



*Welcome to St. Athanasius the Great
Byzantine Catholic Church*

***"Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him forever!"
Slava Isusu Christu! Slava naviky Bohu!***

We welcome all to the Divine Services at our parish. Our restrooms are in the Dormition Hall behind the Rectory next door. On Sundays, after Divine Liturgy, all of you are welcome for luncheon.

O faithful, let us not pray as the Pharisee, for those who exalt themselves shall be humbled. Let us humble our-selves before God, and with the Publican let us say: "Lord have mercy on me a sinner."

(Stichera of the Publican and the Pharisee)

1 MEN'S RETREAT

The 5 Annual MEN'S RETREAT on **JANUARY 30TH TO FEBRUARY 1ST**.
Retreat Master: Father Jan Maturkanic. Jesuit Retreat Center, Parma, OH Contact
Karl Busam for further information or email:
Karl.busam.77@gmail.com or 419-626-6811

2 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

There will be Knights of Columbus meeting on Sunday February 1st after luncheon.
Everyone who would like to become a member of Knights of Columbus asked to speak
to Glan Grabov or Henry Parecie

3 ALTAR SERVERS MEETING

The next meeting for altar servers will be on February 22nd after Divine Liturgy in the Church. Please mark your calendar and plan to bring your child to this meeting.

4 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Place on **FEBRUARY 20TH – FEBRUARY 22ND**.

Retreat Master: Fr. Joseph Loya. Maria Stein Retreat Center, Maria Stein, OH
Contact Joan Washburn for further information.
stmarymbhdwomensretreat@gmail.com or 865-696-7809

5 MARRIAGE MINISTRY

Retrouvaille of Cleveland Marriage Ministry Program. This Marriage Ministry is supported by the Cleveland Diocese and offers a weekend program followed by 6 additional sessions to help couples improve communications, rebuild trust, and rediscover each other. The Cleveland program begins with a weekend schedule for **Feb. 13th - 15th 2026** at the Kent State University Hotel and Conference Center. Additional information can be found at www.helpourmarriage.org/OR
CALL: Shelly and Rob, Retrouvaille of Cleveland 216-509-0301.

6 WINTER CARMEL MARKET

THE WINTER CARMEL MARKET starts on **October 18, at 7:15am** we load the church van, then drive to 611 Third Av SW, Carmel, IN.

46032 Ends at noon

Services for the Week of January 25 – February 1, 2026				
Day		Time	Service	Readings
<u>Sunday</u>	January 25 Sunday of the Publican	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon	Jn. 21:15-25 2 Tim. 3:10-15 Lk. 18:10-14
Monday	January 26 Our venerable Father Xenophon	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	2 Pet. 1:20-2:9 Mk. 13:9-13
Tuesday	January 27 Translation of the Relics of our Holy Father John Chrisostom		No service	2 Pet. 2:9-22 Mk. 13:14-23
Wednesday	January 28 Venerable Father Ephrem the Syrian	8:30 AM	Moleben for sick	2 Pet. 3:1-18 Mk. 13:24-31
Thursday	January 29 Translation of the Relics of the Holy Bishop and Martyr Ignatius		No service	1 Jn. 1:8-2:6 Mk. 13:31-14:2
Friday	January 30 Feast of Three Holy Bishop	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy	Heb. 13:7-16 Mt. 5:14-19
Saturday	January 31 Holy Healers Cyrus and John	7:15-12:00 5:00 AM	<u>Winter Market</u> Vespers & Confession	2 Tim. 3:1-9 Lk. 20:46-21:4
Sunday	February 1 Sunday of the Prodigal Son	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon	Mt. 28:16-20 1 cor. 6:12-20 Lk. 15:11-32
Financial update: 1/18/2026				
Bakery	Holy Day	Candles	Others	Sunday Tithes
\$1,221.02	\$0	\$88	\$0	\$882.28
Totals \$2,191.30				

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO OUR PARISH

SUNDAY OF PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

2 Timothy 3:10-15

My son, Timothy: Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the Sacred Writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Luke 18: 10-14

The Lord told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a publican. The Pharisee with head unbowed prayed in this fashion: 'I give you thanks, O God, that I am not like the rest of men-grasping, crooked, adulterous-or even like this publican. I fast twice a week. I pay tithes on all I possess.' The other man, however, kept his distance, not even daring to raise his eyes to heaven. All he did was beat his breast and say, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Believe me, this man went home from the temple justified but the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled while he who humbles himself shall be exalted."

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Glory to Jesus Christ!

This publican is forgiven. Cyril of Alexandria:

It is written that the tax collector "stood afar off," not daring even to lift up his eyes. You see how he refrains from all boldness of speech. He seems to be deprived of the right to speak and struck down by contempt of conscience. He was afraid that God would see him, since he was negligent in keeping the Law and led an indecent and disorderly life. You also see that he accuses his own depravity by his outward appearance. The foolish Pharisee stood bold and wide, raising his eyes without doubt, testifying and boasting. The other [publican] feels ashamed of his conduct. He fears his Judge. He beats his breast. He confesses his crimes. He shows his illness to this Physician, and prays that He will have mercy on him. What is the result? Let us hear what the Judge says. He says: "This man went down to his house justified, not that man" (Cyril of Alexandria, Commentaries on Luke, Sermon 120).

It is more difficult to confess one's sins than one's righteousness. Ephrem the Syrian:

In the case of this Pharisee who was praying, the things he said were true. Since he said them out of pride, and the tax collector spoke his sins with humility, the confession of the latter's sins was more pleasing to God than the confession of the former's goodness. It is more difficult to confess one's sins than one's righteousness. God pays attention to the one who bears a heavy burden. So the tax collector appeared in His eyes to have more than the Pharisee. He went away

more justified than the Pharisee, only because he was humble. If this Pharisee had been sinful, his prayer would have added sins to his sins, but the Lord cleansed the tax collector from his sins. If the Pharisee's prayer itself provoked God's wrath, then as a result of this provocation the tax collector's prayer proved even more powerful (Ephrem the Syrian, Commentaries on Tatian's Diatessaron 15.24).

Conclusion Humility is the mark of a sinner. Basil the Great:

The stern Pharisee, who in his extreme pride not only boasted of himself, but discredited the tax collector in the presence of God, nullified his own righteousness by the guilt of pride. The tax collector came out justified instead of the Pharisee, because he gave glory to the Holy God. He dared not lift up his eyes, but sought only to plead for mercy. He incriminated himself by his posture, beating his breast, and considering no other motive than propitiation. Therefore, be on your guard, and keep in mind this example of the severe loss caused by arrogance. He who was guilty of presumptuous conduct suffered the loss of his righteousness, and lost his reward by his audacity. He was condemned lower than the humble man and sinner, because in his self-determination he did not wait for God's Judgment, but confessed it himself. Never place yourself above anyone else, even great sinners. Humility often saves a sinner who has committed many terrible sins (Basil the Great, On Humility).

CHRIST IS AMONG US! HE IS AND SHALL BE



Weekend Divine Services

Saturday: 5 PM Vespers

Sunday: 8:15 AM Matins
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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