

ORTHODOX HELPERS

Feb. 21

Feb. 28

Prospora Anne & Hanne

Daniel & Draga

Reader Bogdan & Stefan

Marius & Dennis

Greeter George C & Dennis

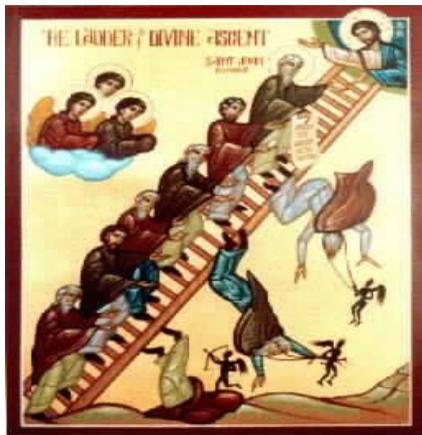
Giani & Dennis



Thank you to all the church helpers. Your service is appreciated. **Please make note of the schedule and of your commitment.** If you are not able to fulfill your commitment, please find a replacement.



By much labor and effort a good and stable character is developed in us. But what is achieved with great labor can be lost in a single moment.

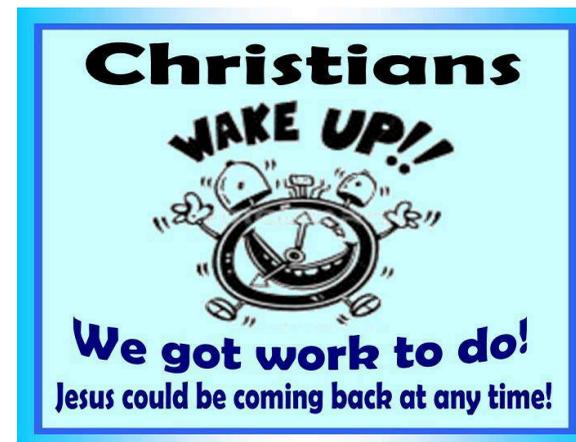


TO OUR VISITORS: WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S

Welcome to all guests to St. Mary's on this holy day. If you are new to our church, please make yourself known to Father Michael. We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Please note that only Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves with prayer, fasting and Confession may approach to receive Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to receive the blessing and partake of the blessed bread (Antidor) at the dismissal.

As a sign of respect please remain standing during Holy Communion, even if you are not partaking. Please turn off all cell phones.



Saint Mary's Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church

Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America (O.C.A.)

3511 3rd Avenue SW, Calgary T3C 0A7

Hierarch: The Most Reverend Archbishop Nathaniel

Pastor: Very Reverend Father Michael Lupu

EMAIL: fatherlupu@shaw.ca

WEBSITE: <http://www.saintmaryscalgary.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysRomanianOrthodoxChurchCalgary>



Feb. 21, 2016

Publican and the Pharisee
a Vameşului și Fariseului

Vespers every Saturday 6:00 pm

Divine Liturgy every Sunday 10 am

Other services as announced

ORTHODOX TEACHING

Reading The Publican and the Pharisee- Beginning of the Lenten Triodin

The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights. All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday. Reading © Holy Transfiguration Monastery - Brookline, MA

St. John Climacus

- No fasting this week
- Mark your calendars!
 - **Saturday March 5- 6:00pm Memorial Saturday**
 - **March 6 -Pre-lenten lunch after Divine Liturgy. \$15.00 per person. Tickets will be sold at the door. Everyone is invited.**
 - **March 7 - Farewell to meat.**
 - **March 7,9,11 - 6:30 pm St. Andrew of Crete Services.**
 - **March 20 - Sunday of Orthodoxy will be held at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Church.**
 - **April 8- 10 -Men's Retreat. Please see Dennis or Daniel for details.**

**We are collecting for Safeway cards. Please mark your donation 'Safeway'.*

**Please remember to make a loaf of sandwiches for the Mustard Seed.*

Do not become harsh and unmerciful. Think that behind him who seeks charity from you, is the Lord Himself... Give charity for your own benefit and for the benefit of those who are really poor.

The Lord will reward you...

† Saint John Chrysostom

TODAY'S READINGS AND TROPARS

Epistle 2 Timothy 3:10-15. Gospel Luke 18:10-14 Tone 5 (Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee

Ap. 2 Timotei 3,1015. Ev. Luca 18,10-14 Glas 5 (a Vameşului și Fariseului)

Resurrection Tone 5.

Let us faithful praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, who was born of the virgin for our salvation. He willed to be lifted up onto the cross to endure death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Tropar for the church

Your Nativity O Birthgiver of God has proclaimed joy to all the Universe. For the Son of Righteousness, Christ our God has risen from you, By abolishing the curse, He gave a blessing, By destroying death, He bestowed eternal life.