

Prayers for our Parishioners. The particular law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs that the pastor is to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept [holydays of obligation]" (canon 294). This liturgy intention for all parishioners is "For the Intention of Parishioners." The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners who participate, according to their state, in praying for that intention. We can continue this prayer for one another during the week by remembering several parishioners' families each week. Please pray for these parishioners; John and Lisa Clark & family, Kevin and Laura Jean Clark & family, Rosemary Clark, Timothy and Yvonne Clark & family, Thomas and Jennifer Cooke & family, Samuel and Anne Crowell & family, Peter & Mary Czernowski & family, and from the Mission, Nancy Sesok & family. If a second Sunday Liturgy is offered, an intention can be accepted. Since we have had only one Sunday Divine Liturgy for fourteen Sundays, the Liturgy was for the Intention of our Parishioners. As a result, the intentions requested for the second Liturgy on Sundays have not been offered. The celebrant can pray for additional intentions during the Liturgy, for example, the priest is required to pray for the bishop who ordained him at every Liturgy he offers. The celebrant will pray for the intention parishioners have offered. Please note that this does not persolve the Liturgy intention requested. The previously scheduled liturgy intention for January 24th is for +Joseph and +Michael Koshuta by Monica Koahuta. Any Sunday liturgy intention previously scheduled will be rescheduled when a priest is assigned which would make two liturgies a possibility again.

Public Liturgies. The Commonwealth of Virginia began Phase Three July 1st. In his episcopal letter of May 13th, Bishop Kurt Burnette announced that churches may reopen for public worship according to the directives of the public health authorities and with the bishop's permission. For churches, Phase Three

requirements are the same as Phase One requirements. This means that the Parish Strategic Plan and the Eparchial Checklist is still applicable. This means churches may open at 50% of capacity provided health department requirements are met. It is important for public health not to slacken in observing the Strategic Plan. Bishop Kurt continues to dispense so those who are at risk or feel unsafe may remain at home. Please keep in mind that Divine Law still requires us to keep the Lord's Day holy by prayer and by refraining from unnecessary work. The bishop cannot dispense Divine Law. Further, the Bishop had encouraged all to make a good confession later in the year when it is safe.

Live Streaming. In response to the spiritual needs the Faithful of Epiphany, the Divine Liturgy of the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee today will be live streamed.

Praying at Home Together. If you are remaining safe at home, you may consider praying the Divine Liturgy in your homes so that we can be united in praying the same prayers. These are available on the web site of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, <https://mci.archpitt.org>. The entire People's Molitvennik is available under Publications tab to use when participating in the live streaming Liturgy.

Messages from the Pastor. Father John has been sending email messages to the parishioners whose email addresses we have on our roster. If you have not been receiving these email messages, it might be because we do not have your email address, or you have changed it and we do not have it. We would like to have your email address to keep contact with you during this time when some parishioners are remaining safe at home. Simply email the parish.

Friday Fast Resumes. Fridays resume as a Day of Penance.

Intentions to be Rescheduled. If you have offered a Divine Liturgy for an intention to be celebrated during the suspension, you will be

contacted to reschedule. Jamie has begun rescheduling weekday liturgy requests according to the date of the request. If you have scheduled a weekday liturgy, that liturgy will remain on the date requested. However, if you scheduled a liturgy on a Sunday, the intention will not be rescheduled until after the pandemic or until Bishop Kurt is able to assign a second priest to be able to celebrate two Sunday liturgies.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

2021 Calendars. Parishioners, if you not able to pick up a 2021 liturgical calendar since Christmas and wish to request a calendar, please call the parish office at 703-573-3986. We will put one in the mail to you. We are asking that distribution be limited to one per family.

Bishops Appeal Additional information regarding our current progress toward our goal of \$19,800. Donations total to date is \$17,165! We are only \$2,635 short of our goal. And MCM has only \$1775 between them and meeting their goal! Keep up the good work!

Offering Envelopes. Many parishioners have recently received their collection envelopes for this quarter. Parishioners who do not receive their envelopes by February 1, please call the office again, 703-573-2968. In the meantime, you may use a letter or legal size envelope to place your donation into the basket on Sunday. Please be sure to note your envelope number on the face of the envelope and the division of your contribution among the usual options, i.e., Adult, Building Fund, SOR, St. Nicholas, etc.

On-line Giving Now Set Up. Bishop Kurt directed that all parishes have online giving service in place with www.tithe.ly.com by August 31, 2020. Both the parish and the mission now have online accounts with tithe.ly and these can be accessed at the church or mission web sites. To make an online contribution, go to the church web site. On the home page is a link that says

[Epiphany of our Lord online donation](#). Click on that and you will be directed to Epiphany's tithe.ly account. Please note that where you see Offertory, that is a drop-down menu that allows the donor to specify what the donation is for: Sunday offertory, Building Fund, St. Nicholas Fund, or eparchial collections. Please show care in the category Recurring Giving. If it is not a donation to be given each week or month, please make that adjustment that this is a one-time donation.

EMC Bingo. Due to the Pandemic, Bingo has been suspended indefinitely. Observance of local, state, Catholic Mutual, and eparchial requirements for safe distancing and sanitizing does not make reopening Bingo economically feasible. We will continue to monitor health and scientific information as it becomes available to guide the determination of opening safely for our parishioners and Bingo patrons.

Parish Bulletin. The parish bulletin will continue to be posted weekly on the Epiphany website: www.eolbcc.org. It will also be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex and photograph of the bulletin can be taken.

Parish Office Schedule and Safety Protocols. In accordance with Bishop Kurt Burnette's and Governor Northam's most recent Orders, the office hours for Epiphany of our Lord continue to be amended to the following: Monday through Friday - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Jamie, the administrative assistant, will cover the office during those hours from home two days of the week. She will be teleworking Tuesday afternoon and all day Thursday. She will be physically in the parish office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only. Lucie, the financial assistant, is working in the office only three days a week. She will be in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Given that response to this crisis is so fluid and schedules can change so quickly, please call the office phone number before venturing out. Parish staff has established safety and health protocols at the parish office, as well. If you have business at

the office, please use the RING doorbell. We will respond through the intercom after verifying your presence at the door. Jamie is able to respond to the door from home as well. Please wear a mask and use the hand sanitizer station when you come into the office and observe social distancing. We are only able to accommodate three adults in the office including two staff members observing safe distancing.

Mission Update. Jack McLaurin has informed us that the Soil and Erosion Plan the remaining issue is the easement around the new dry wells. The documents are being prepared. The revised Soil and Erosion plans were to be submitted this past Tuesday. The Building Permits Zoning has approved. We are waiting for the responses from other agencies. The Water and Septic reviewer comments are that the septic fields will not be able to handle a five bedroom house with public worship.

Book Store. The Bookstore is open by appointment only. Please contact a Bookstore manager and be prepared to wear a mask and not to use the rest rooms in the Social Hall.

Restroom Availability FYI. There are no campus restrooms open to the public, including our vendors. We have only two buildings being cleaned weekly, the church for our parishioners and the parish office for our office staff. The day care bathrooms are for the exclusive use of the day care children and staff and restricted for their safety.

EPARCHIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Appeal. The Bishop's Appeal 2020 began October 1st. Pledges and payments will be accepted through June 1, 2021. Any contributions received after December 31, 2020, must be attributed to the 2021 tax year. The goal for this year's campaign is the same as last year,

\$19,800 for the church and \$6,000 for the mission. The parishioners at the church have pledged or given \$16,950. The parishioners at the mission have pledged or given \$4,225. This is an incredible response in this difficult time. May God bless you for your sacrificial offerings to our eparchy and for our eparchy's donations to European eparchies. If we reach our goal, we will receive a 40% refund of the total received.

ByzanTEENS Night Out. The monthly virtual meetings of Byzantine Catholic teens continue this year with the general theme of "Roadmap to the Rally" at Mt. St. Mary, Emmitsburg, MD. The next meeting is Sunday, February 21st from 6:00-7:30PM. The teens are from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida. Epiphany teens are participants. Each month there are new participants who join. Deacon Tom Schubeck, a deacon at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Rahway and a licensed psychologist and a professor at Seton Hall University, is one of the hosts. For information on the virtual Night Out write to him at frdeacontom@gmail.

God With Us Online. The study series resumes with the offering *Partakers of the Divine Nature: A Patristic Study of Deification*. The course examines the work of God in which humans can become divinized by studying the fathers of the Church. The course is led from Father Nathan Scott Adams and will be presented online for three Wednesdays, January 13 - 27 at 9:00PM. Go to www.GodWithUsOnline.org to register. This Wednesday will be the last of this series.

Catechetics Degree. Father Mark Morozowich, SEOD, dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies of the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, and a Ukrainian Catholic priest of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat of Parma, informed Bishop Kurt that CUA School of Theology and Religious Studies is offering an on-line Master of Catechetics degree, an interdisciplinary degree of theology, scripture, spirituality, liturgical catechesis, history and

psychology, to prepare professionals to be missionary disciples of the New Evangelization in the field of catechetics for eparchies and dioceses. If you are interested, please contact Father Dr. Morozowich at 202-319-5684 or the Graduate Admissions Specialist, Dr. Elena Martin at martine@cua.edu or 202-319-5482.
Publican and Pharisee

COMING EVENTS

- Byzantine Spirituality
- Parish Office Safety Protocols
- ByzanTEEN Night Out
- 2021 Calendars
- Mission Development
- On Line Contributions
- Bishop's Appeal

EMC BINGO

Bingo will be suspended for the foreseeable future.

<http://EMCBINGO.com>

TITHING & GIVING

Adults	\$2,455.00
Initial Offering	\$25.00
Building Fund	\$1,945.00
Holy Days	\$215.00
Candles	\$279.30
Christmas	\$160.00
School of Religion	\$2.00
St. Nicholas Fund	\$12.01
	<hr/>
	\$ 5,093.31

Tithing & Giving. Above accounting represents weeks 1/3/21 and 1/10/21. The next report will cover weeks 1/17/21 and 1/24/21. "Online Donation" represents donations for Epiphany contributed by parishioners online and sent to Epiphany from our online giving account. Our online giving is operational and can be accessed through the parish or mission web sites. Thank you for continuing to use your giving envelopes.

"Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth." (Dt. 8:18)

LITURGY AND LIFE

Prayer Intentions. Please remember in prayer: Msgr. George Dobes, Michael Mikulak, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Justine Ferrari, Louis Shanks, Caroline Zurun, Mary Beth Vieira, Irene Markovich, Mary Gaydos, Betty Markovchick, John Vernoski, Marge Rusnak, Richard Wytko, Tim Ryan, Fr. Lee Gross, and Rand Bass. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Steven Goula, Eileen Gray, James Seman, Mike Shuster, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Kelly Kunder, Jim Bacigalupi, Katherine Sikoryak, Margaret Hospodar, John Ryaby III, Guillermina Donalson, and Steve Smith.



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Byzantine Catholic Church
3410 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003
Phone: 703-573-3986 --- Fax: 703-573-0344
Very Rev. John G. Basarab - Pastor

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Glory forever!

January 24, 2021

Slava Isusu Christu!
Slava na v'iki!

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

Sun. Jan. 24 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

Thirty-fifth Week after Pentecost

Tue. Jan. 26 10:00 AM +Daniel Green by Sally Green

THREE HOLY HIERARCHS

Sat. Jan. 30 10:00 AM +John Lichvarcik by Elizabeth Basarab

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Sun. Jan. 31 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – January 31, 2020

Sun. Jan. 31 One server will be assigned under Phase Three Reopening Plan.

USHER SCHEDULE – January 31, 2020

Sun. Jan. 31 Ushers check with Bob Wargo for assignments next Sunday.

**All public services in church in Phase Three in Virginia can have 50% of capacity.
People in attendance must wear masks and maintain social distancing.**

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Byzantine Catholic Church

The Sacraments – Our Life in Christ

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation - (Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist). We follow the command of the Lord to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Chrismation (Confirmation) and Holy Eucharist (First Holy Communion) is imparted at the same time immediately following baptism

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Infants – is scheduled at the Divine Liturgy on Saturdays or Sundays during the year except certain fast periods. Sponsors must be Catholics in good standing and supply a sponsor card attesting to that from their parish. While two Catholics in good standing is usual, one baptized non-Catholic can function as a Christian Witness with the Catholic sponsor. Both must be at least sixteen years of age. Details are available at the parish office.

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Adults – follows a period of catechumenate. This is a period of spiritual formation. Please see the priest or deacon.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Crowning in Marriage – According to the Pastoral Policy and Guidelines for Marriage Preparation for the Catholic Church in New Jersey, couples wishing to marry must inform the pastor one year before the date of the wedding and be free to marry in the Catholic Church. Couples will meet with the priest and deacon in four sessions – to begin the pre-nuptial investigation, to take FOCCUS, a communications, values and religious inventory approved for use in the Catholic dioceses/eparchies, to complete the pre-nuptial investigation and for a session on the theology of the mystery (sacrament). They are also required to attend Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance – The Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance is regularly available each Saturday 11:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. In addition, confessions are heard during the Christmas Fast (Advent) and the Great Fast (Lent) at other scheduled times. Visiting confessors are also scheduled at special times during the Great Fast. Confessions are also heard on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Great and Holy Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life endangering medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves Week to prepare for the observance of the Lord's Resurrection.

Anointing of the Sick – Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life-threatening medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves of the sacrament of penance and anointing of the sick. If surgery is scheduled, please consider confession and anointing at the church before entering the hospital since there is more privacy for confession and less chance of interruption for confession and anointing. If you are unable to come to church, please call the rectory. Families of parishioners who have a medical emergency should contact the rectory office so one of the priests can go the hospital.

Holy Communion and Visitation of the Sick – Holy Communion is brought to our parishioners who are ill at the hospital or at home by the deacon on Sundays and at other times by arrangement. Please contact the deacon or the rectory office by Friday prior to the Sunday communion visitation.

Funeral Services – The Office of Christian Burial is offered in ways to accommodate the needs of the family. The Epiphany Ladies Guild as part of their charity offers a Mercy Meal for families at the Parish Center following the interment. Epiphany of our Lord cemetery is a portion of Fairfax Memorial Park. Parishioners who are interested in purchasing cemetery plots should see the deacon.

Byzantine Catholic Mission of Montgomery County - Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM; Religious Education & Social Hour 11:15-12:15: 20501 Goshen Road, Gaithersburg, MD; (301) 482-0282.

Parish Administration

"The Church is not an organization with sacraments but a sacrament with organization."

Parish Clergy

Very Rev. John G. Basarab, Pastor
Deacon Elmer Pekarik, Deacon Peter Turko

Parish Office Staff

Jamie Bacigalupi, Administrative Assistant
Lucie Cantsilieris, Financial Assistant

Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Greg Puhak, Sally Green

Parish Office Hours: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Monday- Friday

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Sunday

School of Religion - School of Religion classes meet on Sundays between Liturgies (9:20 AM - 10:20 AM) throughout the school year (September - June). Classes are offered for children grades Preschool & Kindergarten - High School

Announcements may be dropped off in the Parish Office, faxed to the office (703-573-1088) or email to epiphanyofourlord@verizon.net.

Registration - Individuals who wish to register in the Parish should stop by the Parish Office and complete a census form.

Epiphany of our Lord Church, Annandale, VA
<http://www.eolbcc.org>
Epiphany of our Lord does not conduct business on the website email.

PARISH USTAV

The Order for the Divine Liturgy
Thirty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

PLACE RIBBONS AT:

BLUE	p. 11	Mark and Follow Ordinary Parts of the Divine Liturgy
GREEN	p. 125	Resurrection Tone 1
RED	p. 215	Publican and Pharisee

ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: A

EXCEPT:

1. The Divine Liturgy begins on p. 11 BLUE
2. Sunday Antiphons
3. At the Troparia:
Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 125
Kontakion of the Publican and the Pharisee Tone 3 p. 215 RED
4. Scripture readings:
Prokeimenon of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 127 GREEN
Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15
Alleluia of the Resurrection Tone 1 p. 127 GREEN
Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON – JEDINORODNYJ SYNE

Slava Otcu i Synu i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i 4n a4i, 4n a v'iki v'ikov. Amiň. Jedinorodnyj Syne,

i 4n a4 Božij, bezsmerten syj, i izvolivyj spasenija našeho radi voplotitisja ot svjatyja Bohorodicy i 4n a4i-d'ivy Mariji, nepreložno vočelov'ičivysja, raspnysja že, Christe Bože, smertiju smert' popravjy, jedin syj Svjatyja Trojcy, sproslavl'ajemyj Otcu i Svjatomu Duchu, spasi nas.

SVJATYJ BOŽE – HOLY GOD

Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas. (3)

Slava Otcu, i Synu, i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i prisno, i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amin.

Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

IŽE CHERUVIMY – LET US WHO MYSTICALLY

Iže Cheruvimy tajno obrazujušče, i životvorjassčej Trojc'i trisvjatuju p'isň prinosjasšče, vsjakuju nyňi zitejskoje otveržim pečal'.

Amiň. Jako da Carja vs'ich podimem, anhel'skimi nevidimo dorinosima činmi. Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

SVJAT, SVJAT, SVJAT – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Svjat, svjat, svjat, Hospod' savaoth, ispolň nebo i zeml'a slavy Tvojeja: osanna vo vyšnich, blahosloven hrjadyj vo imja Hospodne, osanna vo vyšnich.

TEBE POJEM – WE PRAISE YOU

Tebe pojem, Tebe blahoslovim, Teb'i blahodarim, Hospodi, i molimtisja Bože naš.

DOSTOJNO JEST' – IT IS TRULY PROPER

Dostojno jest' jako voistinnu blažiti t'a bohorodicu, prisnoblaženuju i preneporočnuju i Mater' Boha našeho. Česňjšuju Cheruvim i slavňjšuju bez sravnenija Serafim, bez istl'inija Boha Slova roždšuju, suščuju Bohorodicu, t'a veličajem.

OTČE NAŠ – OUR FATHER

Otče naš, iže jesi na nebes'ich, da svjatitsja imja Tvoje. Da prijedet carstvije Tvoje, da budet vol'a Tvoja, jako na nebesi, i na zemli. Chl'ib naš nasuščnyj dažd nam dnes'. I ostavi nam dolhi naša, jakože i my ostavl'ajem dolžnikom našim. I ne vvedi nas vo iskušeniye, no izbavi nas ot lukavaho.

VID'ICHOM SVIT ISTINNYJ – WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT

Vid'ichom svit istinnyj, i prijachom Ducha nebesnaho, obr'itochom v'iru istinnuju, nerazd'ilnij Svjat'ij Trojc'i poklanjajemsja, T'a bo nas spasla jest'.

DA ISPOLŇATSJA – MAY OUR MOUTH BE FILLED

Da ispolňatsja usta naša chvalenija tvojeho Hospodi, jako da pojem slavu tvoju, jako spodobil jesi nas pričastitsja svjatym tvojim, božestvennym, bezsmertnym, i životvor'ascim Tajnam; utverdi nas Bože vo Tvojej svjatyni vsja dni poučatisja pravd'i Tvojeje. Alliluja.

Meditation on Today's Readings

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee



But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me a sinner.'

Luke 18:10-14

Jesus told the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee as part of a series of parables and of teachings during the forty days between when He was transfigured on Mt. Tabor and His crucifixion. Jesus is travelling from Galilee to Judea. Just before He arrives at Jericho and begins His ascent to Jerusalem, He tells this parable. The holy fathers of the Byzantine Church appointed this gospel to be proclaimed on the fourth Sunday before the beginning of the Great Fast as a preparation for the Great Fast.

The introduction given by the evangelist Luke is not proclaimed in the Byzantine lectionary but gives the understanding of the purpose of the parable. It reads: "He then addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else" (Luke 18:9).

The two characters of the parable are described as being at prayer in the Temple. The Pharisee is a member of one of the three religious divisions of first century Judaism, the others being the Sadducees and the Essenes. The Pharisees were by far the most pious and devoted of the three groups. The tax collector or publican of the time was a collaborator with the Roman Empire, often an extortioner and opportunist, who thereby was a betrayer of their own people.

The Pharisee, Jesus narrates, prays not to God but within himself and his "prayer" is a catalogue of all the good he has done. There are other first century texts that contain "prayers" very similar to the prayer spoken by the character in the parable, and these comparative texts reveal that Jesus was not exaggerating in His storytelling. The publican, on the other hand, can only pray in repentance, "O God, be merciful to me a sinner."

The parable reverses expectations for at the end of the parable Jesus says that the publican leaves the temple just in God's sight while the Pharisee does not.

What the character of the Pharisee does not understand and the publican does realize is the truth God teaches in the Bible about the condition of the human race: "For there is no distinction; all have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God...What occasion is there then for boasting? It is ruled out" (Romans 3:22, 27). While we might compare ourselves favorably toward one another and boast, when we stand before God and really perceive what we are before God our attitude can only be like Saint Peter, the Vicar of Jesus Christ, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man" (Luke 5:8). In fact, that awe at the transcendent holiness and goodness of God inspires the prayer of the publican and reveals that he knows he is in God's presence.

In order to be saved one must have the virtue of humility because of the truth that God is humble. The humility of God is seen in the act of creation of the cosmos and all in it for the infinite God has to "withdraw" in order to "make space" for His creation. The humility of God is seen that God the Son becomes man. The humility of God is seen that the ordinary substances of bread and wine are consecrated and furthermore that these substances once they have become the Body and Blood of God are handled—and even sometimes sacrilegiously—by His humans. Yes, God is humble and so if we want to be godlike and be eternally with God we need the virtue of humility to open the way to repentance which in turns opens the gates of God's merciful love which can both save and exalt a saint and also purify and forgive the sinner.

You have followed my teaching, way of life, purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, persecutions, and sufferings...Yet, from all these the Lord delivered me. In fact, all who want to live religiously in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...But you remain faithful...from infancy you have known the sacred scriptures, which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation in Christ Jesus.

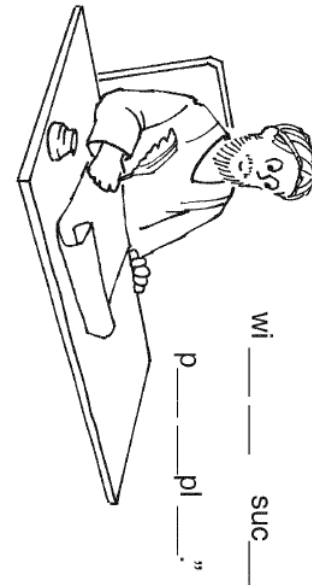
2 Timothy 3:10-15

Saint Paul writes that he imitated Christ Jesus by his way of life. He encourages Timothy to do the same. However, he mentions that those who live a Christ-like life will be persecuted like Christ also. Still, while Christ Jesus was crucified, He also resurrected. Saint Paul writes that he is persecuted (he will be executed) but the Lord will raise him to life after death. Saint Paul encourages Timothy with this hope. "A true athlete wins despite the blows he suffers," said Saint Ignatius of Antioch. Saint Paul encourages Timothy to remain faithful to this hope despite the threat of persecution by reminding him that he heard the gospel from trustworthy sources – the apostles especially Paul - and read it in the sacred scriptures which are, he mentions in verse 16, not written by humans but are from God. As the Lord Jesus is approaching crucifixion, Lent is approaching for us to enter the arena of redemption. The spiritual athlete who becomes more and more Godlike through the Lenten disciplines will be buffeted but will be victorious through Christ.

From *Ignatius Study Bible: Luke, The Navarre Bible: Luke, and Fr. Leonides Contos, The Lenten Covenant.*

Children's Corner

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... Have n _____ h ing

_____ o _____ d _____

wi _____ suc _____

p _____ pl _____

Fit one of the following letters in each of the blanks to finish the words. (Hint: The letters are NOT listed in order.)
 E E E H H H H Ø O O O T T T

Paul wrote, "In times to come, people will be lovers of money, boastful, proud, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, without self-control, not lovers of God..."

Paul Warns About Ungodly People

Ages 7+

January 24, 2021 • 2 Timothy 3:1-13

