

### The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (4:5–42)

At that time, Jesus came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her water-pot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, "Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

## Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

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

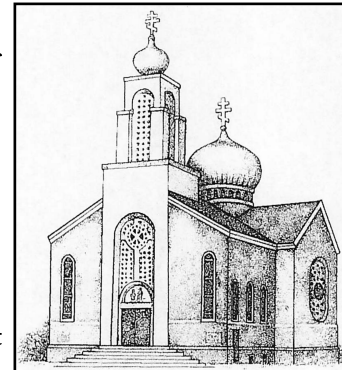
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5th Sunday of Pascha—Tone 4  
The Samaritan Woman  
May 14, 2023

Martyrs Isidore and Myrope of Chios (251). Martyr Maximus (ca. 250). Ven. Serapion of Egypt (5th c.). St. Leontius, Patriarch of Jerusalem (1175).

### Christ is Risen! Indeed he is risen!

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

Please feel free to follow along with a Divine Liturgy book from the table at the glass doors. For this Sunday and most of the year, we are using the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.

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 (called "antidoron," this blessed bread 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.

## 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, May 13	Vigil followed by Confession	6 PM
Sunday, May 14 <i>Samaritan Woman</i>	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Presentation by Mariana Cuceu, St. Paraskeva Orthodox Charity, helping orphans and abandoned children in Romania	During “Coffee Hour”
Tuesday, May 16	Foundation in Orthodox Christianity Online Session 9: Loving and Leaving the World	6 PM
Wednesdays	Morning Worship	8:15 AM
Wed., May 17	Diocesan Council	6:30 PM
Saturday, May 20	Vigil followed by Confession	6 PM
Sunday, May 21 <i>Blind Man</i>	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Tuesday, May 23	Matins for the Leave-taking of Pascha	6 PM
Thursday, May 25	Ascension of the Lord	

### 2023 Vacation Church School at Three Saints Park: June 19-23, 2023

**(NOTE NEW DATES).** Youth aged 5–15 are invited for a day camp at Three Saints Park, 112 Miller Road, Bethany, CT. VCS meets daily 9 AM to 4 PM, with Family Night on Friday starting at 5 PM. Cost is \$45 per child. Your child will experience fun, faith, friendship, swimming, games, bible study, religious education, worship and song. This year’s theme will be “The Holy Apostles.” Questions? Call Fr. Patrick Burns (203) 734-3988. Children of all faiths are welcome!

**Diocesan Youth Rally is set for Aug. 7–12, 2023.** Children aged 9–17 are encouraged to attend this high-quality camp run by the Diocese of New England at the St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center, New Hampshire. Many adults from our parish serve as Rally Staff, and parish youth have been blessed over the years by the experience. Rally volunteers Tim Tassmer, Elias and Ephraim Mosher would be glad to answer questions.

We are planning a **prospora baking workshop** in the next few weeks. The prospora is the bread offered up for communion and all the surrounding prayers of the Divine Liturgy. It is a crucial service for the life of our church. If you are interested, please share with Fr. Joshua times that would work best in your schedule. We will announce a final day and time soon.

Congratulations to **Elias Mosher**, who has earned from the University of New Haven a MS degree in Cybersecurity and Networks.

Congratulations to **Linda Craig**, who received the Woman’s Achievement Award in Healthcare from the Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce for New Haven County. Linda’s company, ABC (Always Best Care) was recognized by the Midstate Chamber of Commerce as a Small Business Leader in the central Connecticut business community.

The cross is lit by Alexandra Mathiasen for all living and departed mothers of our parish.

## We Ask Your Prayers

**For all our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, nuns and spiritual mothers.**

### For the Sick & Suffering:

William (Waas)—family of Sarah Massaro

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

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

Steven (Cardillo)—local Neighborhood Association organizer

Gregory (Mankevich)

Christopher (Sullivan)

Anita (Propheter)

Rosemary (Delaney)

Irene

Lorraine

Jacob

Katelyn

Crystal

Victoria

Bruce and Stacia

Cyprian and Dana

Nicole and Naaman

Helen and Helene

### For Our Shut-Ins:

Yvonne (Rutcho)

Jennie (Padick)

Margaret (Savchik)

Ann (Kreshik)

Jill (Zadar)

Helen (Olsen)

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 4 Troparion**      *(Resurrection)*

When the women disciples of the Lord  
learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,  
they cast away the ancestral curse  
and elatedly told the apostles:  
“Death is overthrown!  
Christ God is risen, //  
granting the world great mercy!”

### **Tone 8 Troparion**      *(Midfeast)*

In the middle of the feast, O Savior,  
fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as You cried to all:  
“If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!” //  
O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to You!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

### **Tone 8 Kontakion**      *(from the Pentecostarion)*

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith;  
she saw You, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly. //  
She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!

now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### **Tone 4 Kontakion**      *(Midfeast)*

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all,  
cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law:  
“Come and draw the water of immortality!”  
We fall before You and faithfully cry: //  
“Grant us Your mercies, for You are the Fountain of our life!”

### **Prokeimenon in the Third Tone**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
*(Ps. 46:6)*

*Verse:* Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!  
*(Ps. 46:1)*

### **Alleuia after the Epistle**

Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and  
truth! *(Ps. 44:3b)*

For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity. *(Ps. 44:6)*

## Hymn to the Theotokos

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:  
“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: ‘Rejoice,  
your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!  
With Himself He has raised all the dead.’”  
Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!  
The glory of the Lord has shone on you!  
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!  
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,  
in the Resurrection of your Son!

### **Communion Hymn**

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*At the Dismissal, the Priest says:* “Glory to You, O Christ...”  
*The choir responds:*

“Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!” *(thrice)*

And unto us He has given eternal life.

Let us worship His Resurrection on the third day!

### **Notes on the Week**

A week from Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. Having risen from the dead and having taught his disciples all things, he completed his work by ascending into heaven and sitting at the right hand of the Father, just as we affirm constantly in the Creed. Ten days before Pentecost, this marks the Lord's final preparation for the granting of the Holy Spirit.

As we come to “Mid-Pentecost,” halfway from Pascha to Pentecost, we rejoice that Jesus Christ is risen to new life, but also that he is the Fountain of our life. From him flows the gift of “Living Water,” the active, life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, which we celebrate at Pentecost. Like the Samaritan Woman at the well, we need not just ordinary water but this Living Water to fill our thirsty lives with the presence of God.

In the middle of the feast, O Savior,  
fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as you cried to all:  
“If anyone thirst, let him come to me and drink!”  
O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to you!  
*(Troparion of Mid-Pentecost, also sung on the Sunday of the Samaritan Woman)*