal

9:10am. 3rd & 6th Hour

9:30am. Divine Liturgy

11:15am. Agape Meal

11:30am. Church School

4pm. Jamesville Family Dinner



The Weekly

On the Publican and the Pharisee



Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

401 Hamilton Street
Syracuse, NY 13204

Fr. Ambrose Inlow's Cell: (315) 418-5738
Rectory: (315) 468-0442
sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com

Announcements



Welcome all visitors!

Please join us after the service for Coffee Hour. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Ambrose and others as we would love to meet you! We are delighted to have you here with us.

Please fill out your information at <https://www.sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com/new> as we would love to keep you connected with our events.

If you are not Orthodox Christian, please do not approach the chalice during the distribution of Holy Communion. Please, however, come up and kiss the cross at the end of the service and introduce yourself to Fr. Ambrose.

An agape meal rotation schedule is being put together. If you would like to join the rotation please see Jessica Gressel. Any help with the Coffee Hour / Agape Meals is welcomed!

At Coffee Hour please donate what you can in the donations box. \$2 per meal is suggested. We are in need of plates, cups, coffee, utensils, etc... Please donate!

To make a confession simply come early to any Divine Liturgy, stay after at any vespers service, or make an appointment.

Communion is for Orthodox Christians who have prepared by prayer, fasting from midnight on, reconciliation, and a recent confession. For the reception of communion it's also good to arrive on time to Divine Liturgy and not later than the reading of the Holy Gospel.

If you or someone is admitted into the hospital or needs emergency pastoral assistance, then please call Fr. Ambrose at 315-418-5738. Make sure to put Fr. Ambrose as one of your hospital contacts to ensure that he is easily able to come and visit.

Annual Meeting is Scheduled for Sunday, March 10th after Divine Liturgy.

Important Upcoming Services and Events



Pierogi Making Party

Pierogi production will begin again this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1PM to 4 PM and 5 PM until 8 PM.



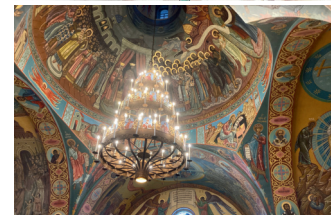
Family Dinner

On Monday, February 26th, we will have our next Community Family Dinner. Please see Greg for info. Come and help!



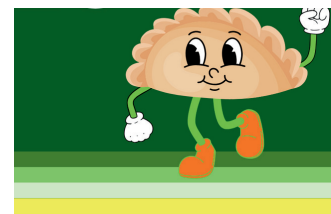
TownHall Meeting

On February 28th at 6pm we will have our next TownHall Meeting. We will discuss the potential Hall, Security Plan, Beautification projects, ByLaws, and Pierogi Sale, plus more...



Parish Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 10th after Divine Liturgy. Come and hear the latest regarding upcoming projects.



St. Patrick's Day Pierogi Sale

Saturday, March 16th from 1pm-4pm. Here at the church. We would love the help!



Forgiveness Vespers

Sunday, March 17th after Divine Liturgy we will celebrate the great service of Forgiveness Vespers.

2024 Stewardship

Ss. Peter and Paul parish is supported entirely through the generosity of its members, friends, and benefactors.

If you are active in your support of Ss. Peter and Paul, thank you! If you are new to Ss. Peter and Paul and/or regularly attend, please consider making a regular offering (weekly or monthly) in support of our parish and its projects.

By contributing to the General Fund in 2024 you are supporting the mission and activities in the parish, which include divine services, outreach, evangelism, church school, parish social activities, community efforts, and many more. There are so many things that are happening at Ss. Peter and Paul and contributing to the General Fund helps to advance this mission.

The best way to give is by check (or cash) placed in an envelope in the offering baskets.. We also have an online giving system (Breeze) as a way to offer your tithes and offerings.

The Impactful Ministries of Ss. Peter and Paul

- Free Family Dinner for the entire community. 4th Monday of every month.
- Food Recovery Ministry: during the school semester a team of us recover up to 500 lbs of cooked food every week.
- Elementary School Outreach - we then take the recovered food and give it to families at local elementary schools.
- Church School Ministry - every Sunday, after Liturgy, during the school year, we have Church School lessons for grades pre-k through 12th.
- Hospitality Team Ministry
- Choral Ministry
- Senior Moment Lunches
- Altar Server Ministry
- Synaxis Meetings during Fasting Periods..
- Foundation Classes
- Ladies Nights
- Men's Fellowship Dinners and Outings
- Family Potluck Events
- Educational Field Trips for Children
- plus much more....

Please support the present and future ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church!

What's My Weekly Tithe?

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$37	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40

On the Publican and the Pharisee

By Ioannis Karavidopoulos, Professor Emeritus of New Testament Hermeneutics, A. U. Th.

Today's Gospel reading presents us with two typical kinds of people: a Pharisee and a Publican, who were praying in the Temple. They were the two opposite poles of society at that time. One was pious and righteous in the eyes of others, an expert on the Law who belonged to the group of the Pharisees, the leading religious class. The other was a representative of the class of sinners, of people whose profession was associated with extortion, violence and siphoning off the property of the people. In the view of the whole of society at that time, a publican was the worst of sinners. What did these two people say in their prayers? Let's look first at the prayer of the Pharisee, in an effort to see whether we would recognize this kind of religiously-active person among us today. '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'. This prayer's a hymn to himself and his virtues. The Pharisee lists his works and feels incomparably superior to other people, whom he regards, in general, as sinners. He thanks God, or rather congratulates himself, because he's over and above everyone else. He doesn't feel that he lacks anything at all. He's self-sufficient and seems not to depend on God in the slightest, since he has so many of his own works to support him and about which he can boast. At the centre of the world he sees not God but himself and his universally acknowledged virtues. All he needs from God is recognition and confirmation of his virtues. How could God have any other opinion about this accomplished, virtuous person? He feels as close to God as if he had entered an agreement with Him to judge and condemn sinners together.

Does God concur with the Pharisee's certainty, though? The answer's given at the end of the parable. But let's look at the prayer of the publican. Devastated by his sins and recognizing that every one of his actions and activities is linked to sin, he seeks God's mercy, while beating his breast. 'God, be merciful to me, sinner that I am'. He doesn't judge anyone, he condemns only himself and recognizes he's completely lost without God's mercy.

He was 'vindicated': that is, at the end of the parable, it was the humble publican not the conceited pharisee who found grace and went home innocent and reconciled with God. 'For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, but those who humble themselves will be exalted'. This end to the narrative must have come as a surprise to many in Christ's audience, because they'd all have believed in the religious pre-eminence of the pharisees over the publicans. But Jesus wanted to overturn the accepted view, which saw only the external aspect of human activities. He wanted to show that the depths of people's hearts, which God alone sees, don't always reflect their life as it apparently is...

By placing this reading at the beginning of the Triodion, the Church wants to shield the faithful against the conceited thinking of the pharisee, which can lurk in the heart of any devout Christian. The Church prefers to highlight the example of the publican who, repenting over his life, prayed with contrition. The following hymn of the Church is a wonderful summary of the message of the parable:

'Let us avoid the proud speech of the Pharisee

And learn the humility of the Publican.

With sighing let us cry to the Saviour:

Have mercy, You Who alone are quick to pardon'

[First kontakion, Mattins for the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee].

TOWNHALL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28TH @ 6PM

DOWN IN THE PARLOR AND ON ZOOM

HEAR THE LATEST PARISH NEWS
VOICE YOUR IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS
HELP US WITH PROJECTS

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION - AS FAR AS WE CAN GET

BEAUTIFYING OUR WORSHIP

NURTURING THE PARISH FAMILY

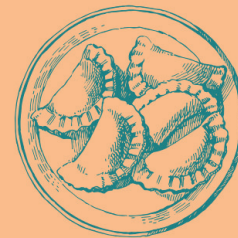
- NEXT PIEROGI SALE
- SAFETY PLAN
- BEAUTIFICATION PLAN
- NEW BYLAWS

NOURISHING THE COMMUNITY FAMILY

IMPROVING EDUCATION

AFFECTING ALL THE ABOVE

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