

The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (9:2–12)

Brethren, 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. My defense to those who examine me is this: Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife, as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord, and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working? Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat of its fruit? Or who tends a flock and does not drink of the milk of the flock? Do I say these things as a mere man? Or does not the law say the same also? For it is written in the law of Moses, “You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain.” Is it oxen God is concerned about? Or does He say it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written, that he who plows should plow in hope, and he who threshes in hope should be partaker of his hope. If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew (18:23–35)

The Lord spoke this parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him. So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

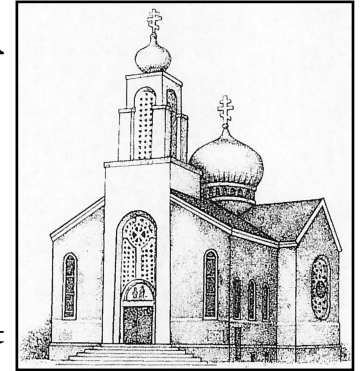
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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11th Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 2
After-feast of the Dormition
August 20, 2023

Prophet Samuel (11th c. BC). Hieromartyr Philip, Bishop of Heraclea, and with him the Martyrs Severus, Memnon, and 37 Soldiers in Thrace (304). Martyrs Heliodorus and Dosa of Persia (380).

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 pray along with us, following our services online. Visit our website (sspeterpaul.org) for details.

Saturday, Aug. 19	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Aug. 20	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Tuesday, Aug. 22	Bible Study Online—2nd & 4th Tuesdays: the Gospel of Saint Mark	6:30 PM
	This week, we will be examining Mark chapters 13 through 16. The Zoom link and other useful information is posted at sspeterpaul.org .	
Wednesdays	Weekday Morning Prayer	8:15 AM
Saturday, Aug. 26	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Aug. 27	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Saturday, Sept. 2	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Sept. 3	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Sunday, Sept. 10	Special Parish Meeting after Liturgy	
	We will elect an alternate delegate to the Diocesan Assembly, and then address questions on the proposed revised Cemetery Bylaws.	
Sunday, Sept. 17	Scholarship Fund Benefit Luncheon	
Sunday, Sept. 24	Deadline for Comments on Cemetery Bylaws	

All Voting Members of the parish are asked to review the draft revision of the Cemetery Bylaws, which is being distributed this week. This draft represents a comprehensive rewriting of the Cemetery Bylaws to match the rest of the new Parish Bylaws we adopted last year. The result is much clearer and better organized, while retaining largely unchanged the current management of the Parish Cemetery. Questions will be addressed at the Special Parish Meeting on Sept. 10. No vote on this draft has been scheduled. Instead, we welcome any **comments in writing, submitted no later than Sept. 24**. The Parish Council will respond to comments afterward, and only if no major changes are needed will a vote be scheduled for the proposed revised Cemetery Bylaws.

Tickets are available for the Scholarship Fund luncheon on Sunday, Sept. 17, for a minimum donation of \$10. Purchase by Sunday, September 10. Tickets will be collected at the luncheon. Please see Irene Zavednak or Greg Mankevich.

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 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)
 Douglas (Hodges)
 Irene Lorraine
 Jacob Valerie
 Juliana Katelyn
 Crystal Lilah
 Angela 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.

Luncheon to Benefit SS. Peter & Paul Scholarship Fund



Join us on September 17th for a Ham and
Potatoes Buffet.

All proceeds to go to the Scholarship Fund

Tickets available on August 20th

Minimum donation \$10.00

See Irene Zavednak and Greg Mankevich
for tickets

Hymns of the Day

Tone 2 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You slew hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

Tone 1 Troparion *(Dormition)*

In giving birth you preserved your virginity.
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life O Mother of Life,//
and by your prayers you deliver our souls from death.

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 2 Troparion *(Prophet Samuel)*

We celebrate the memory
of Your prophet Samuel, O Lord;
through him we beseech You://
“Save our souls!”

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,
seeing the miracle of Your Resurrection from the tomb!
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with You,//
and the world, my Savior, praises You forever.

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 *(Prophet Samuel)*

You were a precious gift given to God before your conception.
You served Him like an angel from your infancy, O blessed one.
You were granted the charism to announce beforehand future things.//
Therefore, we cry to you: “Rejoice, Samuel, Prophet of God and great high
priest.”

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

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Dormition)*

Neither the tomb, nor death, could hold the Theotokos,
who is constant in prayer and our firm hope in her intercessions.
For being the Mother of Life,//
she was translated to life by the One Who dwelt in her virginal womb.

Prokeimenon in the Second Tone *(Resurrection)*

The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation. *(Ps. 117:14)*
Verse: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.
(Ps. 117:18)

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Theotokos)*

My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
(Lk. 1:46-47)

Alleluia

Verse: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the
God of Jacob protect you! *(Ps. 19:1)*
Verse: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! *(Ps. 19:9)*
Verse: Arise, O Lord, into Your rest, You and the Ark of Your sanctification!
(Ps. 131:8)

(Instead of “It is truly meet...,” we sing:)

The Angels, as they looked upon the Dormition of the Virgin, were struck with
wonder,
seeing how the Virgin went up from earth to heaven.
The limits of nature are overcome in you, O Pure Virgin:
for birthgiving remains virginal, and life is united to death;
a virgin after childbearing and alive after death,
you ever save your inheritance, O Theotokos.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*
I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. *(Ps. 115:4)*
tidings! *(Ps. 111:6)*