

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

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, "The man who does those things shall live by them." But the righteousness of faith speaks in this way, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down from above) or, "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (8:28–9:1)

At that time, when Jesus had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demon-possessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?" Now a good way off from them there was a herd of many swine feeding. So the demons begged Him, saying, "If You cast us out, permit us to go away into the herd of swine." And He said to them, "Go." So when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men. And behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus. And when they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their region. So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city.

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

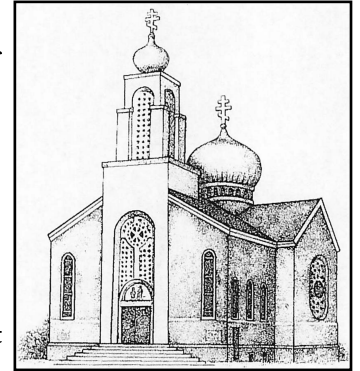
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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5th Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 4

July 9, 2023

Hieromartyr Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina in Sicily (1st c.). Hieromartyr Cyril, Bishop of Gortyna in Crete (3rd–4th c.). Martyrs Paternuthius, Coprius, & Alexander the Soldier in Egypt (4th c.).

Glory to Jesus Christ!

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 (at the beginning of the book).

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) for details.

Saturday, July 8	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, July 9	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Exploring Orthodoxy after Coffee Hour: On Sunday afternoons, we will take about 30 minutes for a short exploration of Orthodoxy. Each week, we will take a topic of your choosing.	
Tuesday, July 11 Tuesday, July 25	Bible Study Online—2nd & 4th Tuesdays: the Gospel of Saint Mark	6:30 PM
	We are starting a regular Bible Study, which will meet via Zoom on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays. If you would like to participate, we will be covering the first four chapters of the Gospel of St. Mark on July 11. Join us using the Zoom link posted on our website: sspeterpaul.org .	
Wednesdays	Morning Worship	8:15 AM
Wed., July 12	Parish Council	6:30 PM
Saturday, July 15	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, July 16	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Saturday, July 22	Reception into Orthodoxy of Miguel Moll and Julaisa Santiago by Holy Chrismation	10 AM
July 23	Blessing of Vehicles	
	We practice this blessing as a celebration of the Prophet Elijah, who was carried up to heaven in a fiery chariot. (You can find the account in the Bible: 2[4] Kings 2:1–14.) On a Sunday close to St. Elijah's feast (July 20), we go out from the church to our vehicles to pray that the Lord would keep us safe as we travel. Please open your doors so that your vehicles may be blessed inside and out.	

Keep in touch with our parish via email and text messages. We have started up a convenient communication service that allows us to share upcoming events, important developments in parish life, and reflections on the Orthodox Christian Faith—without spam, we promise! You can choose to get updates from particular ministries you are interested in, and unsubscribe any time. Sign up today at <https://sspeterpaul.org/news.html>

We Ask Your Prayers

For all those who have as their heavenly patron St. Olga (July 11) or St. Vladimir (July 15).

For those celebrating birthdays: Elena Rodgers and Konstantinos Stoidis (July 13). Timur Sergei Yarovinsky (July 14).

For the Sick & Suffering:

Mka. Evelyn (Kreta)—broke her wrist, needing additional surgery
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)

Juliana (Helwig) Douglas (Hedges)

Irene Lorraine

Jacob Valerie

Juliana Katelyn

Crystal Lilah

Innocent

Bruce and Stacia

Cyprian and Dana

Nicole and Naaman

Helen and Helene

For Our Shut-Ins:

Yvonne (Rutcho)

Jennie (Padick)

Margaret (Savchik)

Ann (Kreshik)

Helen (Olsen)

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.



Keep in touch with us

VIA EMAIL OR TEXT MESSAGE

- Choose to receive updates from groups you're interested in
- Unsubscribe anytime
- No spam, we promise

sspporthodox.flocknote.com

We respect your time and attention. Messages to the main group—"Everyone"—will be limited to the most important news of the week. You can expect one or two messages each week—no more except in truly extraordinary cases.

Once you are signed up, we encourage you to join groups to keep in touch with the news and ministries closest to your heart. For example:

Giving Thanks

sharing news and photos from our parish life

Wisdom

regular reflections drawn from the well of our Orthodox Christian faith

Bible Study

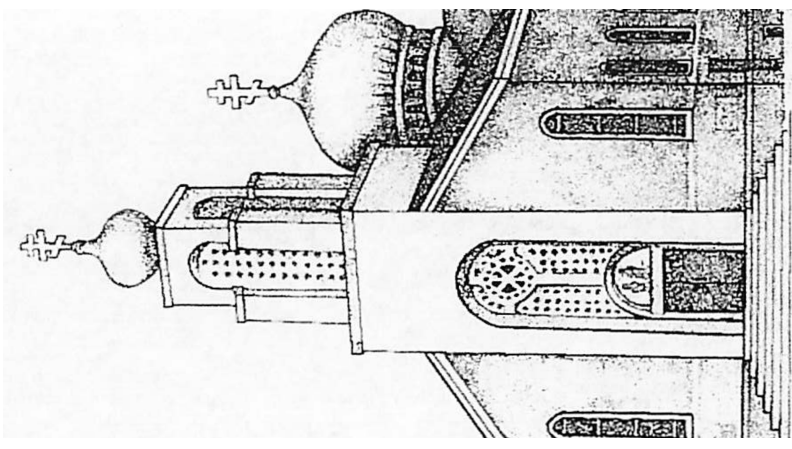
notes and preparation for those wanting to learn more of the Orthodox Faith

Choir

coordinating the activity of our choir

Children's Ministry

working with our families to help our children grow in faith



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 4 Troparion (*Apostles Peter & 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 4 Troparion (*St. Pancratius*)

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,
you became a successor to their throne.
Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine
contemplation, O inspired one of God;
by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended the
Faith, even to the shedding of your blood. //
O Hieromartyr Pancratius, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 4 Kontakion (*Resurrection*)

My Savior and Redeemer
as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from
their chains.
He has shattered the gates of hell,
and as Master, //
He has risen on the third day!

Tone 2 Kontakion (*Apostles Peter & 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 4 Kontakion (*St. Pancratius*)

O Pancratius, you were revealed as a brilliant star for the people
of Taormina.
You were also shown to be a sufferer for Christ. //
Since now you stand before Him, O blessed one, pray for those
who honor you.

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

Tone 6 Kontakion — *Steadfast Protectress*

Prokeimenon in the Fourth Tone

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; / in wisdom have You made
them all. (*Ps. 103:26*)
Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!
(*Ps. 103:1*)

Alleluia

Verse: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness,
righteousness and truth! (*Ps. 44:3b*)
Verse: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity. (*Ps. 44:6*)

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!
(*Ps. 148:1*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!