

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES

February 22 – February 28

Mon. Feb. 22 – 9:30am: “Akathist to the Mother of God, Nurturer of Children” followed by Knitting Group from 10:00am-Noon

Tue. Feb. 23 – 7:00pm: Daily Vespers

Sat. Feb. 27 – 6:30pm: Great Vespers

Sun. Feb. 28 – 9:00am: Matins

Sun. Feb. 28 – 10:00am: Divine Liturgy

Confessions are heard following Vespers and by appointment

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2016

5:30-6:00pm: Dinner \$3/person or \$12/family

6:00-7:30pm: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (ages 3-9)

6:00-7:30pm: Youth Group (ages 10-19)

6:00-7:00pm: Adult Education

7:00-7:30pm: Daily Vespers

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ **WELCOME** to all who are visiting with us today! We hope you will feel at home here and, if you do not already have a church home, will consider becoming a part of the Saint Herman Church community.
- ❖ **NO FASTING THIS WEEK** - So that we do not fall into the same sin of pride that we see in the Pharisee in today's Gospel reading, the Church forbids fasting this week on Wednesday and Friday.
- ❖ **TEEN EVENT - TODAY– Get Air Trampoline Park**
2:30pm - Meet at St. Herman's and depart for Greek Church
4:00 – Tour of Greek Church in Anchorage with Fr. Vasili.
4:45 – Pizza and soda for dinner
5:30 – Get Air Trampoline Park.
7:30 – Leave for home. Back to St. Herman's by 8:45.
Cost = \$25 per teen and includes dinner.
Please RSVP to Andrea Dittbrender to make sure you have a ride from St. Herman's.
***Parents must sign online waiver before event. Go to <https://anchorage.getairmanagement.com/Waiver.html>
- ❖ **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – FEB. 28 after coffee hour**

SAINT HERMAN

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

PRIMATE and DIOCESAN HIERARCH

His Eminence, the Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Matthew Howell

DEACON

Rev. Dn. Thomas Ross

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*Sunday of the
Pharisee and
Publican*

February 21, 2016

A NOTE REGARDING HOLY COMMUNION

Welcome! In the Orthodox Church, reception of the Holy Eucharist is reserved for baptized, chrismated Orthodox Christians who have *prepared by prayer, fasting and a recent confession*. If you are visiting from a non-Orthodox church or otherwise are not prepared to commune today, you are welcome to receive some of the unconsecrated, blessed bread which the acolytes are holding. We pray for all to be united in the Body and Blood of Christ! If you would like to learn how you can enter into communion with the Orthodox Church, please speak with our clergy.

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

*Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them.
In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

SAINTS & FEASTS OF THE DAY

Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican; Venerable Timothy of Symbola; Eustathios, archbishop of Antioch; Zachariah, patriarch of Jerusalem; George, bishop of Amastris

A GOOD WORD

VITAMINS FOR THE SOUL

- ❖ *The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee* – On this and the following two Sundays, the theme is *repentance*. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of our journey to Pascha. And to repent signifies far more than self-pity or futile regret over things done in the past. The Greek term *metanoia* means ‘change of mind’: to repent is to be renewed, to be transformed in our inward viewpoint, to attain a fresh way of looking at our relationship to God and to others. The fault of the Pharisee is that he has no desire to change his outlook; he is complacent, self-satisfied, and so he allows no place for God to act within him. The Publican, on the other hand, truly longs for a change of mind’: he is self-dissatisfied, ‘poor in spirit’, and where there is this saving self-dissatisfaction there is room for God to act. Unless we learn the secret of the Publican’s inward poverty, we shall not share in the Lenten springtime. The theme of the day can be summed up in a saying of the Desert Fathers: ‘Better a man who has sinned, if he knows that he has sinned and repents, than a man who has not sinned and thinks of himself as righteous.’ – Bishop KALLISTOS, *The Lenten Triodion* p. 44.
- ❖ “Let us not pray, brethren, Pharisee-like; for he who exalteth himself shall be abased. Wherefore, let us humble ourselves before God, crying by means of fasting, with the voice of the publican, saying, God forgive us sinners.”—Stichera, Lord I Cry
- ❖ “Almighty Lord, I have known the effectiveness of tears; for they snatched Hezekiah from the doors of death, and saved the sinning woman from her chronic iniquities. And as for the Publican they justified him more than the Pharisee. Wherefore, I implore Thee to number me among them, and have mercy upon me.”
- ❖ “With the voice of the Publican I cry unto Thee, O Christ my Savior: take pity on me as Thou hast on him, and have mercy on me, O God.” – priestly prayer before the Great Entrance