

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians (6:11–18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. John (3:13–17)

The Lord said, “No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

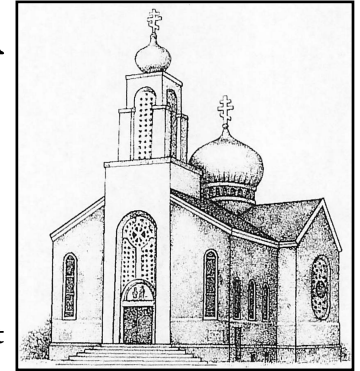
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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14th Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 5
Sunday before the Elevation
of the Cross
September 10, 2023

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia (305–311). Holy Apostles of the 70 Apelles, Luke, and Clement (1st 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) for details.

Saturday, Sept. 9	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Sept. 10	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Special Parish Meeting after Liturgy	
Sept. 11–14	Fr. Joshua traveling out of state. For emergencies, call and he will coordinate a response. For the Elevation of the Cross (Sept. 14), celebrate with one of these sister parishes: All Saints, Hartford; Christ the Savior, Southbury; Three Saints, Ansonia; or Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Terryville.	
Saturday, Sept. 9	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Sept. 10	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Saturday, Sept. 16	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Sept. 17	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
Sunday, Sept. 17	Scholarship Fund Benefit Luncheon	
	Purchase tickets <i>today</i> from Greg Mankevich or Irene Zavednak: \$10 per person	
Sunday, Sept. 24	Deadline for Comments on Cemetery Bylaws	
	Stewardship Presentation during Coffee Hour	
Sunday, Oct. 1	FORCC Benefit Dinner	12:30 PM
	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, <i>Parenting toward the King: Orthodox Principles of Child-Rearing</i> . 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.	
Saturday, Oct. 14	Brotherhood Clothing Drive	

The Brotherhood of SS. Peter & Paul is having a **Winter Clothing Drive** for the community on Saturday, October 14, with October 21 as a rain date. This is the opportunity for parishioners to go through their closets for gently used clothing they no longer use. Please only bring these clothes to church the week before as we have very limited storage space.

The cross is lit in memory of **Eleanor Kubeck** by her daughter Mary Jane Rodgers. May her memory be eternal!

We Ask Your Prayers

For those celebrating birthdays: Andrea Konetchy (Sept. 13).

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
 Starr (Sarrazin)—friend of Robin Levesque
 Gregory (Mankevich) Christopher (Sullivan)
 Anita (Propheter) Rosemary (Delaney)
 Douglas (Hodges)
 Irene Lorraine
 Jacob Valerie
 Juliana Katelyn
 Crystal Donald
 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 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 OUR COMMUNITY WARM THIS WINTER



DONATE WINTER CLOTHING!

SS. Peter & Paul Brotherhood Clothing Drive

Saturday October 14th 10 AM – 2 PM

(Rain Date October 21st)

**Where – Front Steps of SS. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church
54 Park Ave., Meriden CT**

***Gently Worn and Clean Items Only*
to be collected October 8th through 13th**

Hymns of the Day

Tone 5 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 4 Troparion *(Feast)*

Your nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from you, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.//
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

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 1 Troparion *(Martyrs)*

Let all who rejoice at their triumph honor those three virgin martyrs,
who are united to God as^ sisters
and who pour forth fair streams of grace:
Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora,
who were in all things ^courageous;//
they ever pray to the Trinity for us.

Tone 5 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

You descended into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
You have delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,//
and we cry to You: "O Lord, save us!"

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 4 Kontakion *(Martyrs)*

Invincible in your struggles for the Holy Trinity,
and through your love for each other as sisters,
you defeated the foe of the spiritual life,
and with the five virgins, entered victoriously into the heavenly mansions //
where you ever rejoice with the angels in the presence of the King of all!

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

Tone 4 Kontakion *(Feast)*

By your nativity, O most pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,
Adam and Eve — from the corruption of death.
And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to you://
"The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life."

Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone *(Before Elevation)*

O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*
Verse: To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!
(Ps. 27:1a)

Tone 3 Prokeimenon *(Song of the Theotokos)*

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

Before the Gospel, the Alleluia

Verse: I have exalted one chosen out of My people. *(Ps. 88:18b)*

Verse: For My hand shall defend him and My arm shall strengthen him.
(Ps. 88:20)

Verse: Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline your ear! *(Ps. 44:9a)*

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)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!