

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (1:10–2:3)

"In the beginning, You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail." But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (2:1–12)

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

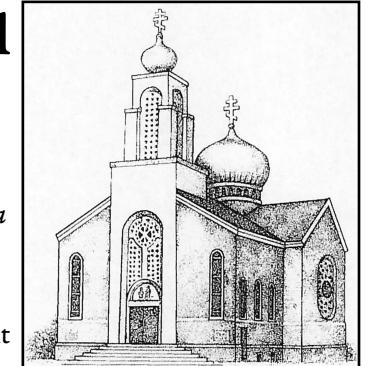
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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Second Sunday of Lent—Tone 6

Saint Gregory Palamas

March 20, 2022

The Holy Fathers slain at the Monastery of St. Sabbas: Ven. John, Sergius, Patrick, and others (796). Martyr Photiné (Svetlana, Fatima), the Samaritan woman, and her sons: Martyrs Victor and Joses, and two others (ca. 66).

Welcome!

We welcome everyone who has come to this house of the Lord. We especially welcome all guest and newcomers.

Holy Communion is a solemn responsibility: Orthodox Christians who have prepared through Confession, prayer, and fasting may participate. At the end of the Liturgy, everyone is welcome to come forward for a blessing and to share in the blessed bread (this "antidoron" is used in our prayers but is not itself a sacrament). Afterward, please join us downstairs for fellowship and refreshment. We look forward to greeting you personally, and we are glad that you are here.

For the Sundays of Great Lent, we use the older, more extensive form of the Liturgy—the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great. The rest of the year, we use the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. The Liturgy Books available at the doors of the church have both (as well as the Presanctified Liturgy we use on Wednesdays). You can find the Liturgy of St. Basil starting on page 101.

Upcoming Events in Parish Life

We invite anyone to participate in our services online. Visit our website (sspeterpaul.org) for details.

Saturday, March 19	Great Vespers, followed by Confession	5 PM
Sunday, March 20 <i>St. Gregory Palamas</i>	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Deanery Mission Vespers hosted by our parish	4 PM
Wed., March 23	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, followed by a Lenten Supper	6 PM
Friday, March 25	Vespers & Liturgy—Annunciation	6 PM
	We commemorate the Annunciation, when Archangel Gabriel announced to the Virgin Mary that she would bear in the flesh the Son of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Come, rejoice!	
Saturday, March 26	Great Vespers, followed by Confession	5 PM
Sunday, March 27 <i>Veneration of the Cross</i>	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	FORCC Vespers Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 4070 Park Ave, Bridgeport	4 PM
	The Fellowship of Orthodox Churches in Connecticut is a pan-Orthodox organization dedicated to promoting awareness of Orthodoxy and facilitating joint efforts. Come and worship with fellow Orthodox Christians of different backgrounds and learn more about the work of FORCC.	
Friday, April 1	Vespers with the Commemoration of the Departed	6 PM
	Each week of Lent includes a commemoration of the departed. Our parish will observe this on March 18 and April 1. Please bring a list of those departed you wish to be remembered.	

Please remember that every member of this parish has a responsibility to participate in Holy Confession regularly, and at least once during Great Lent. Please make an appointment soon. Don't let the days slip away.

We are planning to assemble Easter baskets filled with fun and necessary items and distribute them to ten families in need on Saturday, April 9.

We also just made a \$500 donation from the parish to Ukrainian refugee relief, in addition to your personal contributions. All of this is made possible by your support of the Charity Fund. Please give generously this Lent!

The cross was lit last week in memory of Robert Husenita by the Husenita family. May his memory be eternal!

The cross is lit today in loving memory of George Rutcho by his family. May his memory be eternal!

The cross is also lit today as on offering for the health of Joe Barone and Paul Leonowich by John Barone and Noah Leonowich. Many blessed years!

We Ask Your Prayers

For the newly-departed Doris Speminsky, a Southington resident whom Fr. Joshua has been visiting and who had been recently restored to Communion.

For all those who have as their heavenly patron the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary (Annunciation, March 25), or the Archangel Gabriel (March 26).

For those celebrating birthdays: Joe Barone & Paul Leonowich on March 22.

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)
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Paul (Leonowich)

Robert (Hodges)	Patricia (McFarland)
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Margaret	Irene Maria
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Veronica

Cyprian and Dana	Nicole and Naaman
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Helen and Helene

For Our Shut-Ins:

Yvonne (Rutcho)	Jennie (Padick)
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Margaret (Savchik)	Ann (Kreshik)
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To share news in the bulletin, or to add someone to our prayer list, please contact Fr. Joshua: 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 6 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb; the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Your grave,
seeking Your most pure body.

You captured hell, not being tempted by it. You came to the Virgin,
granting life.

O Lord, Who rose from the dead,/
glory to You.

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 8 Troparion (*St. Gregory Palamas*)

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation,
O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians,
O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of
grace,/
always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

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. Gregory Palamas*)

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom,
joyful trumpet of theology,
together we sing your praises, O God-inspired Gregory.
Since you now stand before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O
Father, //
so that we may sing to you: “Rejoice, preacher of grace!”
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Tone 4 Kontakion (*from the Lenten Triodion*)

Now is the time for action!
Judgment is at the doors!
So let us rise and fast,
offering alms with tears of compunction and crying:
“Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea;
but forgive us, O Master of all,/
so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!”

Prokeimenon in the Fifth Tone

You, O Lord, shall protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever.
(Ps. 11:7)
v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps. 11:1a)

Tone 1 Prokeimenon (*St. Gregory Palamas*)

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

Alleluia

v: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of
the heavenly God. (Ps. 90:1)
v: He will say to the Lord: “My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I
trust.” (Ps. 90:2)
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!