



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Jan. 20

Saturday after Theophany

Readings: Eph. 4:7-13; Mt. 4:1-11

6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Jan. 21

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

Readings: 2 Tim. 3:10-15; Lk. 18:10-14

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ **George Siweckyj, given by Mary Siweckyj**

Supplications will be offered for+ **Lillian Chlibun, given by friends**

God's blessing upon **Orysia Barshowski, given by Pyptyk sisters**

Saturday, Jan. 27

Translation of the Relics of John Chrysostom

Readings: 1 Cor. 6:12-20; Lk. 5:11-32

6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Jan. 28

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Readings: 1 Cor. 6:12-20; Lk. 5:11-32

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ **Maria & Basyli Sszypczyk, given by Anna Kuncik**

God's blessing upon **Orysia Barshowski, given by Pyptyk sisters**



THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN

(LUKE 18:9-14)

A	M	V	E	U	Z	G	C	E	Y	L	Z	K	Q	I
D	N	O	B	G	C	W	I	L	L	P	S	S	S	P
Y	E	D	H	F	L	P	N	M	R	V	T	Y	S	K
I	T	U	B	W	F	L	E	S	M	I	H	H	O	R
B	L	E	D	E	A	B	A	S	E	D	V	U	E	E
L	M	D	V	Y	N	C	P	H	E	G	G	M	Z	E
O	E	E	N	I	W	O	C	Y	B	Y	W	B	H	N
B	Z	T	P	F	C	V	Y	Y	V	Q	D	L	P	A
U	E	L	Y	B	W	U	B	R	T	D	K	E	E	I
P	I	A	G	H	A	I	C	M	E	O	A	S	U	P
W	I	B	O	S	T	L	A	B	E	V	G	B	V	Q
C	D	E	N	L	Z	P	B	B	O	O	E	F	F	W
P	Z	D	W	F	L	E	S	M	I	H	S	L	I	I
R	P	W	Y	A	S	N	P	P	J	K	A	K	U	L
F	Z	E	Z	E	D	S	R	R	Q	P	U	I	H	L

FIND THE WORDS OF THE VERSE BELOW IN THE PUZZLE ABOVE

"Everyone who exalts himself will be abased, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." LUKE 18:14

Holy Water

In the Eastern Church, Holy Water is used frequently in rites of blessing and exorcism, and the water for baptism is always sanctified with a special blessing. Holy Water is often sprinkled on items or people when they are blessed outside of the Church building, as part of the prayers of blessing. For instance, in Alaska, the fishing boats are sprinkled with Holy Water at the start of the fishing season as the priest prays for the crews' safety and success. Also, cars (on the feast of the prophet Elijah) and homes are blessed with Holy Water as a way of invoking God's blessing and protection.



The use of Holy Water is based on the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist in the river Jordan. Reading Holy Scripture, we see that John's baptism was a baptism of repentance, and the people came to have their sins washed away by the water. Since Jesus had no sin, but was God incarnate, his baptism had the effect not of washing away Jesus' sins, but of blessing the water, making it holy - and with it all of creation, so that it may be used fully for its original created purpose to be an instrument of life.

Every family should have Holy Water at home, and make use of it at every need: sanctification of our homes, in cases of illness, leaving on a journey, etc. The Holy Water strengthens the powers of our soul - if it is done with prayer and reverence, and one does not merely expect a mechanical result from it.

As we read in the prayers for the Great Blessing of Water the true nature of water has its destiny in the salvation of man and the world. The blessing of waters doesn't "make bad water good". It restores the water to its original state. The prayer at the blessing of water causes the revelation of the true 'nature' and 'destiny' of water, and thus of the world. By being restored through the blessing to its proper function water becomes again a means of communion with God. Christ in His baptism purified the nature of the waters. He came to redeem not only human beings but, through them, the entire material created world.

O King, who loves mankind, be present now as Thou was at the Jordan through the coming of Thy Holy Spirit and sanctify this water.



January 21, 2024

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee.
Octoechos Tone 1. Our Venerable Father Maximus the Confessor (662). Holy Martyr Neophytus (284-305). Holy Martyrs Eugene, Candidus, Valerian, and Aquilas.

Changeable Parts – Pages **38-40**
in the *Booklet of Changeable Parts*
(Small white book)

Announcements:

This Sunday: Clean-up Decorations

Sunday, January 21st, following the Divine Liturgy we will have the clean-up of the Christmas decorations. I ask that you please remain in Church to help put away the decorations. The more of us stay behind, the faster it will go. Thanks

Mark your calendar: Next Adult Religious Class on January 25, 2024', at 6:30pm. Also, please mark other scheduled classes: Feb. 15, March 14, Apr.18, May 16 and June 13, 2024

Next Coffee **Social and Children Liturgy** on Sunday, January 28, 2024. If you would like to sponsor it let know to Fr. Igor.



