

THE ST. ELIZABETH NEWS

A loving Community of Orthodox Christians

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Mission Church
 2265 E. Cherokee Drive Woodstock, GA 30188
*A parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
 Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople*
 Ruling Hierarch: His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa



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38th Sunday after Pentecost
Epistle: [2 Timothy 3:10-15](#)
Gospel: [Luke 18:10-14](#)



Christ is Among us!

Christ is among us! He is and always shall be! Welcome to St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church and thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us!! What a joy it is to be together in God's House. If you have never been to an Orthodox Church before, you are about to participate in the Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy is the work of the people and that means that all of your prayers are necessary and you have a job to do this morning! We hope you will stay and join us for coffee hour in the atrium. Please feel free to ask Fr. Matthew any questions you might have! May God's blessing be with all of you!



This Week's Music...

Tropar & Kondak Tone 5 - Page 93

Kondak of the Publican & the Pharisee Tone 3

As the Publican, let us bring cries of sorrow to the Lord,*
 and let us fall before Him as sinners at the Master's feet.*
 For He desires the salvation of all men;* He grants
 forgiveness unto all that repent* and He has for our sake
 taken flesh,* though He is God co-eternal with the Father.



Join us next door for
 Coffee, Food, and
 Fellowship in Christ!

Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee



Tuesday 02/27 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Food Prep at 10 am**

Wednesday 02/28 5:30 pm- Lesser Blessing of Water followed by Catechism Class

Friday 03/01 9am- Divine Liturgy: Followed by Coffee and Conversation on the Church Fathers

Saturday 03/02 4 pm- Great Vespers

Sunday 03/03 10 am- Divine Liturgy: Winter Parish Meeting After Liturgy

Tuesday 03/05 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Food Prep at 10 am**

Wednesday 03/06 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Catechism Class

Saturday 03/09 9am- Divine Liturgy: All Souls
4pm Great Vespers

Sunday 03/10 10 am- Divine Liturgy

Tuesday 03/12 9 am- Divine Liturgy **Followed by Food Prep at 10 am**

Wednesday 03/13 5:30 pm- Moleben followed by Catechism Class

Friday 03/15 9 am- Divine Liturgy: Conversation on the Church Fathers

Saturday 03/16 4 pm- Great Vespers

"I'm really glad that I'm not like that tax collector..."

Let us hasten to follow the Pharisee in his virtues and to emulate the Publican in his humility. Let us hate what is wrong in each of them: foolish pride and the defilement of transgressions.



Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

using the Blue Pew Book

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Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, non-Orthodox visitors and inquirers are invited to come forward at the end of the Liturgy to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread).

Who Will I be this Lent?

When we hear the story of the Publican and the Pharisee It appears to be black and white. There is a hero, and there is a villain, a “good guy” and a “bad guy”. But who are we, “am I, more like the Publican or the Pharisee?” Am I humble before God and man, like the Publican, or am I boastful and proud before my brothers and sisters like the Pharisee? Do I try and hide myself and my nakedness before God, or do I show myself to Him and cry out for His mercy?

When we hear this parable our gut reaction is to say to ourselves that we want to be like the Publican. We hope to be humble before God. We all want mercy. We all want to speak to God in prayer properly, to know Him, to be truly sorry for our sins, to cry out to our Lord for mercy, and to leave the temple justified; just like the Publican did. This is how we see, or at least want to see ourselves; but if we just leave it there and don't dig any deeper, we do ourselves a great injustice and risk never knowing our God who loves us more than we can ever know.

The reality is that we take on the characteristics of both the Publican and the Pharisee. All too often, when we do the right thing, we become so prideful that we forget that the glory is not our own but is due to God alone. This is when we act just like the Pharisee. He thanks God for *making him so special*, and not in humble recognition that all good things come from God.

We also live the sinful life of the Publican, but all too often, unlike the Publican, we forget to fall down before Christ with tears of repentance and seek our Lord's abundant and steadfast mercy and forgiveness. Instead of taking on the negative characteristics of the Pharisee and the Publican, we are called to take on the very best of both men.

So who will I be? Both! We are called to take on the piety and devotion of the Pharisee along with the humility, awareness of our sins, and repentance of the Publican. This is what our Lenten journey, as well as the pilgrimage of our whole life is all about. To become who God created us to be. To be transfigured. To become like Christ. To love God and honor Him with our devotion like the Pharisee, and with a humble and contrite heart like the Publican.

As we prepare for our Lenten journey, the Church reminds us to take on the very best of both the Publican and the Pharisee. This is why we hear this parable each year as the Church leads us into the Lenten season. So that our devotion to God be done in all humility, for Him and through Him. May God be with us and show us his mercy this Lenten Season!






Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee Word Search

J Y R A E L Q V Z Z M P Q B M
 H J F J F K J A P P B E A O S
 U W G X Z Z M K C E S K P A C
 M G W L M J K Y I D D H A B H
 B Z M U F O R G I V E N E S S
 L Z J G W Q M S Y N T W A R L
 E R O T C E L L O C L S I C D
 F C Q T B H E I H J A Y T B Q
 V I A V U V D R I G X B Q L V
 I S V P I O S G H F E M J T X
 K Q L I I H E P O T Z S C T B
 P N O R H E A Y C R E M H W N
 G M T H L M F M S I N N E R R
 V J U C Q I V Y A R P A S V H
 M E H L D E I F I T S U J V U

- Two men entered the Temple, but only one left _____ before God.
- This parable teaches us how to _____ to God.
- The Publican is _____ before God.
- The Publican asks God only for _____.
- The Pharisee never recognizes his own sins. This means that he can't ask God for _____ for his sins.
- A publican is a tax _____.
- The Publican prays: "God be merciful to me a _____."
- "...he who humbles himself will be _____."
- The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee means that Lent begins in _____ weeks.
- The Lenten _____ is a special book used in the Church that contains special hymns for Lent.

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2024

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 25th	 <i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week MARCH 3rd	 The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare MARCH 10th FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 17th FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 24th	 <i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 31st	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent APRIL 7th	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent APRIL 14th	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 21st	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 28th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY MAY 3rd	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! MAY 5th NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

LENTEN SEASON OF GIVING

EASTER MEAL FOOD DRIVE

Helping people of Cherokee



Enjoy God's
Love at
Easter

Please let us know if you would like to donate \$30 to provide a ham and other

staples for families to enjoy an Easter meal. The goal is to provide 30 hams this year.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844A4AC29A4FDO-47044291-donate>



Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

Woodstock, GA

"When the foolish thought of counting up any of your good works enters into your head, immediately correct your fault and rather count up your sins, your continual and innumerable offences against the All-merciful and Righteous Master, and you will find that their number is as the sand of the sea, whilst your virtues in comparison with them are as nothing."

-Saint John of Kronstadt

Now that you see the difference, O my soul, between the Pharisee and the Publican, flee from the vainglory of such a braggart; emulate instead the prayer of repentance, crying aloud: "O God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"

-From Vespers

Become a Member of Saint Elizabeth's!

www.stelizabethga.org

Announcements:

- **New Sunday School Format-** Going forward we will be having a new format for Sunday School Students in our community! **The youngest group is for children 6 and under and will meet in the room formally known as the Library.** This will be the new area for our youngest students to eat and learn about their faith with their families during coffee hour. **The next age group, 1st grade - 5th grade will be meeting in the Sunday School Room. The Middle School and High School Students (6-12) will be meeting temporarily in the room formally known as the kids play room.** A new dedicated space for those students and instructors is currently being prepared. If you would like to help out with Sunday School, please see Rachel Prince!
- **The week after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is a FAST FREE week.**
- **Annual Winter Parish Meeting Next Sunday 03/03/2024:** After a few conflicts were raised, the Parish Council has officially set the Winter Parish Meeting Date for Sunday March 3rd after the Divine Liturgy.WQ
- **Easter Ham Donation:** Please see Janet Jones or click the link if you are interested in helping provide a ham for a family in need at Easter. Donations will be collected in the beginning of March. [Click here to sign up!](#). T
- Do you have questions about something we do or believe in the Orthodox Church? You are probably not the only one wondering! Let Fr. Matthew know and an article will be placed in the bulletin.
- **Important Note:** Please take the time to full out a Stewardship Commitment / Membership Card for the 2024 Calendar Year - Every Orthodox Christian Needs a Parish Home, and Saint Elizabeth's is Yours!



Parish Family Prayer List

For the Health of: The Melnikoff Family, Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Kara, Joanna, James, Athanasia, Ethel, Tyler, Maria, Page Family, Dean, Margaret, Metropolitan Gregory and his family, David, Joseph, Maria Starcova, David & Paulette Novak, Suzette, Bob, David, Marilyn & family, Mark, Fr. Dcn. Stephen, Michelle, James, Rachel, Kate, Fr. Blaschak & Family, Larry, Alexandra, Tammy, Trahan & Skiba Family, The Hood Family, the Mileszko Family, the Blonar Family, Burt, Sandy, Stephanie, Mary, Tommy, Stephen, Emilia, Simon, Alisha, & Aaron Zak, the Puziculiks Family, Fr. Andy, Davina, & Alexandra, Stan, Fr. Dcn. Charlie & Family, Justin, Charlie, Herbert Schleining, Spencer, Julie, Anna, Galina & Family, Irinia & Family, Fr. Jim & Pani Kathy Dutko, Rick, Katlain, Elenor, Teddy, Mark, Robert & Cindy, Melissa, Ben, Anthony, Rachel, Christine, Cora, Rick, Michelle, Tim, Robert, The Kelemecz Family, Leonard, Leo, & the Olaru Family, Joanna Price, Kim, Isaiah, the Wells Family, Dave, Ashley & family, Mary, Tim, Andrew, Robert, Derrick, Michael, Eli, Ean, Ellie, Amber, Christopher, Deborah, Nick & Rosemary, Mike, Elaiane, Roy, Lin, Dave, Sarah, George, & Edward, Stephen, Caleb, Amelia, Simon, David, the Gdovin Family, the Rodgers Family, the Kundrat Family, Yvone, George, Amberly, & baby Stella, Jessie, Dexter, Julia, Dan, Cora, Gabriel, Ethan, Tripp, Rachel, Lilly, Emmie, Charlie, Michelle, Serge, Mark, Johnny, Yvette Christine, Johanna, Nicole, Caroline, Alexander, Kelly, Henery, & Benjamin

For the Departed: Evelyn & Boris Melnikoff+, Patricia+, James+, Stephen+, Anna+, Charles+, Robert+, Loraine+. Helen+, Lewis+, Jean+, Vera+, George+, George+, Ernie+, Eddie+, Maria+, Carl+, Mark+, Barry+, Josph+, Phillip+, Jenny+, Peter+, Bryan+, Rebecca+, Fr. Paul+, Maria+, Fr. Hazuda+, George Smisko+, Helen Spanovich+, Bob+, Alma+, Bo+, Saddy+, Fr. William George+, Violet+, Fr. Kozar+, Benjamin+, John Haddad+, Fred & Helen Mileszko+, Anna+, Natalie+, Lilly+, Christine+, Anna+, Tamara+, Anastasia+, Yvonne+, John+, Betty+, Ada+, Peter+ & Wanda+, George+, Jerry+, Barb+ & Harry+, Beth+, Louise+, Nikolay+, David+, Fr. Michael+, Natalie+, Helen+, Ted+, Tom+, Mike+, Madeline+, Tim+, Fr. John Baranek, Reader Stephen+, Dean+, Fr. Larry+, Kris+, Wathen+, Pani Elenor+, Fr. Michael+, Sally+, David+, Gene+, Kenny+, Ava+, Fr. Tony Josph+ & Pani Patsy+, Anatoly+, Fr. Scott+, Steve+, Claudia+, Dave+, Fr. John Duranko, Michael+, Sarah Elizabeth+ Ester+, Julie+, +Michael, +Joe, Mary+

Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers & Mothers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!

Holy Saint Elizabeth Pray for us!



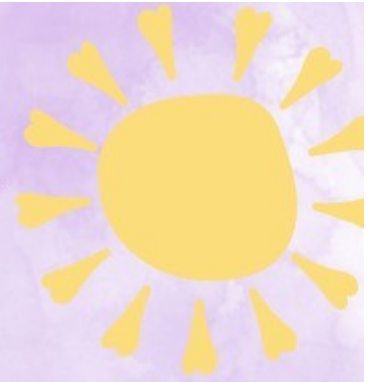
Keep Your Parish Family in Your Prayers!

Eternal Memory!



Christ is Among us!

ACRY SPRING ENCOUNTER



April 5th-7th 2024
Camp Nazareth, Mercer PA
Registration available
on www.ACROD.org



Encounter theme:
Deuteronomy 31:6
“Be strong and of
good courage, do not
fear nor be afraid...
for the Lord your
God...will not leave
you nor forsake you.”

ST. ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH

Stewardship Offering / Membership Form



Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church Become a Steward

I chose you and appointed you that you
should go and bear fruit.

John 15:16

All parishoners and regular
attendeeds are asked to fill out
our new online membership
form here!