

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee – January 25th –

The name for this Sunday is taken from the parable of our Lord Jesus Christ found in Luke 18:10-14. This is the story of two men, one a Pharisee, a member of a Jewish sect known for its diligent observance of the Law, and the other a Publican, a government official charged with the responsibility of collecting taxes.

Both men enter the temple, and the Pharisee stands openly and prays, thanking God that he is not like other men, specifically extortioners, the unjust, adulterers, “or even this tax collector” (v. 11). He then begins to list his religious accomplishments by stating, “I fast twice a week, and I give tithes of all that I possess” (v. 12).

In direct contrast to the pride of the Pharisee, the Publican goes to a place where he will not be noticed by others and beats his breast saying, “God, be merciful to me a sinner!” (v. 13).

Having told this story, Jesus affirms that it was the Publican who returned home justified and forgiven rather than the Pharisee. He states, “Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (v. 14).

The theme of this parable is repentance. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of the journey to Pascha. 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 with God and with 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 Gospel depicts him as a man that is pleased only with himself who thinks that he has complied with all of the requirements of religion. But in his pride, he has falsified the meaning of true religion and faith. He has reduced these to external observations, measuring his piety by the amount of money he gives.

The Publican, on the other hand, truly longs for a “change of mind.” He humbles himself, and his humility justifies him before God. He becomes, in the words of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3), “poor in spirit.” He acknowledges that he is a sinner, and he knows that salvation is only found in the mercy of God. Here we find an example of true humility, an essential aspect of repentance. A “change of mind” and the transformation of our lives can only happen when we humble ourselves before God, acknowledge our willingness to turn from sin, and receive His grace into our lives.

Our preparation for Lent thus begins with a prayer for humility, the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world. By entering Great Lent in humility and repentance, we can attain deeper communion with God as we receive His forgiveness and He blesses by guiding us to greater spiritual heights.

Excerpt from: <https://www.goarch.org/publicanpharisee-learn>



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

January 25, 2026

**Sunday of the Publican and the
Pharisee**

**Administrator:
Very Rev. Fr. Steven Galuschik**

Mailing Address for both parishes:
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Confessions: (Holy Spirit)

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

Parishes Website:

<https://www.southerntierybyzcatholic.com>

Bulletin: churchbulletin0@gmail.com

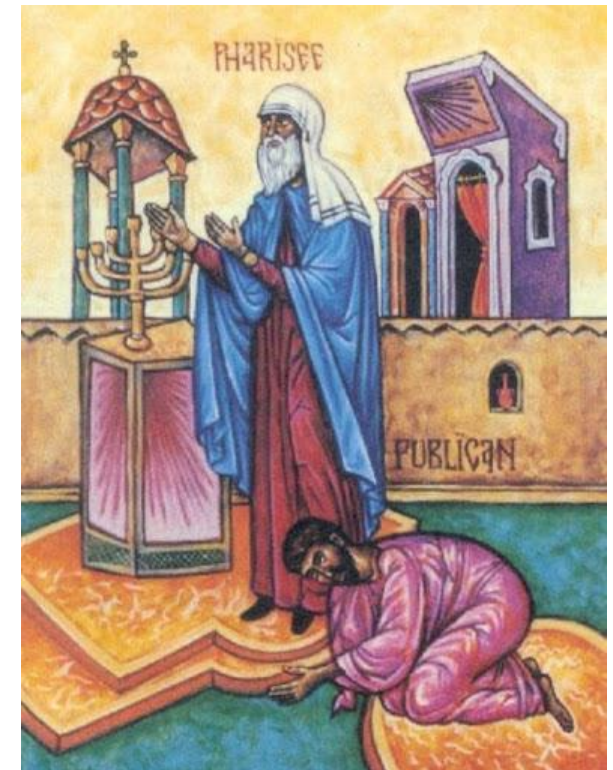
On-Line Giving: Please use the link below for on-line donations for Ss. Peter & Paul **OR** for Holy Spirit Church:

<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!



**The Publican and the Pharisee-
January 25th -**

✠ Liturgies for the Week of 1/24 – 2/01 ✠

SAT Jan 24 *Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee (Tone 8)*

Apostol: 3 Tim 3: 10-15
Gospel: Lk 18: 10-14

4 PM--HOLY SPIRIT *NOTE: CHANGE DUE TO WEATHER

SUN Jan 25 *Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee*

-- No Divine Services Due to Weather--

MON Jan 26 *Our Venerable Father Xenophon and his Wife Mary (520)*

--- No Divine Services ---

TUES Jan 27 *The Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father John Chrysostom (438)*

--- No Divine Services ---

WED Jan 28 *Our Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian (378)*

--- No Divine Services ---

THU Jan 29 *The Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop and Martyr Ignatius of Antioch*

--- No Divine Services ---

FRI Jan 30 *The Three Holy Hierarchs (Simple Holy Day)*

9:30 am Ss. Peter & Paul – ✠ Bruce Wiest by Bill Figler

SAT Jan 31 *The Holy Wonder-workers and Unmercenary Healers Cyrus and John (311)*

--- No Divine Services ---

SUN Feb 01 *Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

9:00 am Holy Spirit – ✠ Cecil Drobak, 40th Day by Family

(Tone 1)

11:00 am Ss. Peter & Paul – *Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter & Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches*

Apostol: 1 Cor 6: 12-20
Gospel: Lk 15: 11-32



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



Happy Birthday: We'd like to wish a very Happy Birthday to:

Joshua Dudinyak, who will celebrate her Birthday this Monday, *January 26th* !

May Our Lord and God bless him and grant him long life, good health, peace and happiness for *Many Happy and Blessed Years!* - *Na Mnohaja i Blahaja Lita!*



Congratulations! We would like to express our best wishes to *Andrew & Patricia Rebich* who will celebrate their *60th Wedding Anniversary* *THIS Sunday, January 24th* !

May Our Lord and God bless them and grant them long life, good health, peace, prosperity, and happiness for *Many Happy and Blessed Years!* - *Na Mnohaja i Blahaja Lita!*



Removal of Church Decorations: We would Thank all our parishioners that helped in the removal and storage of the Christmas decorations last Sunday, January 18 at both Ss. Peter & Paul and Holy Spirit churches !, *Thank You very much for your assistance!* ✠



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: 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 ✠*



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

Thank You for your support !

