

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Eugene	Stefan
Archpriest Dimitrie	John
Priest James	Vivian
Priest John	Jung Sook
Reader Aleksei	Thomas
Reader Sergei	Cheyenne
Monk Philaret	Nancy
Matushka Mary	Randall
Matushka Mary Sara	Rose
Matushka Priscilla	Don
Marie • Kyra	Norma
John • Euphrosynos	James
Virginia • Thomas	
John • Luke • Katherine	
Catechumen Rebecca	
Catechumen Jennifer	

The repose and salvation of –

Bishop Mark (January 8)
Mihail (January 1)
John (January 10)

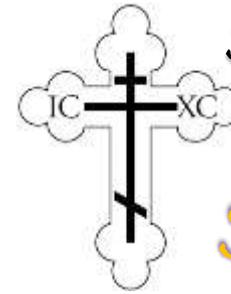
Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

If you haven't done so already, contact Father to schedule your house blessing!

***This Thursday, Feb. 1, 6:30 PM – Great Vespers & Litya for
the Meeting of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ***

***This Friday, Feb. 2, 7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Feast,
followed by the Blessing of Candles***

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,
Orthodox Church in America*



**ST TIKHON ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, January 28, 2018

The Publican and the Pharisee



**Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
NO Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day this Wednesday
Other services as announced**

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Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances. The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14). The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

Venerable Ephraim the Syrian

Ephraim was born in Syria of poor parents during the reign of Emperor Constantine the Great. He spent his young life rather tempestuously; but all at once a change took place in his soul and he began to burn with love for the Lord Jesus. From the enormous Grace of God, wisdom flowed from his tongue as a brook of honey and ceaseless tears flowed from his eyes. Industrious as a bee, Ephraim continually either wrote books or orally taught the monks in the monastery and the people in the town of Edessa or he dedicated himself to prayer and contemplation. Numerous are his books and beautiful are his prayers. The most famous is his prayer recited during the Great Fast:

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

*Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother,
for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.*

When they wanted to appoint him a bishop by force, he pretended to be insane and began to race through the city of Edessa dragging his garment behind him. Seeing this, the people left him in peace. Ephraim was a contemporary and friend of St. Basil the Great. Saint Ephraim is considered mainly to be the Apostle of Repentance. Even today his works soften many hearts hardened by sin and return them to Christ. He died in extreme old age in 378 A.D.

Also this week: Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia (today) (see article in January newsletter); Translation of the Relics of Hieromartyr Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch (January 29); SYNAXIS OF THE ECUMENICAL TEACHERS AND HIERARCHS BASIL THE GREAT, GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, AND JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (January 30); Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John, and with them Martyrs Athanasia and her daughters Theoctiste, Theodotia, and Eudoxia, at Canopus in Egypt (January 31); Ven Brigid of Ireland, Martyr Tryphon (February 1); THE MEETING OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (February 2); Holy and Righteous God-Receiver Simeon and Anna the Prophetess (February 3).

** NO fasting this week **

Epistle: II Timothy 3:10-15 (Sunday)

Gospel: Luke 18:10-14 (Sunday)

Troparion – Tone 1 (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, /
While the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, /
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, /
Granting life to the world. /
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: /
“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! /
Glory to Thy Kingdom! ///
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Kontakion – Tone 1 (Triodion)

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! /
And learn humility from the Publican's tears! /
Let us cry to our Savior: have mercy on us, ///
Only merciful One!