

**The Reading from the First Epistle  
of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians (15:1–11)**

Brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

**The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Matthew  
(19:16–26)**

At that time, a man came and said to Jesus, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?” So He said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, “‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” The young man said to Him, “All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.” But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

**Saints Peter & Paul  
Orthodox Church**

Meriden, Connecticut

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

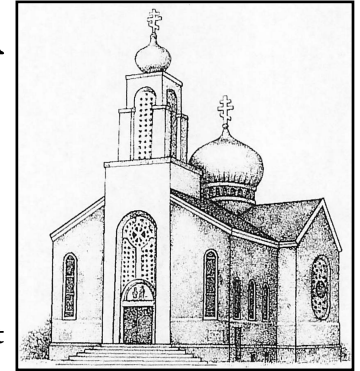
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12th Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 3

August 27, 2023

Ven. Pœmen the Great (ca. 450).  
St. Hosius the Confessor, Bishop of  
Córdoba (359). St. Liberius, Pope of  
Rome (366). Hieromartyr Kuksha and  
Ven. Pimen of the Kiev Caves (12th 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 pray along with us, following our services online. Visit our website ([sspeterpaul.org](http://sspeterpaul.org)) for details.

Saturday, Aug. 26	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Aug. 27	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Tuesday, Aug. 29	Diocesan Council	6:30 PM
Wednesdays	Weekday Morning Prayer	8:15 AM
Saturday, Sept. 2	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Sept. 3	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	
	Stewardship Presentation during Coffee Hour	

**Tickets are available for the Scholarship Fund luncheon on Sunday, Sept. 17**, for a minimum donation of \$10. Purchase by Sunday, Sept. 10. Tickets will be collected at the luncheon—please see Greg Mankevich.

The 2023 **FORCC Benefit Dinner** will be on Sunday, Oct. 1, at 12:30 PM, at St. Dimitrie Romanian Orthodox Church, 504 Sport Hill Rd, Easton. The Guest Speaker is Dr. Phillip Mamalakis, a professor at Holy Cross Theological Seminary, and author of the excellent book, *Parenting toward the King: Orthodox Principles of Child-Rearing*. Save the date for this celebration of 30 years of promoting Orthodox unity in Connecticut. Please join us for the banquet \$45 for adults, if purchased by Sept. 20 (\$50 after). \$10 for children under 12.

The **Mission Building Team** has presented to the Council preliminary plans for parish growth and expansion. They have prepared questions on the opportunities for our church, set out for all to comment on a designated

table in the Fellowship Room downstairs. Over the next few weeks, **please take the time to share your thoughts**, so that we can build a clearer common vision of how we are to grow from here.

**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:** <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

Sarr (Sarrazin)—friend of Robin Levesque

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)

Give thanks to God, and support the work he is doing through  
SS. Peter & Paul: <https://sspeterpaul.org/donate>

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.

# What Is Christian Stewardship?

## *Giving Thanks* Eucharistic Stewardship



Christian Stewardship is...

- ...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God.
- ...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love.
- ...caring for the needs of others.
- ...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.
- ...what a person does after saying "I believe..." , as proof of that belief.
- ...devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as parish, as diocese, and as Church universal.



Christian Stewardship is about becoming good caretakers of all that God has given us. God has given each of us special and unique gifts. And through Holy Scripture He teaches us all that we have is a loan. He lends everything to us, and reminds us that one day He will ask us to give a detailed accounting of what we have done with the gifts He has given us. Archbishop Anastasios of Albania has noted that "we find ourselves by offering ourselves." Have we learned the blessedness of generously giving to others of all we have?

## Hymns of the Day

### Tone 3 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 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 8 Troparion *(Ven. Pimen)*

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,  
and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.  
By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe.//  
Our holy Father Pimen, pray to Christ our God to save our souls!

### Tone 3 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

On this day You rose from the tomb, O Merciful One,  
leading us from the gates of death.  
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;  
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//  
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Your power.

### 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 *(Ven. Pimen)*

The remembrance of your illustrious struggles delights the souls of the  
devout today,//  
O Pimen, our venerable father, wise in God.

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

### Tone 6 Kontakion — *Steadfast Protectress*

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

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)

#### Before the Gospel, the 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:* Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me!  
(Ps. 30:2b)

#### Communion Hymn

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

#### On St. Pimen the Great

St. Pimen was a revered Desert Father living in Egypt in the 4th and 5th centuries. Famed for his strict efforts in fasting, vigil and prayer, he nevertheless was humble and gentle with others.

A monk came to him for advice, scandalized at a brother's sins. Abba Pimen answered, "If you see a brother sinning, do not believe your eyes. Know that your own sin is like the beam in the ceiling, but the sin of your brother is like a splinter on the floor, and then you will not enter into distress or temptation." Another came to him, troubled by evil thoughts. Abba Pimen told him to spread out his cloak on the ground. "Can you catch the wind in your cloak? Neither can you stop evil thoughts from entering your mind. Your task is to resist them with fortitude."

To the question of whether it is better to speak or be silent, the Elder said, "Whoever speaks on account of God, does well, and whoever is silent on account of God, that one also does well."

He also said, "If man seems to be silent, but his heart condemns others, then he is always speaking. There may be a man who talks all day long, but he is actually silent, because he says nothing unprofitable."

Saint Pimen died at age 110, about the year 450. Soon after his death, he was acknowledged as a saint pleasing to God. He was called "the Great" as a sign of his great humility, uprightness, ascetic struggles, and self-denying service to God.