

**ST. MARY'S  
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**VERY REV. RICHARD I. LAMBERT**

**356 S. Belle Vista Ave.**

**Youngstown, Ohio 44509**

**Rectory 330-799-8163**

**Social Center 330-792-1578**

**Jan. 21, 2024**

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**PUBLICAN & PHARISEE**

<b>SAT.</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Health &amp; Blessings of Parishioners</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>+Veronica Kovach by Nancy Mashiska</b>
<b>MON.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>No Liturgy</b>
<b>TUE.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>+Carol Barnett by Husband &amp; Family</b>
<b>WED.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>No Liturgy</b>
<b>THU.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Health &amp; Blessings of Karen Muransky by husband, Dave</b>
<b>FRI.</b>	<b>10:30 am.</b>	<b>No Liturgy</b>

**SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

**Jan. 27, 2024**

<b>SAT.</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>	<b>+Cherie Kent by Dave &amp; Terry Buehrle</b>
<b>SUN.</b>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Health &amp; Blessings of Parishioners</b>

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*Let us offer the Lord sighs like the Publican. As sinners, let us fall before Him, our Master; for He wills the salvation of every one. He grants forgiveness to all who repent for, while remaining God, co-eternal with the Father, He took flesh for our sake.*

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**CHURCH DONATIONS Jan.14 ,2023**  
**Theophany /New Years \$40.00**  
**Monthly Dues \$60.00 Candles \$43.00**  
**In memory Blissenbach S/opkovich Families \$80.00**  
**Offertory..... \$ 1,587.00**

### **BLESSED WATER**

**Water was blessed for the Feast of Theophany If you would like to take some home please bring a small container *anytime*. The container is in its regular spot near the Confessional.**

### **BLESSING OF HOMES**

**If you would like Father to bless your home please call the office 330 792-1578 to set a time and date.**

### **ALL SOULS.....HRAMOTY**

**The envelope for All Souls is included in your Jan. Envelopes. If you would like to remember your Loved ones at these liturgies please fill out the envelope (first names only) and drop in the collection basket. First All Souls will be Feb. 3, 2024**

### **THIRD ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT**

**Will be held at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont, Ohio. March 15th -17th. Retreat Master is Fr. Thomas Loya. If interested the pamphlets are in vestibule. For further info call. 419-332-6522**

### **SOCIAL GAMES**

**Are played every Sunday in our Center...Doors open 4:30 p.m. and games begin at 6:30 p.m. Start the New Year off right and come spend a little time with your Friends and Family. We offer GREAT prizes ....and you might be one of the LUCKY ONES that walks out with some XTRA Cash.**

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## PARABLE OF PUBLICAN & PHARISEE

In teaching the people, Jesus frequently used parables. These are stories that, in clean and simple terms, communicated a moral, truth or virtue to the people.



The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee received its name from the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee, recorded in the Gospel of St. Luke (18:10-14). In this parable, Jesus Christ gives us two contrasts: the proud Pharisee and the humble Publican. Using these two types, He points out the ugliness of pride and the significance of humility.

The parable portrays a typical Pharisee, although he came to the temple to pray, he praised, not God but himself. He does not ask to pardon his sins. On the contrary, being sure of his righteousness, he even thanks God that he is not a sinner. He brags about his fasting and the tithes he gives to the temple of God., while at the same time, he looks down upon the Publican as upon a great sinner.

The Publican, conscious of his own sinfulness, does not even dare raise his eyes to heaven, but prays humbly and strikes his breast, saying: "*God, be merciful to me, a sinner.*" His short prayer, full of sorrow and humility, remains to this day, a most beautiful and sincere act of sorrow for our sins.

Jesus ends this parable with the words: "I tell you, this man went back to his home justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted."

This parable teaches us clearly that God does not look at the person or his position in life, but at the person's heart and soul. "God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble." God rejected the prayer of the arrogant Pharisee but heard the prayer of the humble Publican. Pride is the greatest obstacle to conversion and penance, while humility is the beginning of true conversion and the foundation of sincere penance and fasting.

For this reason the Church desires that as we approach the Great Fast we prepare ourselves for it with great humility, mindful of our sinfulness, for only then will we experience compunction of heart and possess the courage and goodwill to undertake fasting and penance. Without humility there is no conversion, no sorrow for sin, and no return to God.

Let us run from the words of the boastful Pharisee, and learn the humility of the Publican,  
***GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER.***

### SHARE YOUR SMILE

A smile costs nothing, but creates much. It happens in a flash, but the memory of it lasts forever. It cannot be begged, borrowed, or stolen, but it is of no earthly good to anyone until it is given away. So, if in a hurry, you meet someone who is too weary to smile, leave one of yours, for no one needs a smile so much as he who has none to give.

### PEACE IN GOD

There is a *Rock* the earthquake cannot shake. There is a *Light* the shadows cannot hide. There is a *Heart* that sorrow cannot break. There is a *Friendship* that is true and tried, and though I walk the valley dark and grim, God's Word is sure; I shall have peace in *Him*.

### RESOLUTIONS

It isn't easy, but it pays; to apologize. To begin again. To admit error. To be unselfish. To face a sneer. To be considerate. To endure success. To keep trying. To profit by mistakes. To forgive and forget. To think and then act. To keep out of the rut. To make the best of a little. To shoulder deserved blame. It might not be easy but it is possible to try.