

**The Reading from the 2nd Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul
to the Corinthians (11:31–12:9)**

Brethren, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands. It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord: I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago — whether in the body I do not know, or whether out of the body I do not know, God knows — such a one was caught up to the third heaven. And I know such a man — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows — how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter. Of such a one I will boast; yet of myself I will not boast, except in my infirmities. For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me. And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

The Gospel according to St. Luke (8:5–15)

The Lord spoke this parable: “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold.” When He had said these things He cried, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” Then His disciples asked Him, saying, “What does this parable mean?” And He said, “To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that ‘Seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.”

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

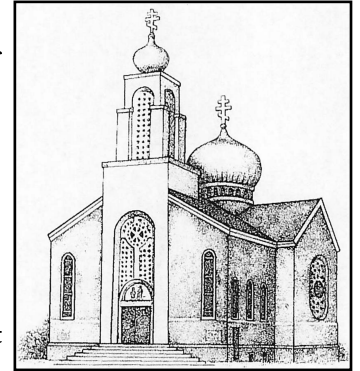
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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19th Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 2

October 15, 2023

Ven. Euthymius the New, a Monk of Mount Athos (889). Martyr Lucian, Presbyter of Antioch (312). St. John, Bishop of Suzdal' (14th 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, Oct. 14	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Oct. 15	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Special Parish Meeting after Liturgy	
Oct. 16–20	Fr. Joshua will be attending a retreat in Chicago. In case of emergency, contact Fr. David Koles (860-573-0013). If less pressing, leave messages for Fr. Joshua.	
Tuesday, Oct. 17	St. Vladimir's Seminary Webinar	7 PM
	His Grace Bishop John (Abdalah), Auxiliary of the Diocese of Worcester and New England (AOCANA), and Orthodox writer, Khouria Frederica Mathewes-Green, on the topic, Submission to the Church: How to Become Children of the Light. Register for free at svots.edu/events	
Saturday, Oct. 21	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Oct. 22	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Brotherhood-hosted luncheon—all welcome	
Tuesday, Oct. 24	Study of the Gospel of St. Matthew	6:30 PM
	All are welcome: use the Zoom link found here: https://sspeterpaul.org/study We are studying Matthew chapters 9–12.	
Oct. 27–28	Diocesan Assembly in New Haven	

Motion from the Parish Council: The Parish Council has authorized the Cemetery Committee to replace the foundations of three benches at the cemetery, but needs Parish approval for the \$3,000 expense.

The expense will be paid from the Cemetery Account, which has sufficient funds. The work will be performed by Czaja Brothers, the contractors with whom we have our existing cemetery contract. The estimate includes moving the benches, removal and disposal of existing concrete, digging new foundations, pouring concrete 3 ½–4 feet and repositioning the benches once the concrete is cured. Work shall be performed before the cold weather arrives.

We Ask Your Prayers

For those celebrating birthdays: Veronica Yarovinsky on Oct. 16. Christopher Eckels on Oct. 17. Irene White & Jason Bushey on Oct. 21.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Trevor Raphael Starks and Christine Shanahan (Oct. 9).

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
Michael (Bongoll)—first-floor tenant of parish apartment house
Joyce—friend of Mary Jane Rodgers

Gregory (Mankevich) Christopher (Sullivan)

Anita (Propheter) Rosemary (Delaney)

Douglas (Hodges)

Irene Lorraine

Jacob Valerie

Juliana Katelyn

Crystal Angela

Innocent

Cyprian and Dana Nicole and Naaman

Helen and Helene

For Our Shut-Ins:

Yvonne (Rutcho) Jennie (Padick)

Margaret (Savchik) 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.

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

Open the donation link with this QR Code →



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His Grace Bishop John
(Abdalah)



Khouria Frederica
Mathewes-Green

FIRST SESSION: OCTOBER 17, 2023 | 7:00 p.m. ET

SUBMISSION TO THE CHURCH:

How to Become Children of the Light

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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 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 8 Troparion (*Ven. Euthymius*)

The image of God was truly preserved in you, O Father,
for you took up the Cross and followed Christ.
By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh for it passes away;
but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal.//
Therefore your spirit, venerable Euthymius, rejoices with the angels.

Tone 4 Troparion (*St. Lucian*)

Your holy martyr Lucian, O Lord,
through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from You, our God.
For having Your strength, he laid low his adversaries,
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//
Through his intercession, 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 & 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.

Tone 2 Kontakion (*Ven. Euthymius*)

Crossing dry-shod through the storms of life,
venerable and divinely wise Euthymius,
you mightily drowned the bodiless foe in the streams of your tears;
you received the gift of miracles to heal all sufferings.//
Unceasingly pray for us all!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

Tone 6 Kontakion (*St. Lucian*)

We honor you with hymns of glory,
Lucian, the radiant star.
First, you became radiant by detachment from the things of this world,
then you were raised up by your struggle.//
Unceasingly pray for us all!

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

Tone 6 Kontakion—Steadfast Protectress

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*)

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: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (*Ps. 19:9*)

Communion Hymn

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