

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Melkite Catholic Church  
200 E. North Ave.  
Northlake, IL 60164



**St. John's Office Information**  
Office Phone: (708) 492 0391

**Office Hours:**  
**Thursdays & Friday**  
**09:00 AM to 01:00 PM**

**All other times, please call the Rectory  
and then the cellular phone.  
Please do not call later than 8:00 PM,  
unless it is an emergency.**

**Confession:**  
*Available before or after any service, or by  
appointment.*

**Baptism:**  
*Please contact the pastor in advance to arrange  
for the required instructions.*

**Marriage:**  
*A notice of at least 6 months should be given to  
the pastor, before the proposed wedding date to  
arrange for the required interview and  
instructions.*

**Communion of the sick:**  
*Sick parishioners may receive the Holy  
Communion at home. Please advise the pastor  
whenever this sacrament is needed.*

**Anointing the sick:**  
*Please contact the pastor at any time for this  
mystery..*

**SUNDAY**  
**La Divina Misa en Español 9:00 AM**  
**DIVINE LITURGY AT 11:00 AM**

[stjohnthebaptistchicago@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistchicago@hotmail.com)  
[www.stjohnmelkite.com](http://www.stjohnmelkite.com)

**Rev. Fr. Ezzat Bathouche**  
**Rectory:** (708) 938 5804 **Cell:** (708) 407- 6847  
**St. John the Baptist, Hall Phone:** (708) 646 8873  
**ProtoDn. Antoine Shehata:** (847) 227-8884  
**Deacon Fadi Rafidi:** (708) 473 -5455

Para **La Comunidad Hispana** por favor llama al  
**Fr. Ezzat Bathouche** (708) 407 6847  
correo electronico: [p.ezzat@yahoo.com](mailto:p.ezzat@yahoo.com)

**Sunday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican**

**الأحد 10 شباط 2019**  
**أحد الفريسي والعشائر**

*Theme of the Year*

**"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example  
for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity"**

*(1 Timothy 4: 12)*

### **Antiphon Prayer**

O Christ our God, You condemned the Pharisee proud of his works and justified the Publican bent by repentance. We implore You in your mercies to give us repentant hearts and to enlighten our minds so that we may recognize our sins and confess them. Forgive us our trespasses and restore us to the initial justification which we have lost by rebelling against your divine commandments. For You alone are merciful and compassionate and to You we render glory and to your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

### **صلاة الأنديفوننة**

أيها المسيح إلهنا الحقيقي، يا من حكم على الفريسي المفتخر بأعماله، وبزرَّ العشائر المنخني بالتوبة، نسأل مراحمك ان تهبنا قلوباً مُنسحقَةً نادمة، وتُنيرَ ضمائرنا لنعرف خفيَّاتنا ونُقَرَّ بأخطائنا، ونصفحَ عن سيئاتنا، مُعيداً إلينا البرارة التي فقدناها بعصياننا أوامرِكَ الإلهية. لأنك أنت وحدك رحيمٌ وغفور، واليك نرفع المجد، وإلى أبيك الأزلي وروحك القدس، الصالح والمحبي، الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الدهارين. آمين.

### **Hymns**

#### **Troparion of the Resurrection (5<sup>th</sup> tone)**

Let us O Faithful, praise and worship the Word coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He has willed to be lifted in the flesh upon the Cross, and to endure death, and to raise the dead by his glorious Resurrection.

### **نشيد القيامة (اللحن الخامس)**

لننشُد نحن المؤمنين ونسجدُ للكلمة، الأزلي مع الأب والروح، المولود من العذراء لخلاصنا. لانه ارتضى أن يصعدَ بالجسدِ على الصليب، ويحتمل الموت، وينهض الموتى بقيامته المجيدة.

### **Troparion of the patron of the church**

### **النشيد لشفيح الكنيسة**

### **Kondakion of the Pharisee and the Publican**

Let us shun the proud attitude of the boastful Pharisee and learn humility from the Publican's sighs; let us cry out to our Savior: "Have mercy on us, O You who alone are merciful!"

### **Epistle of the Pharisee & the Publican, 2 Timothy, 3:10-15**

#### **Prokimenon**

Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

**Stichon:** God is renowned in Judah; in Israel, great is his name.

### **Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy**

**My son Timothy**, you have followed my teaching, my behavior, my faith, my long-suffering, my love, my patience, my persecutions, my afflictions such as befell me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, such persecutions as I suffered: and out of them all, the Lord delivered me. And all who want to live piously in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But the wicked and impostors will go from bad to worse, erring and leading into error. As for you, keep on with the things you have learned and which have been entrusted to you, and remember from whom you have learned them. For you have known from infancy the Sacred Scriptures which are able to give you instruction for your salvation by the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

### **Alleluia (Tone 8) Psalm 94:1,2**

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us sing joyfully to God our Savior!

**Stichon:** Let us greet his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

## مقدمة الرسالة

انذروا وأوفو الربَّ إلهنا كلُّ الذين حولَهُ يأتونَ بهديا  
اللهُ معروفٌ في يهوذا واسمه عظيمٌ في إسرائيل

### الرسالة (2 تيموثاوس 3: 10-15)

يا ولدي تيموثاوس، إنك تتبعت تعليمي وسيرتي وقصدي، وإيماني وطول أناتي، ومحيتي وصبري، واضطهاداتي وآلامي، تلك التي أصابتنني في انطاكية وإيقونية ولسترة، وأي اضطهاداتٍ احتملت. وقد انقذني الربُّ من جميعها. وجميع الذين يريدون أن يحياوا بالتقوى في المسيح يسوع يُضطهدون. أمَّا الأشرارُ والمغوونُ من الناس فيزدادون شراً، مُضلين ومُضلين. وأنت فاستمر على ما تعلمته وأمنت به، عارفاً ممن تعلمت. وأنت منذ الطفولية تعرف الكتاب المقدسة، القادرة أن تُصيرك حكيماً للخلاص، بالإيمان الذي بالمسيح يسوع.

هللوا

هللوا نبتهج بالربِّ، ونهلل لله مخلصنا

لثبائر إلى وجهه بالاعتراف، وبالمزامير نهلل له.

### Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14 (The Pharisee and the Publican)

**The Lord told this parable:** “Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and began to pray thus within himself: ‘O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of men, robbers, dishonest, adulterers, or even like this publican. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all I possess.’ But the publican, standing far off, would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven, but kept striking his breast, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went back to his home justified rather than the other; for anyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself shall be exalted.

### أنجيل الفريسي والعشار (لوقا 18: 10-14)

قال الربُّ هذا المثل: رجلان صعدا إلى الهيكل ليصليا، أحدهما فريسي والأخر عشار. فالفريسي انتصب يصلي في نفسه هكذا. اللهم أني اشكرُك لاني لسْتُ كسائر الناس الخفية الظالمين الفاسقين. ولا مثل هذا العشار. إني أصومُ في الأسبوع مرتين، وأعشرُ كلَّ ما هو لي. وأمَّا العشارُ فوقف عن بُعدٍ ولم يُردِّ حتى أن يرفع عينيه إلى السماء. بل كان يقرع صدره قائلاً: اللهم اغفر لي أنا الخاطي. أقولُ لكم: إن هذا نزل إلى بيته مبرراً دون ذلك. لأن كلَّ من رفع نفسه وضع نفسه رُفع.

### Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

Look at Me – I’m Fasting!

BEGINNING TODAY, the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, the Church calls on us to start preparing for the Great Fast. And how does it tell us to ready ourselves? – by telling us not to fast!

Since the beginnings of the Church Christians have fasted on Wednesdays and Fridays, remembering Judas’ betrayal and Christ’s passion. This coming week, however is one of the fast-free weeks of the Church, when fasting is not prescribed. The other such weeks are

part of a Great Feast – the Nativity, Pascha, and Pentecost. This is the only fast-free week not connected with a feast. What is the reason for not fasting this week?

The answer is found in the verse introducing the parable of the publican and the Pharisee read today: “*To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable*” (Lk 18.9). Religious people who are “*confident of their own righteousness*” are complacent, self-satisfied with their level of observance. That level may be minimal – attending church on Sundays or even the greatest observances – or it may be more. The fault is the same whatever the level of observance: the complacent person feels no need to change his or her outlook; and so he allows no place for God to act within him. The complacent person thinks that he has complied with all of the requirements of religion. What more can be asked of him?

By setting aside the regular fasts this week the Church is telling the complacent person that what we do is not as important as the spirit in which we do them. Do you take pride in your fasting? Then don’t fast lest it leave you like the Pharisee.

### Challenging Our Religious Complacency

In addition, religious complacency invariably sets us against others. When we take pride in our level of religious observance our next thought is often “I come to church regularly, not like him.... They’re not here for every lenten service ... She’s half my age – why does she have to sit down when everyone else is standing?” and the like. We may not make these comments aloud but we don’t have to. They have already sullied our heart. As St Cyril of Alexandria reminds us: “What profit is there in fasting twice in the week, if your so doing serves only as a pretext for ignorance and vanity, and make you supercilious and haughty, and selfish?” (*On the Gospel of Luke*, Sermon 120)

Religious complacency also sets us against God, as odd as that may seem. When we see our acts of religion as our passport to heaven we are telling God we have no need of Him. We are saving ourselves. Blessed Theophylact of Ochrid, in his *Explanation of the Gospel of St Luke*, says that there are many offshoots of self-love. “Presumption, arrogance, and vainglory all stem from this root. But the most destructive of all these kinds of self-love is pride, for pride is contempt of God. When a man ascribes his accomplishments to himself, and not to God, this is nothing less than denial of God and opposition to Him.”

The error of the Pharisee is to confuse the means with the end. Acts of virtue or piety are meant to dispose our hearts towards communion with God, not turn us in on ourselves. As the late Metropolitan Anthony Bloom wrote, “From the [Pharisee] learn his works, but by no means his pride; for the work by itself means nothing and does not save.” We may – and should – do good things as responses to God’s love for us. We should not think that fasting, churchgoing or Bible reading automatically bring us to communion with God, merely because they are outwardly observed. Even when we practice religious observances from the best of motives, we can find them emptied of virtue through pride.

In the words of St Gregory Palamas, “The unseen patron of evil ... can bring down the roof of good works after its construction, by means of pride and madness.”

### Humility Transforms Us

The antidote to the boastfulness of the Pharisee is humility which is nothing less than a return to the genuine order of things, the restoration of a realistic view of ourselves and of God. Only He can transform us by granting us a share in His divine life. Of ourselves we can do nothing to earn God’s love or to share in His holiness. We can only respond to His eternal love for us by embarking on the path of repentance – that dying to self-love and egocentricity which leads us to life in the kingdom.

Humility – authentic self-understanding – doesn’t come easily at any time. It is deeply opposed to the values of the world. The late Father Alexander Schmemmann saw how humility has no place in our secular culture. He wrote: “If there is a moral quality almost completely disregarded and even denied today, it is indeed humility. The culture in which we live constantly instills in us the sense of pride, self-glorification, and self-righteousness. It is built on the assumption that man can achieve anything by himself and it even pictures God as the one who all the time ‘gives credit’ for man’s achievements and good deeds. Humility – be it individual or corporate, ethnic or national - is viewed as a sign of weakness, as something unbecoming a real man. ...”

Our culture also teaches us to feel superior when others fall. As a rule, the newspapers, TV and other media don’t tell us about the positive things people do – that doesn’t sell papers. A steady diet of looking at other people’s failings leads us to imitating the Pharisee’s “I’m not like that that.”

A more helpful approach comes from the nineteenth century Russian Saint, John of Kronstadt. He writes: “When the foolish thought of counting up any of your good works enters into your head, immediately correct your fault and rather count up your sins, your continual and innumerable offences against the All-Merciful and Righteous Master, and you will find that their number is as the sand of the sea, whilst your virtues in comparison with them are as nothing.”

In the vision of the Gospel, repentance and humility are more important and higher than all of the other virtues, continuing until the end of our life. Today’s kondakion sums up the Church’s prayer for all of us: “Let us shun the boastful words of the Pharisee and learn from the Publican humility with sighing; let us cry out to our Savior: ‘Have mercy on us, You who alone are merciful!’”

## Two Men Went Up to the Temple to Pray

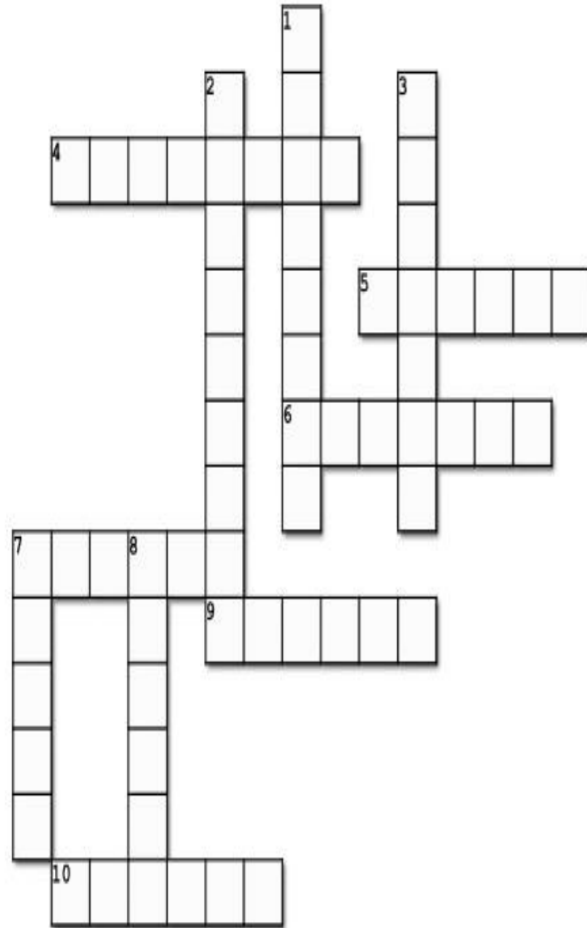
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TEMPLE  
TITHES  
FAROFF  
SINNER

PHARISEE  
TWICE  
PARABLE  
MERCIFUL

# The Publican and the Pharisee



## Across

4. Who went home justified?
5. Where did the Publican stand?
6. Are we called to exalt ourselves or to be \_\_\_\_\_?
7. What do we pay God for all we possess?
9. Where did the men go to pray
10. The Publican knew that he was himself a \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down

1. Who prayed within himself?
2. The Pharisee claims he is not a robber, \_\_\_\_\_, or an adulterer.
3. What kind of story does the Lord tell here?
7. How often does the Pharisee fast in a week?
8. To where would the Publican not lift his eyes?

## St. John The Baptist Assets

The following is an update of the 44 families who pledged, donated, and paid so far:

Total Pledges:	\$714,000	20%
Payments Received:	\$276,000	39% of Pledges
Cash Available Including Payments:	<b>\$820,000</b>	23%
Sell Current Church Assets Est.:	\$1,300,000	37%
Total (Pledges, Cash, and Assets):	\$2,557,000	73%
Additional Pledges Needed:	\$943,000	27%
New Church Estimated Cost:	\$3,500,000	100%



### Karaoke Night

**When:** March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Time:** 7:30 PM

**Where:** St. John The Baptist Hall

**Cost:** \$10 a person

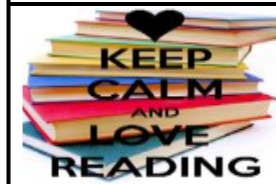
**Pizza and drinks will be provided**

Please email: [stjohnthebaptistchicago@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistchicago@hotmail.com) with songs you want to sing



### St. John's 2019 Calendar

February 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Valentine Party
March 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Karaoke Night
April 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Easter Bazaar
April 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2019	Holy Resurrection
May 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Mother's Day Party
June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019	Young Adult's DJ Party
June 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Cultural Night
August 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Festival



### Epistle Reading

If you are interested in reading the epistle, please email Dr. Kayed Akkawi at: [kayedakkawi@gmail.com](mailto:kayedakkawi@gmail.com)

02.10 Dr. Phil Metres	02.17 Rachel Mady
02.24 OPEN	03.03 OPEN



### Are you receiving our e-mails?

We need your help to ensure that we have everyone's e-mail. All you need to do is to send us a blank e-mail and we will make sure that your e-mail address is in our system. Please take a few minutes this week and e-mail us at: [stjohnthebaptistchicago@hotmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistchicago@hotmail.com)





**Text Messaging System:**

Sign Up today - 1. Create a new text message; 2. Type in 773-877-3017 as the recipient; 3. In the message section, type: @stjohnchgo; 4. Hit send; 5. You should receive a message asking for your full name; 6. Please type your full name and press send; 7. You should receive another message saying "Thanks Mr(s). \_\_\_\_\_. As a member of @stjohnchgo, you will receive all St John Baptist's Remind notifications. Reply HELP for commands.



**Hall Rental**

**Hall Rental:**

If you wish to rent the Parish Hall for a party, or schedule a wedding or baptism, call the church office at (708) 492-0391 to clear the date, and then come to the church office on Thursday or Friday to fill out the contract and pay any fees. Thank you for your cooperation



**COFFEE HOUR:**

To sponsor the Coffee Hour call Randa Tourjman at (773) 865-8377. Please remember, there is also a donation of \$20 for the coffee in addition to the snacks.

**Coffee Hour Schedule:**

02.10.19	Jabbour family (Elias Jabbour 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> memorial)
02.17.19	OPEN



**Liturgy Intentions**

*To add or remove Names from the list please call (708-492-0391)*

Total Collection: 02.03.18: \$2,326  
(Regular \$1,808+ Electronic \$518)

*To add or remove Names from the list please call (708/492-0391)*

**Happiness and Prosperity:** Jabbour Family

**Health & Speedy Recovery:** For all our brothers and sisters who need spiritual & corporal recovery: Bassam Sayegh, Dennis Potland

**Repose in the Heavenly Kingdom**

All our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the Lord

Elias Jabbour (3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> memorial)

Alice Nasr

Fathers: Athanase Hassey and Julien Elian

By Jabbour Family

By Yanaki Family

By our Church