

The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews (4:14–5:6)

Brethren: seeing that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (8:34–9:1)

The Lord said: “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

Meriden, Connecticut

website: sspeterpaul.org

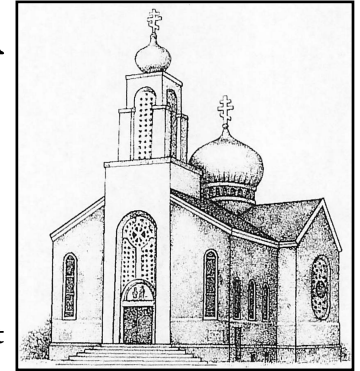
A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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Third Sunday of Great Lent—Tone 3
Veneration of the Precious Cross
April 7, 2024

Rest of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia and Enlightener of North America (1925). St. George the Confessor, Bishop of Mytilene (9th c.). Martyr Calliopos at Pompeiopolis in Cilicia (304).

Glory to Jesus Christ!

We welcome everyone who has come into this house of the Lord. We especially welcome all guests and newcomers.

Please feel free to follow along with a Divine Liturgy book from the table at the glass doors. For these Sundays during Great Lent, we are using the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great. The most significant hymns and responses specifically for today are printed inside this bulletin.

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 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, April 6	Memorial Liturgy	9:30 AM
	On Saturdays during Lent, April 6 and 13, we will continue to lift up the memory of the departed in prayer. Please bring names of those to commemorate.	
	Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, April 7	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
<i>Veneration of the Cross</i>	Special Parish Meeting afterward to authorize repairs to the dome	4 PM
	Mission Vespers at St. Nicholas, 1304 North St, Pittsfield, MA	4 PM
	Each Sunday afternoon during Lent, we are invited by a nearby parish to a service, followed by a light supper.	
Tuesday, April 9	Study of Luke 11–12 via Zoom: sspeterpaul.org/study	7 PM
Wednesdays	Morning Prayer	8:15 AM
Wednesdays	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Supper	6 PM
Thursday, April 11	<i>A Foundation in Orthodox Christianity</i> #7 via Zoom: “The Holy Mysteries”	6:30 PM
Saturday, April 13	Memorial Liturgy	9:30 AM
	Vigil followed by confessions	5 PM
Sunday, April 14	Divine Liturgy	9:30 AM
<i>St. John Climacus</i>	Mission Vespers at Holy Transfiguration, 285 Alden Ave, New Haven	4 PM
Saturday, April 20	Parish Clean-Up Day	9–Noon
	We need a large team to work inside and out to clean and beautify our church in time for Holy Week.	
Saturday, April 27	Chrismation of Robyn Levesque	4:30 PM
Saturday, May 4	Chrismation of Sierra Levesque	11 AM

Please remember that every member of this parish has a responsibility to participate in Holy Confession regularly, and at least once during Great Lent. Please make an appointment soon. Don't let the days slip away.

The flowers decorating the Cross are offered by Helen Husenita in memory of the departed members of the Husenita and Levchuk families and for the health of the living members of these families.

We Ask Your Prayers

For those celebrating birthdays: George Alecsandru (April 8). Summer Zina Rose Stankiewicz (April 9).

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

Joyce—friend of Mary Jane Rodgers

Julianna—friend of Sierra Levesque

Carol—friend of Mary Jane Rodgers

Gregory (Mankevich) Christopher (Sullivan)

Anita (Propheter) Rosemary (Delaney)

Douglas (Hodges) Steven (Rygiel)

Michael (Edwards) Shawna (Kelly)

Irene Lorraine

Jacob Katelyn

Crystal Angela

Innocent Larissa

Jeffrey Stacia

Georgiy 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: 203-623-5336.

Give thanks to God, and support the work he is doing through SS. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church:

<https://sspeterpaul.org/donate> or use this QR Code →



Services of Holy Week and the Pascha of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

SS. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

54 Park Avenue, Meriden, Connecticut



*Come, let us see our Life lying in the tomb,
to give life to those who lie dead in the tombs.*

Raising of Lazarus

9 AM, Saturday, April 27: Festal Matins & Divine Liturgy.

Palm Sunday — Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem

5 PM, Saturday, April 27: Vigil. *Palms will be blessed and carried during the service.*
9:30 AM, Sunday, April 28: Divine Liturgy. *Blessed palms carried during the service.*

Holy Week

Monday, April 29, 6 PM: Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Tuesday.

Tuesday, April 30, 6 PM: Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Wednesday.

Wednesday, May 1, 6 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Thursday.

Thursday, May 2

11 AM: Vespers & Liturgy of the Mystical Supper.

6 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Friday. *12 Gospel readings of the Passion.*

Friday, May 3

10 AM: Royal Hours of Great and Holy Friday. *Meditating on the Crucifixion.*

3:30: Vespers of Great and Holy Friday. *Veneration of the Shroud of Our Lord.*

6 PM: Matins of Great and Holy Saturday. *Procession with the Shroud.*

Saturday, May 4

11 AM: Vespers, Readings of Old Testament Prophecies, Liturgy

—*Blessing of Pascha Baskets follows.*

Pascha: the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Saturday, May 4, 11:30 PM: Service of Nocturn.

Midnight: Paschal Vigil and Divine Liturgy. *Blessing of Baskets.*

Sunday, May 5, Noon: Paschal Vespers. *Blessing of Baskets.*

Bright Monday, May 6, 9:30 AM: Paschal Divine Liturgy and Procession.

*Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!*

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 to the world//
great mercy.

Tone 1 Troparion (*Cross*)

O Lord, save Your people,
and bless Your inheritance!
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
over their adversaries;
and by virtue of Your Cross,//
preserve Your habitation!

Tone 1 Troparion (*St. Tikhon*)

Let us praise Tikhon, the Patriarch of All Russia,
and Enlightener of North America,
an ardent follower of the apostolic traditions,
and good pastor of the Church of Christ,
who was elected by Divine Providence,
and laid down his life for his sheep!
Let us sing to him with faith and hope,
and ask for his hierarchical intercessions:
keep the Church in Russia in tranquility,
and the Church in North America in peace;
gather her scattered children into one flock,
bring to repentance those who have renounced the True Faith,
preserve our lands from civil strife,//
and entreat God's peace for all people!

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

Tone 2 Kontakion (*St. Tikhon*)

A gentle manner adorned you:
you showed kindness and compassion to those who repented;
you were firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith,

and zealous in loving the Lord.
O holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon,
pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God,//
which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

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

Tone 7 Kontakion (*Lenten Triodion*)

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden;
it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross.
The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished;
for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell://
“Enter again into Paradise!”

(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,
and Your holy Resurrection we glorify.

Prokeimenon in the Sixth Tone (*Cross*)

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 1 Prokeimenon (*St. Tikhon*)

My mouth shall speak wisdom; / the meditation of my heart shall be
understanding. (*Ps. 48:3*)

Before the Gospel, the Alleluia

Verse: Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old!
(*Ps. 73:2*)

Verse: God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the
midst of the earth! (*Ps. 73:13*)

Verse: The mouth of the righteous shall proclaim wisdom, and his tongue
shall speak of judgment. (*Ps. 36:31*)

**(Instead of “It is truly meet...” we sing “All of creation rejoices in you,
O Full of Grace”)**

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil
tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!