

The Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Galatians (2:16–20)

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

The Gospel according to St. Luke (8:26–39)

At that time, Jesus and His disciples sailed to the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And when He stepped out on the land, there met Him a certain man from the city who had demons for a long time. And he wore no clothes, nor did he live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, fell down before Him, and with a loud voice said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me!" For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had often seized him, and he was kept under guard, bound with chains and shackles; and he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the wilderness. Jesus asked him, saying, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," because many demons had entered him. And they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss. Now a herd of many swine was feeding there on the mountain. So they begged Him that He would permit them to enter them. And He permitted them. Then the demons went out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the lake and drowned. When those who fed them saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. Then they went out to see what had happened, and came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed. Then the whole multitude of the surrounding region of the Gadarenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. And He got into the boat and returned. Now the man from whom the demons had departed begged Him that he might be with Him. But Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your own house, and tell what great things God has done for you." And he went his way and proclaimed throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

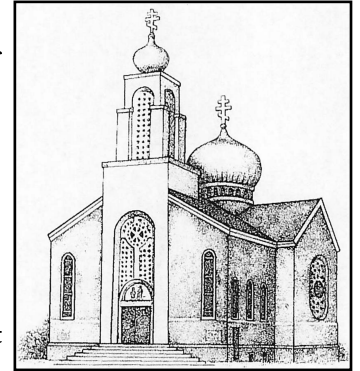
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Fr. Joshua Mosher, Pastor

203-237-4539 priest@sspeterpaul.org

Donna Leonowich, Parish Council President

203-887-5155 president@sspeterpaul.org



21st Sunday after Pentecost—Tone 4

October 29, 2023

Monastic Martyr Anastasia of Rome (3rd c.).
Ven. Abramius the Recluse, and his niece
Blessed Mary of Mesopotamia (ca. 360).
Martyr Claudius, Asterius, Neon, and
Theonilla of Aegæ in Cilicia (285).

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. 28	Great Vespers followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Oct. 29	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Brotherhood-hosted luncheon—all welcome!	
	We continue with our “ Questions after Coffee ” each Sunday, starting about noon. We dedicate 30 minutes to addressing your questions—whatever they may be. Listen in, or perhaps ask your own!	
Wednesdays	Morning Prayer	8:15 AM
Saturday, Nov. 4	Parish Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, Nov. 5	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Endowment Fund Commemoration Service follows	
Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 5	Metropolitan Tikhon has designated this Sunday to support the Stewards of the OCA. Just as we are called to be good stewards of our own parish and the local mission of the church, we also have responsibility for the good work being done throughout the Orthodox Church in America. The liturgical texts we rely on, the choir training we receive, the National Priest Retreat which just took place in Chicago—all these and more are made possible through your faithful support. https://www.oca.org/become-a-steward	
Sunday, Nov. 12	Thanksgiving Feast after Liturgy	
	Our annual Thanksgiving Feast has been a long standing parish tradition open to all. Please see Donna to volunteer to bring a dish.	

Thank you to the members of the Brotherhood for a delicious luncheon last Sunday. Everyone enjoyed the food and the fellowship.

Learn the latest in your parish activities—like the Choir or Bible Study—join their groups at ssporthodox.flocknote.com

Support the Charity Fund as we approach Thanksgiving. We are planning to provide fixings for Thanksgiving Dinners, along with other necessities, to **six neighborhood families in need.** We also were able to send children to Youth Rally and pay a critical hospital bill in recent weeks. Your generous support of the Charity Fund make all this possible.

We Ask Your Prayers

For those celebrating birthdays: Evelynn Sousa on Oct. 23.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Helen & Joe Barone on Oct. 29.

For the Sick & Suffering:

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

Juliana

Katelyn

Crystal

Angela

Innocent

Cyprian and Dana

Nicole and Naaman

Helen and Helene

For Our Shut-Ins:

Yvonne (Rutcho)

Jennie (Padick)

Margaret (Savchik)

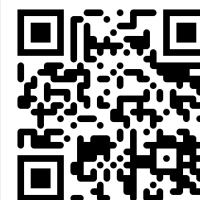
Helen (Olsen)

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 →



SS. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Meriden, Connecticut

Mission: "SS. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church is a local Christian community of the OCA in Meriden, Connecticut and serving the surrounding area. We offer the love of Christ to all, both in words and in actions. Grateful for God's gifts, we work to expand the mission of Christ."

October 2023

October is a good time of the time of year to assess our goals, look back on our accomplishments, and look forward to the upcoming year. I'd like to thank Father Joshua and the altar servers; Tom Crosby, readers, and choir members; Parish Council members; Mka. Jenny, Church School teachers, parents, and children; and each of you for your stewardship support. You have served tirelessly, and have offered your best to God.

The year has been busy and productive. Our parish continues to grow. We have welcomed new members, catechumens, and inquirers. The Council and the Cemetery Committee are maintaining properties. Both have identified improvement projects to preserve our grounds on a long-term basis. The Mission Building Team is gathering expansion information. Community outreach activities have expanded. The newly formed Stewardship Team has identified different ways for you to channel your time, talents, and abilities to the glory of God. Financially, the Trustees are working hard to preserve our investments during challenging economic times. We received a substantial bequeath from the estate of the late Helen Augur. The Brotherhood recently sponsored a very successful winter clothing drive in which many parishioners participated.

Looking forward, our temple is more than 65 years old. Structurally, it is very sound but is showing signs of age. The Parish Council has established some long-term goals and project priorities which will be presented at our Annual Meeting on Dec. 3.

The Nominating Committee is seeking membership to the Parish Council, other elected positions, and committees. There are many stewardship opportunities for each of us to serve in different ways. Prayerfully consider becoming involved. I encourage you to volunteer for a ministry. Only you will determine how much time and interest you have to give. Whatever you decide, your efforts will be appreciated.

As we prepare for Advent and the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, let us give thanks for the many blessing that have been bestowed upon us, and let us pray that the whole world will complete the year in peace.

With love in Christ,

Donna

Hymns of the Day

Tone 4 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen, //
granting the world great mercy!”

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 5 Troparion (*St. Anastasia*)

Your lamb Anastasia calls out to You, O Jesus, in a loud voice:
“I love You, my Bridegroom, and in seeking You I endure suffering.
In baptism I was crucified so that I might reign in You,
and I died so that I might live with You.
Accept me as a pure sacrifice,
for I have offered myself in love.” //
Through her prayers save our souls, since You are merciful!

Tone 4 Troparion (*Ven. Abramius*)

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 Abramius, rejoices with the angels.

Tone 4 Kontakion (*Resurrection*)

My Savior and Redeemer
as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of hell,
and as Master, //
He has risen on the third day!

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 3 Kontakion (*St. Anastasia*)

Purified by the waters of virginity,
righteous Anastasia, you were crowned by the blood of martyrdom.
You grant healing and salvation to those in need,
and who call on you from their hearts, //
for Christ gives you strength, pouring out on you ever-flowing grace.

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

Tone 3 Kontakion (*Ven. Abramius*)

You lived in the flesh on earth as an angel,
and through your ascetic life you became like a tree nourished by the waters
of abstinence and flourished.
You washed away stains with the streams of your tears
and so you have been revealed, O Abramius, //
to be a God-like vessel of the Spirit.

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

Tone 6 Kontakion—*Steadfast Protectress*

Prokeimenon in the Third Tone (*Resurrection*)

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; / in wisdom have You made them all.
(Ps. 103:26)

Verse: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very great!
(Ps. 103:1)

Before the Gospel, the Alleluia

Verse: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness
and truth! (Ps. 44:3b)

Verse: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity. (Ps. 44:6)

Communion Hymn

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