



St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church
1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246
"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543
The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: byzantinemilwaukee.com
Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

January 29, 2023 — Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican



Icon of the Publican and Pharisee (Luke 18:10-14)

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Divine Liturgy

Intention: A special intention (req. by Daniel Offutt)

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 1):

While the stone was sealed by the Jews and soldiers were watching your sacred body, You rose, O Savior, on the third day, giving life to the world. Wherefore, O Giver of life, the powers of heaven cried out: Glory to your resurrection, O Christ. Glory to your kingdom, glory to your Plan of redemption, O You who alone are the Lover of mankind.

Troparion of St. George: O Great among the saints and glorious martyr, George,

Prokimenon: Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

Stichon: God is renowned in Judah; in Israel, great is his name.

Apostolic Reading: 2 Timothy 3:10-15

My son Timothy, you have followed my teaching, my behavior, my faith, my long-suffering, my love, my patience, my persecutions, my afflictions such as befell me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, such persecutions as I suffered: and out of them all, the Lord delivered me. And all who want to live piously in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But the wicked and impostors

since you are a deliverer of captives, a doctor for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, intercede for us to Christ God, that he may save our souls!

Kontakion of the Presentation: O Christ our God who through your birth have sanctified the virginal womb and have blessed the arms of Simon, You have come today to save us. When wars prevail, keep your people in peace and strengthen our Public Authorities in every good deed, for You alone are the lover of Mankind.

will go from bad to worse, erring and leading into error. As for you, keep on with the things you have learned and which have been entrusted to you, and remember from whom you have learned them. For you have known from infancy the Sacred Scriptures which are able to give you instruction for your salvation by the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us sing joyfully to God our Savior!

Stichon: Let us greet his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

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The Lord told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and began to pray thus within himself: ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men, robbers, dishonest, adulterers, or even like this publican. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all I possess.’ But the publican, standing far off, would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you; this man went back to his home justified rather than the other; for anyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself shall be exalted.

Winter Weather

Please take care with winter weather. Even if services are not canceled, only come if it is safe for you to travel.

Stewardship

Last Sunday: donations=\$30000.00; ordinary collections=\$228.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated January 29, 2023): \$37,136.

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate. Use your bank’s **online billpay** (payee information): St. George’s Syrian Congregation · 1617 W State St · Milwaukee, WI 53233-1246; phone: (414) 342-1543; email: info@byzantinemilwaukee.com.

Tax Statements

Donation letters for tax purposes will be available for pickup after Liturgy today; those not picked up will be sent by mail. Please contact Benjamin Neumann with any questions.

Bishop’s Appeal

The annual Bishop’s Appeal is an important way by which our parish fulfills its duty to our Melkite family throughout the U.S. and to our needy brothers and sisters. By contributing to the Appeal, we can respond to the Lord’s call in today’s Gospel to be a good Samaritan to our Melkite neighbors around the country. It is a holy obligation for every member of our parish respond to his call. If you have not done so already, please send your gift today. Extra appeal slips are available on the back table. If you donate online, be sure to note “St. George, Milwaukee” so that the parish is credited. melkite.org.

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Alice Herro*, Nick Langenfeld, Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Bob Peterson, Joe Radanovich, the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro’s niece), Jan

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Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor) and Carl Wallenmeyer (Jan Taylor).

* Please particularly remember Alice Herro who has been having health issues recently.

Schedule for This Week

Wednesday: *Preparation for the Hypapante*

Thursday: *The Hypapante (Presentation of Jesus in the Temple)*

Sunday: *Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to George Baho (2/3). May God grant you many years!

The Hypapante

Troparion: Hail, O Full of grace, Virgin and Mother of God: from you has arisen the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, enlightening those who stand in darkness. You too, O just Elder Simeon, rejoice, for you carried in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, who grants us Resurrection.

Hirmos: O Mother of God, hope of all Christians, watch over those who have placed their hope in you. Let us, O faithful, glorify the First-born, the Eternal Word of God, born of a Virgin all-pure, for we have seen, beyond the shadow and letter of the Law, a sign of Christ in the words: "Every male opening the womb shall be called holy to the Lord."

COVID-19

According to the Milwaukee Health Department, the best way to stop the community spread of COVID-19 is to take preventative action to protect yourself and others:

- Get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can (city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax). Vaccines are safe and readily available at walk-in clinics throughout the community for anyone over the age of six months old.
- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect yourself and others, and stay at least 6 feet apart from others who don't live with you.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces, and improve ventilation whenever possible.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.

More information is available from the health department: city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus

Humility is the Mark of a Sinner

In the case of that Pharisee who was praying, the things he said were true. Since he was saying them out of pride and the tax collector was telling his sins with humility, the confession of sins of the last was more pleasing to God than the acknowledgment of the almsgiving of the first. It is more difficult to confess one's sins than one's righteousness. God looks on the one who carries a heavy burden. 'The tax collector therefore appeared to Him to have had more to bear than the Pharisee had. He went down more justified than the Pharisee did, only because of the fact he was humble. If this Pharisee had been sinful, his prayer would have added iniquity to iniquity, but the Lord purified the tax collector of his iniquity. If just by praying, the Pharisee's prayer provoked God's wrath, then as a result of that provocation, the prayer of the tax collector proved all the more potent. St. Ephrem the Syrian

The stern Pharisee, who in his self pride not only boasted of himself but also dis-

credited the tax collector in the presence of God, made his justice void by being guilty of pride. Instead of the Pharisee, the tax collector went down justified, because he had given glory to God, the Holy One. He did not dare lift his eyes but sought only to plead for mercy. He accused himself by his posture, by striking his breast, and by entertaining no other motive except propitiation. Be on your guard, therefore, and bear in mind this example of severe loss sustained through arrogance. The one guilty of insolent behavior suffered the loss of his justice and forfeited his reward by his bold self-reliance. He was judged inferior to a humble man and a sinner because in his self-exaltation he did not await the judgment of God but pronounced it himself. Never place yourself above anyone, not even great sinners. Humility often saves a sinner who has committed many terrible transgressions.

St. Basil the Great

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