

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

On this and the following two Sundays, the theme is repentance. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of our journey to Pascha. And 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 to God and to 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 Publican, on the other hand, truly longs for a ‘change of mind’: he is self-dissatisfied, ‘poor in spirit’, and where there is this saving self-dissatisfaction there is room for God to act. Unless we learn the secret of the Publican’s inward poverty, we shall not share in the Lenten springtime. The theme of the day can be summed up in a saying of the Desert Fathers: ‘Better a man who has sinned, if he knows that he has sinned and repents, than a man who has not sinned and thinks of himself as righteous.’

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the West

1407 30th Street, Port Townsend, WA 98368

Archpriest Nicholas Kime, Rector

360-385-0585

www.OrthodoxPortTownsend.com

Reflection from Met. Kallistos; Hymnography from oca.org

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Port Townsend, WA



Sunday, February 17th, 2019

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee; St. Theodore the Recruit; Hieromartyr Hermogenes of Moscow

38th Sunday after Pentecost

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Readings

Epistle

2 Timothy 3:10-15

Gospel

Luke 18:10-14

Tone 5 Troparion (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 4 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee!
Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears!
Let us cry to our Savior:
"Have mercy on us, //
O only merciful One!"



This Week at St. Herman's

Fast Free Week

Sunday, February 17th - *Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee*

- 9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy
- Children's and Teenager's class
- Coffee Hour in the parish hall
- 12:45 PM - Catechism on the Mystery of Repentance

Wednesday, February 20th - *St. Leo of Catania*

No Fast

- 6:45 AM - Coffee and Books

Thursday, February 21st - *St. Timothy of Symbola*

- 6:00 PM - Greek Class

Saturday, February 23rd - *Hieromartyr Polycarp of Smyrna*

- 6:30 AM - Jesus Prayer
- 7:00 PM - Great Vespers