

**The Reading from the 1st Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (8:8–9:2)**

Brethren: food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (25:31–46)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

# Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: [sspeterpaul.org](http://sspeterpaul.org)

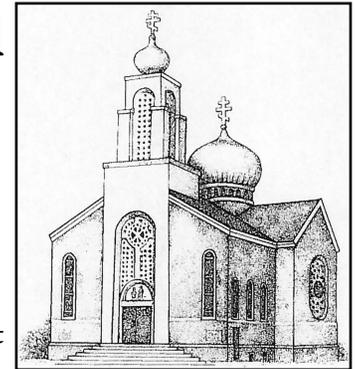
*A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

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Meatfare Sunday—Tone 3  
Sunday of the Last Judgment  
February 27, 2022

**Rest of St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn (1915).** Ven. Prokopios the Confessor of Decapolis (8th c.). Ven. Titus, a Presbyter of the Kiev Caves (1190). Ven. Thalelaeus, a Hermit of Syria (460).

## Welcome!

**W**e rejoice that we are able to draw near to our God in faith and love. As we continue to reopen, please be understanding and patient with the parish and with each other. We ask that you follow all government directives: [portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Reopen-CT](http://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Reopen-CT).

For those who need to continue distancing, we have reserved the left-hand side of the church with distancing markings. The right side and the choir area allows for households to stand closer together.

Among our temporary responses to COVID has been the use of multiple spoons for the distribution of Holy Communion. Please be advised that we will return to canonical Orthodox practice, using one spoon at Communion, starting Sunday, March 6. If you have questions or concerns, please speak with Fr. Joshua.

## Upcoming Events in Parish Life

We invite anyone to participate in our services online. Visit our website ([sspeterpaul.org](http://sspeterpaul.org)) for details.

Saturday, Feb. 26	Great Vespers, followed by Confession	5 PM
Sunday, Feb. 27 <i>Meatfare Sunday</i>	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	<b>Meatfare Dinner on Feb. 27:</b> We are planning both a dinner and take-out for those who can't stay. Donations are welcomed.	
	Today marks the last day for the eating of meat until Pascha. During this coming week, we consume the remainder of cheese, eggs, and other dairy in our homes, so that we are ready to begin the Great Fast on Monday, March 7.	
Saturday, March 5	Great Vespers, followed by Confession	5 PM
Sunday, March 6 <i>Forgiveness Sunday</i>	Divine Liturgy, followed by Rite of Forgiveness	9:30 AM
	After the Liturgy, we will celebrate abbreviated Forgiveness Vespers, which liturgically marks our movement into Great Lent. At the end, we will share in a <b>simplified version of the Rite of Forgiveness</b> . If there is anyone with whom you are not at peace, be sure to seek forgiveness personally as well.	
Monday, March 7	Great Lent begins	
Mon., Tue., Thurs.	Compline with the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete	6 PM
	This hymn of repentance forms our entrance into Great Lent. If you cannot come to all, come once. If you have to arrive late or leave early, do so — but come! There is no better way to enter the spirit of Lent than by making St. Andrew's words to his soul our own.	
Wed., March 9	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, followed by a Lenten Supper	6 PM

Please remember that, if conditions force **church service or event cancellations**, announcements will be posted on WFSB (channel 3) and WNBC/WVIT (channel 30), as well as on our website: [sspeterpaul.org](http://sspeterpaul.org).

The cross is lit today by Richard Comshaw in memory of his mother-in-law **Francis Reyes**, whose funeral in California will take place on Feb. 28. May her memory be eternal!

The Connecticut Deanery has a long tradition of **Lenten Mission Vespers**, where members of our Deanery assemble to worship, to be taught, and to share fellowship each Sunday afternoon during Lent. We are resuming Mission Vespers this year, and our **parish is honored to host on the Second Sunday of Great Lent, March 20**, at 4 PM. Please mark the date on your calendar; we will be asking for your support in hosting this event.

### We Ask Your Prayers

**For those suffering from war in Ukraine.**

**For those celebrating birthdays:** Vladimir Dans-Knap on Feb. 27. BreAnna Rygiel (March 2). Sophia Uliase (March 4).

**For the Sick & Suffering:**

William (Derrig)—cousin of Sarah Massaro

Corey (Knap)—nephew of Valentina Knap, recovering from a serious accident

Alexander (Mankevich)—Alzheimer's Disease

William (Weidmann)—husband of Adrian, suffering from a chronic immune condition similar to multiple sclerosis

Judy (Zeuwalick)—Jen Sullivan's mother, suffering from a complicated operation

Gregory (Mankevich) Jill (Zadar)

Paul (Leonowich) Robert (Hodges)

Patricia (McFarland)

Margaret Irene

Maria Veronica

Cyprian and Dana Nicole and Naaman

Helen and Helene

**For Our Shut-Ins:**

Yvonne (Rutcho) Jennie (Padick)

Margaret (Savchik) Ann (Kreshik)

To share news in the bulletin, or to add someone to our prayer list, please contact Fr. Joshua: [priest@sspeterpaul.org](mailto:priest@sspeterpaul.org) or 203-237-4539.

If you would like to commemorate loved ones by lighting the cross in church, please contact Alexia Tassmer: 203-284-0856.

## Hymns of the Day

### **Tone 2 Troparion** (*Resurrection*)

Let the heavens rejoice!  
Let the earth be glad!  
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.  
He has trampled down death by death.  
He has become the first born of the dead.  
He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the  
world//  
great mercy.

### **Tone 4 Troparion – Apostles Peter and Paul**

O first-enthroned of the Apostles, teachers of the universe:  
entreat the Master of all  
to grant peace to the world,//  
and to our souls great mercy!

### **Tone 1 Troparion** (*St. Raphael*)

Your proclamation has gone out through North America,  
calling the scattered sheep into the unity of the Church.  
Hearing your voice, they respond to your teaching,  
and through your writings you instructed them in piety.  
Now guided by your example, O Father Raphael,  
we sing hymns of praise to Christ our God:  
“Glory to Him Who gave you strength!  
Glory to Him Who granted you a crown!//  
Glory to Him Who, through you, grants healing to all!”

### **Tone 2 Kontakion** (*Apostles Peter and Paul*)

O Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest  
and to the enjoyment of Your blessings  
the two divinely inspired preachers, the leaders of the Apostles,  
for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling  
sacrifice,//  
for You alone know what lies in the hearts of men.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

### **Tone 8 Kontakion** (*St. Raphael*)

You were a guardian and a defender of the Church’s teaching,  
you protected your flock from false doctrines and confirmed them in the  
true faith!  
O holy Father Raphael, son of Syria and glory of North America,//  
always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **Tone 1 Kontakion** (*Last Judgment*)

When You, O God, shall come to earth with glory,  
all things shall tremble,  
and the river of fire shall flow before Your judgment seat;  
the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed;  
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,//  
and make me worthy to stand at Your right hand, O Righteous Judge!

### **Prokeimenon in the Third Tone** (*Resurrection*)

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, / His understanding is beyond  
measure. (*Ps. 146:5*)  
v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!  
(*Ps. 146:1*)

### **Tone 1 Prokeimenon** (*St. Raphael*)

My mouth shall speak wisdom; / the meditation of my heart shall be  
understanding. (*Ps. 48:3*)

### **Alleluia**

v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our  
Savior! (*Ps. 94:1*)  
v: Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful  
noise to Him with songs of praise. (*Ps. 94:2*)  
v: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall  
speak of judgment. (*Ps. 36:31*)

### **Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!  
(*Ps. 148:1*)  
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil  
tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!