

February 5, 2017: The 33rd Sunday after Pentecost (the Publican and the Pharisee)

Epistle reading: II Tim. 3:10-15:

"But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

Gospel reading: Luke 18:10-14:



"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'

I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

With the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee we begin a new chapter in the Ecclesiastical year: THE TRIODION, which runs until Great Saturday (Easter Eve).

The Triodion is the time of repentance and spiritual cleansing, which takes us through three weeks of preparation for the unique journey of Great Lent, whose highlight is the Holy Week. The Triodion runs until the Great and Holy Saturday, the eve of the Lord's Resurrection.

The Church announces this event at the Matins service of this week with some beautiful hymns/prayers, such as: *"Open to me the doors of repentance, O, Giver of Life..."*, which is sung through the entire period of the Triodion.

This comes in the context of the Gospel reading, which portrays the *"Two men who went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector,"* and their completely opposite attitude while praying. The Pharisee stands in arrogance and pride in front of the Temple and lists all the good deeds he had acquired, despising at the same time his fellow worshiper, the Publican, who, in total humility and overcome with the genuine spirit of repentance, prays and says: *"God, be merciful to me a sinner!"*

The two men represent the two categories of people/Christians who attend the same church service but return to their homes with different results, based on the attitude and the intent they came to church with.

May the Good and Merciful God give us the the Publican's humility and spirit of repentance!

Fr. George Bazgan

Sunday Fellowship

**The following families are scheduled to look after
this Sunday's fellowship:**

**Apostol Alex & Georgeta
Bacivan Milan & Cornelia
Stoica Emilian & Simona**

Thank you all very much!

Altar boys for this Sunday:

**Peter Stoleru
Radu Nicholas Almășanu**

Valentine's Supper & Dance

**On Saturday, February 11, 2017, there will be a
Valentine's Supper and Dance at the Romanian Center.
Supper will be served at 7:00 P.M.**

**For tickets (\$40.00/adults, \$10.00/children) and details, call
Luminita Stănescu at 780-424-243.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for
February 19, 2017, after the Divine Liturgy.**

On the Agenda:

- Financial and other committee reports.**
- Election of a new Church Board.**

**Members in good standing will be able to vote.
All are invited to attend.**

PLEASE, PLAN TO ATTEND!

**ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF EDMONTON
SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND ELENA**



**9005 132 Ave NW
Edmonton, AB T5E 0Y1 Canada
Telephone: 780-475-1422
E-mail: info@bisericaedmonton.org
Website: www.bisericaedmonton.org**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, February 19, 2017

AGENDA

- 1. Call the meeting to order and opening prayer.**
- 2. Confirmation of “Notice of Meeting” and quorum.**
- 3. Approval of the Agenda.**
- 4. Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting.**
- 5. Business arising from 2016 Annual General Meeting Minutes.**
- 6. Financial Statements, Membership and Casino Reports by Mrs. Corina Sasu, Treasurer**
- 7. Church Report, by Fr. George Bazgan.**

Committee Reports:

- 8. Property and Maintenance, by Mr. Nicolae Chiosa, Hall Manager.**
- 9. Social, by Mr. Viorel Ciocan.**
- 10. Communications / Public relations report by Ștefan Mocanu.**
- 11. Ladies Auxiliary, by Psa. Maria Bazgan, LA President.**
- 12. President’s report, by Mr. Ion Mieila, Board President.**
- 13. New Business.**
- 14. Adjournment.**