Icon of the Publican and Pharisee

January 24, 2021

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

Saints Cyril and Methodius
Byzantine Catholic Church

2510 Piney Plains Road
Cary, NC 27518-6870
919-239-4877

Rev. Fr. Vasyl Sokolovych
Parochial Administrator
908-404-0777

Sunday
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
(If unable to attend in person, our Divine Liturgy is streamed via our Facebook page.)

E-Mail: sscyrilmethodius@gmail.com
Web Site: sscyrilmethodius.org
| **SUNDAY** | **Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee** | **8:30 AM Confession** |
| **January 24** | 2 Tim 3:10-15<br> Lk 18:10-14 | 9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy<br>(for the Intention of the Parishioners) |
| **Tone 1** | | |

| **Monday** | **Gregory the Theologian - Bishop** | **The week of January 25-30 is free from fasting and abstinence.** |
| **January 25** | 1 Cor 12:7-11<br> Jn 10:9-16 | |

| **Tuesday** | **Xenophon & Mary Venerables** | |
| **January 26** | 2 Peter 2:9-22<br> Mk 13:14-23 | |

| **Wednesday** | **Translation of the Relics of John Chrysostom** | |
| **January 27** | Heb 7:26-8:2<br> Jn 10:9-16 | |

| **Thursday** | **Ephrem the Syrian Venerable** | |
| **January 28** | 1 Jn 1:8-2:6<br> Mk 13:31-14:2 | |

| **Friday** | **Translation of the Relics of Ignatius, Martyr** | |
| **January 29** | 1 Jn 2:7-17<br> Mk 14:3-9 | |

| **Saturday** | **THREE HOLY HIERARCHS** | **8:00 AM-12:00 PM: Eritrean Orthodox Divine Liturgy**<br> **4:00 PM: St. Nicholas Mission Divine Liturgy** |
| **January 30** | Heb 13:7-16<br> Mt 5:14-19 | |

| **SUNDAY** | **Sunday of the Prodigal Son** | **8:30 AM Confession**<br> **9:00 AM: Divine Liturgy<br>(for the Intention of the Parishioners)** |
| **January 31** | 1 Cor 6:12-20<br> Lk 15:11-32 | |
| **Tone 2** | | |

**Call the parish office (919-239-4877) to make an appointment or to speak with Fr. Vasyl (908-404-0777).**

**SSCM CHURCH/HALL SCHEDULE**

The **St. Nicholas Mission** celebrate their Divine Liturgy in our church every Saturday at 4:00 PM.

The **Eritrean Orthodox** celebrate their Divine Liturgy in our church from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month.

The **Coptic Orthodox** celebrate their Divine Liturgy in our church from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will be meeting the second Tuesday of every month. If you have any questions or concerns you would like addressed at the next meeting, please contact one of the members: Mike Carpenter, Marie Taylor, Paul Tooley, Lance Morgan, Dan Pope, Lou Gigliotti and Mike Sapsara.
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If you are new to our area or just visiting, please stop and introduce yourself. We are happy you are joining us to share in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. If you do not have a church home, or your church is not a home for you, we warmly invite you to become part of our parish family.

If you wish to register with our parish, please email Michelle Rubush at sscyrilmethodius@gmail.com

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!
GLORY FOREVER!

SLAVONIC: SLAVA ISUSU CHRISTU! SLAVA NA VIKI!

Please remember in your prayers:
Lance Morgan; John Patrick Rose; Rachel Blair; David Hoover; Cameron Shuey; Dale Blair; Bernadette’s parents and aunts: Andrew, Etta, Martha and Yolonda; Father Mark and family; Father Vasyl and family.

Please pray for the repose + of the souls of our faithful departed:
+Elizabeth Macario; +Luke Morgan, +Natalie and John Morgan, +Rev. Fr. Richard Rohrer, +Gloria Shuey

In Blessed Repose, Grant O Lord, Eternal Rest to the Soul of Your Departed Servants and may their Memory be Eternal.

In spite of the pandemic, the maintenance of our church continues and bills still must be paid. Thanks to all who continue to serve our church with their time, talent, and treasure. May God bless you abundantly!

House Blessings
Father Vasyl is available for house blessings. Email the church if you want your home to be included in Father’s schedule. (When a priest visits, there is a pious custom that the family makes a donation to the priest for gas and other expenses. This is appreciated, but it should not be thought of as a requirement. The scripture tells us “Freely you have received, freely give.” The priest comes to the home because he wants God’s blessings to be upon it, and to better know those in his flock and to be available to them.)
Imagine yourself standing in the middle of a full auditorium with thousands of people surrounding you. If every person there were speaking at the same time, would it be possible to hear any individual in the great crowd? Most likely, you'd be unable to distinguish one voice from another. This same principle holds true with prayer. In our normal everyday lives, we are surrounded by countless voices in need of our attention. Our children cry for it, our employer's demand it, and our loved ones yearn for it. With all of these bidding for our attention, no wonder God's voice at times seems so muffled or distant. Effective meditation requires seclusion. Unless we make an effort to escape our daily demands for at least a few moments, our ability to hear God's voice will be weakened. Our Lord was well aware of this need for isolation. In teaching about prayer, Jesus told the disciples to go into their rooms and close the door behind them. He knew it was vital to take a break from the pressures of life in order to truly commune with the Father. The modern world works against this need, however. Mobile phones, email, and other technological advances have brought us the blessing—and the curse—of constant communication and interruption. At some point today, turn off the TV, cell phone, and computer, and simply listen for God's voice. Your schedule won't surrender easily, so make a decision to claim a block of time for the Lord. Then quiet your extraneous thoughts, and focus on Him. He wants to refresh you with time in His presence.

Prayer starter: Father, even in revealing my sin you are loving me. I do not want to be blind to my transgressions. Open my eyes to see myself as you see me.

This parable represents to us two chariots on the race course, each with two charioteers in it. In one of the chariots it places righteousness with pride, in the other sin and humility. You see the chariot of sin outstrip that of righteousness, not by its own strength but by the excellence of humility combined with it, but the other is defeated not by righteousness, but by the weight and swelling of pride. For as humility by its own elasticity rises above the weight of pride, and leaping up reaches to God, so pride by its great weight easily depresses righteousness.

Although, therefore, you are earnest and constant in well doing, yet think you may boast yourself, you are altogether devoid of the fruits of prayer. But you that bears a thousand loads of guilt on your conscience, and only think this thing of yourself that you are the lowest of all men, shall gain much confidence before God. And He then goes on to assign the reason of His sentence. For every one who exalts himself shall be abased, and he that humbles himself shall be exalted.

The word humility has various meanings. There is the humility of virtue, as a humble and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. There is also a humility arising from sorrows, as He has humbled my life upon the earth. There is humility derived from sin, and the pride and insatiability of riches. For can any thing be more low and debased than those who grovel in riches and power, and count them great things?

St. John Chrysostom
A FACE MASK COVERING MOUTH AND NOSE MUST BE WORN DURING DIVINE LITURGY, WHICH SHOULD BE REMOVED BEFORE RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION.

Parishioners who are considered “high risk,” and more vulnerable to the virus should consider not attending Liturgy in the church and continue to participate via Facebook.

- Parishioners are dispensed from attending Divine Liturgy on Sunday and Holy Days.
- Please bring your own mask as the church has a limited number available.
- Social distancing (six feet) of people not living in the same household should be followed. A family living together can sit in the same area.
- Please refrain from physical contact.
- Please sanitize hands when entering and leaving church.
- There will be no Agape meal in the hall after Liturgy; please do not bring food.
- Please maintain social distancing after Liturgy and continue to wear a mask while on church property.
- A collection basket is under the Tetrapod for your weekly donation. You may also mail in your donation or donate online via our website or Tithely.
- As you approach Fr. Vasyl for communion, please state your name.

THE HALL WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Our Eparchy will be hosting monthly Byzantine Gatherings. Mark your calendars for each date. Gatherings will begin at 6:00 PM. Email contact: FrDeaconTom@gmail.com