

Sunday of the Prodigal Son - February 1st



The parable begins – A man had two sons. The younger son asks his father for his share of the inheritance. The father then divides the property between the two sons. A few days later the younger son, having collected all his belongings, heads out to a distant country. There he squandered his inheritance on loose, immoral living. He then finds himself in the midst of a severe famine. He is hungry and in dire need. He seeks help. He gets work – feeding the swine, the pigs. So hungry was he that he desired to eat what the pigs were given to eat, but no one offered him anything.

The prodigal son is sorry and repents. He decides to return home as one of his father's hired workers. He plans to return home saying to his father that he "no longer deserved to be called (his) son; treat me as you would treat one of (the) hired workers." (v.19) On his journey back home, while yet a distance, the father sees him, runs out to embrace and kiss him. The father is filled with compassion and is loving and forgiving. He did all this before even hearing the words the younger wayward rehearsed to say.

The father received back the younger son safe and sound. This was an occasion to celebrate. He puts on the finest robe and a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. The fattened calf is then slaughtered. The celebration begins and the sound of music and dancing could be heard.

The older son, who was laboring in the field, returns home. As he nears the father's home, the older son hears the sound of celebration and wonders what that is all about. When asked, one of the servants tell him: "Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound." (v. 27)

The older son is angered and refuses to join in the celebration. "Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf." (v. 29-30) The older son won't even refer to his brother as "my brother", but rather refers to him as "your son." The Loving Father tries to reassure the older son that he appreciates all his hard dedicated work and to gently remind him that the wayward son who returned home is not only "my son", but also "your brother." "My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours, but now we must celebrate and rejoice." Why? Because "your brother was dead and has come to life again." The younger wayward son, your brother, was spiritually lost, but now is found, saved.

And this is what Church is all about – to bring back home the wayward sinner, to search out and to save those who are spiritually lost. And this we do in dedicated loving service and compassion. And let us rejoice over the return of even one wayward, prodigal son or brother because we are all created in the image and likeness of God and are to reflect the Goodness and Truth of God Himself.

Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church

360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

Ss. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

106 North Rogers Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760

February 1, 2026

Administrator:
Very Rev. Fr. Steven Galuschik

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Mailing Address for both parishes:
360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905
Office Phone: (607) 203-1151
Office Email: stnybyzantine@gmail.com

Confessions: (Holy Spirit)

Sundays from 8:00am – 8:30 (Before Divine Liturgy)

Parishes Website:

<https://www.southerntiernybyzcatholic.com>

Bulletin: churchbulletin0@gmail.com

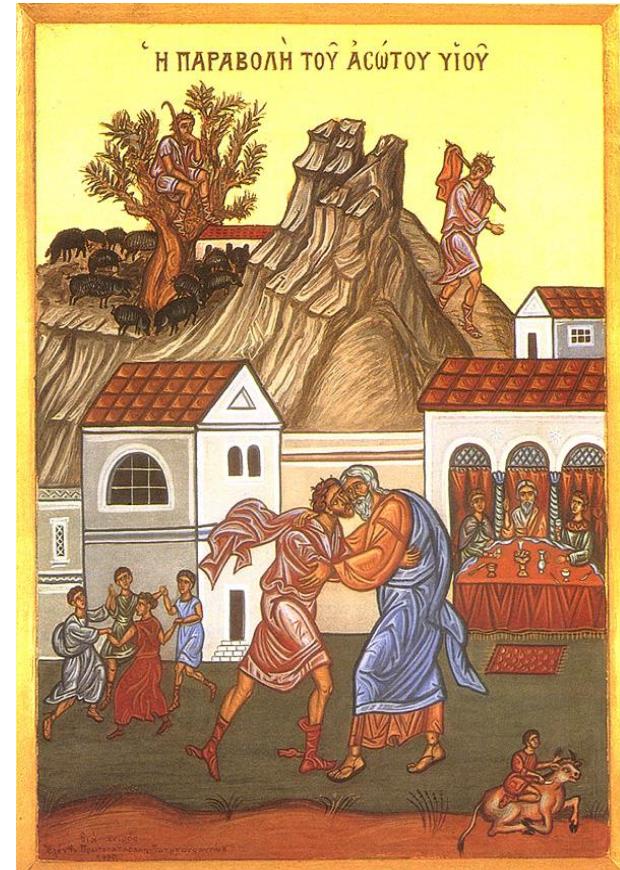
On-Line Giving: Please use the link below for on-line donations for Ss. Peter & Paul OR for Holy Spirit Church:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA77/home>

You can also scan the QR code with your phone
or you can visit the Parish website for a link !



Thank you for your support of your Churches!



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- February 1st -

† Liturgies for the Week of 1/31 – 2/08 †

SAT	Jan 31	<i>The Holy Wonder-workers and Unmercenary Healers Cyrus and John (311)</i> --- No Divine Services ---
SUN	Feb 01	<i>Sunday of the Prodigal Son</i> 9:00 am Holy Spirit – † Cecil Drobak, 40th Day by Family
(Tone 1)		11:00 am Ss. Peter & Paul – <i>Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches</i> Apostol: 1 Cor 6: 12-20 Gospel: Lk 15: 11-32
MON	Feb 02	<i>Encounter of Our Lord with Simeon (Solemn Holy Day)</i> 9:30 am Ss. Peter & Paul – † Veronica Wallick by Teri Valenia
TUES	Feb 03	<i>Synaxis of the Holy Prophet Simeon and the Prophetess Anna</i> --- No Divine Services ---
WED	Feb 04	<i>Our Venerable Father Isidore of Pelusium (c. 450)</i> --- No Divine Services ---
THU	Feb 05	<i>The Holy Martyr Agatha (250)</i> --- No Divine Services ---
FRI	Feb 06	<i>Venerable Father Bucolus, Bishop of Smyrna, Holy Martyr Silvanus, Bishop of Emesa</i> --- No Divine Services ---
SAT	Feb 07	<i>First All-Souls' Saturday</i> --- No Divine Services ---
SUN	Feb 08	<i>Sunday of Meat Fare</i> 9:00 am Holy Spirit – † Irene Dunlop, 40th Day by Family (Tone 2) 11:00 am Ss. Peter & Paul – <i>Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches</i> Apostol: 1 Cor 8: 8-9:2 Gospel: Mt 25: 31-46



Candle Intentions: Please see the sheet posted in the Church vestibule for the Candle Intentions and Sponsors for the Month of **February**.



2026 Financial Statements Financial “giving statements” are being readied at Ss. Peter and Paul & Holy Spirit Churches. For Ss. Peter & Paul, please contact Cantor Steven Dean. For Holy Spirit, parishioners can email Fr. Steven at: stnybyzantine@gmail.com.

Thank You for your Generosity in 2025! †



2026 Church Envelopes: The **2026 Donation Envelopes** for Ss. Peter & Paul and Holy Spirit Church are ready for pickup. At Holy Spirit, there are several boxes of envelopes located on the table in the church vestibule. Please take a look and see if yours are still there.

At Ss. Peter & Paul, the envelopes are in the back of the church. If you don't see your envelope box, please let Fr. Steven (or at Ss. P&P, Steven Dean), know of any errors or omissions.

Thank you very much for your generosity in 2025! †



All Souls Saturdays: As in previous years, we will commemorate All Souls with a Divine Liturgy intention or Presanctified Divine Liturgy intention and celebrate a Panachida for each of the Five All Soul Saturdays on the Sunday that follows it. If you would like your family and friends to be remembered, please write your names on the envelope provided in your box, write them on a list and include them in the All Souls Envelope, or you can email your list to the office at stnybyzantine@gmail.com. If you have no changes in your list, please indicate that on your envelope to be included in this year's All Souls. All Souls lists are due by February 1, 2026. **Thank You** †



Reminder: This year, the **First Day of the Great Fast** is **Monday, February 16th** (President's Day). A Strict Fast & Abstinence (No Meat or Dairy Products), is prescribed for the First Day of the Great Fast.



Holy Spirit Church 50/50 Raffle: Don't forget to get your **2026 - 50/50 Raffle Ticket for February**! The **February 2026** Envelopes are on the table in the church's vestibule. You have to play to Win!

Thank You for your support!

