

## The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Romans (8:28–39)

Brethren, we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke (21:12–19)

The Lord said: "before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But not a hair of your head shall be lost. By your patience possess your souls."

## Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

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

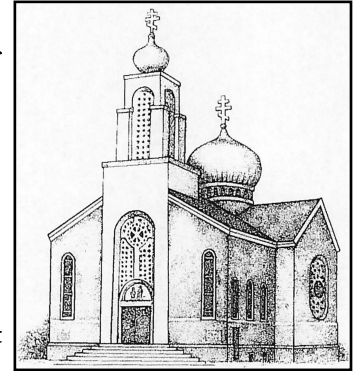
*A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America*

Fr. Joshua Mosher, Pastor

203-237-4539 [priest@sspeterpaul.org](mailto:priest@sspeterpaul.org)

Donna Leonowich, Parish Council President

203-887-5155 [president@sspeterpaul.org](mailto:president@sspeterpaul.org)



16th Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 7

September 24, 2023

Holy New Martyrs of Alaska,  
Hieromonk Juvenaly and Peter the  
Aleut. Holy Protomartyr and Equal-to-  
the-Apostles Thecla (1st c.). Ven.  
Silouan of Mt. Athos (1938).

## 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](https://sspeterpaul.org)) for details.

Saturday, Sept. 23	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Sept. 24	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Stewardship Presentation during Coffee Hour	
	Deadline for Comments on Cemetery Bylaws	
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Study of the Gospel of St. Matthew	6:30 PM
	All are welcome: use the Zoom link found here: <a href="https://sspeterpaul.org/study">https://sspeterpaul.org/study</a> We are studying Matthew chapters 5–8.	
Wednesdays	Morning Prayer	8:15 AM
Wed., Sept. 27	Parish Council	6:30 PM
Saturday, Sept. 30	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Oct. 1	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
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 Winter Clothing Drive	2–4 PM
	Please deliver clean and gently-used winter clothing to church the week before (Oct. 8–14)	

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.

Thank you to David and Irene Zavednak for hosting the **Scholarship Fund Benefit Luncheon** last week, and for everyone who generously participated. We replenished the parish Scholarship Fund with over \$800.

## We Ask Your Prayers

**Many years to all those who have as their heavenly patron Ven. Sergius of Radonezh** (Sept. 25) **or the Apostle and Evangelist Mark** (Sept. 27).

### 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)

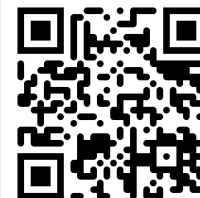
Margaret (Savchik)

Ann (Kreshik)

Helen (Olsen)

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

Use this QR Code to open the same link:



# 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 7 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

By Your Cross You destroyed death.  
To the thief You opened Paradise.  
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.  
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You  
are risen, //  
granting 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 4 Troparion (*Martyrs*)

Today Alaska rejoices and America celebrates,  
for the New World has been sanctified by martyrdom.  
Kodiak echoes with songs of thanksgiving,  
Iliamna and Kenai observe the festival of faith.  
The apostle and martyr Juvenaly is glorified,  
and Peter the Aleut is exalted by his voluntary sacrifice.  
In their devotion and love for the Lord  
they willingly endured persecution and death for the truth. //  
Now in the kingdom of heaven they intercede for our souls.

### Tone 7 Kontakion (*Resurrection*)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,  
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.  
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:  
“The Savior has come to those in faith; //  
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

### 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*)

Today Valaam joins Alaska in celebrating this joyous feast,  
as her spiritual son Juvenaly embraces the New-Martyr Peter with love.  
Together they suffered for the Lord in America  
and united the Old World with the New by their voluntary sacrifice. //  
Now forever they stand before the King of glory and intercede for our souls.  
  
now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

### Tone 6 Kontakion—*Steadfast Protectress*

#### Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone (*Resurrection*)

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people  
with peace. (*Ps. 28:11*)

*Verse:* Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the  
Lord! (*Ps. 28:1a*)

#### Tone 4 Prokeimenon (*New Martyrs*)

The Lord has shown the wonders of His will / to the saints who are in His  
land. (*Ps. 15:3a*)

#### Before the Gospel, the Alleluia

*Verse:* It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name,  
O Most High. (*Ps. 91:1*)

*Verse:* To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night.  
(*Ps. 91:2a*)

*Verse:* The righteous cried and the Lord heard them, and He delivered  
them from all their afflictions. (*Ps. 33:17*)

#### Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)  
The light of Your countenance has shone on us, O Lord. (*Ps. 4:7*)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

#### New Martyrs Juvenaly and Peter

Hieromonk Juvenaly was a member of the mission to Alaska with St. Herman.  
St. Juvenaly preached to the Alaskan people, baptizing hundreds. A hunting  
party confessed to his murder in 1796, telling St. Herman how St. Juvenaly  
called them to repent even as they struck him down. In later years, St. Herman  
was told of Peter the Aleut, one of a group trading in California who were  
captured by Spaniards. He was killed for refusing to give up the Orthodox  
Faith. St. Herman in response said, “Holy New Martyr Peter, pray to God for  
us!” Holy New Martyrs Juvenaly and Peter the Aleut, pray for us as well!