

**Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church**

A parish of the New England Diocese ❖ Orthodox Church in America  
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 The Very Reverend Michael Westerberg, Rector  
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**Rectory and Parish Mailing address: 25 Kohary Drive New Haven, CT 06515-2418**

Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017 **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost / Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos**

**Today's readings are:**

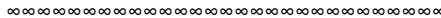
II Corinthians 6:16-7:1 and Saint Luke 6:31-36 (17<sup>th</sup> Sunday)  
 Hebrews 9:1-7 and Saint Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Protection)

**Weekly calendar:**

Today		church school and coffee hour
	1:00pm	FORCC Annual Benefit Dinner at Saint Barbara’s Church in Orange
Oct. 2	Mon 5:30pm	Daily Vespers
Oct. 3	Tue 5:30pm	Daily Vespers
Oct. 4	Wed —	(no vespers today)
Oct. 5	Thu 5:00pm	OCF at Yale – Vespers in the Lovett Room of Battell Chapel
Oct. 6	Fri 5:30pm	Daily Vespers
Oct. 7	Sat 4:30pm	Panikhida- remembering Anna Sidoriak, Tatiana Kallestinova and Paulina Aslan. (Yola Yarovinsky’s mother, Sonya Hitt’s mother and Mihaela Aslan’s mother died within a few days of each other. This is a 40 <sup>th</sup> day remembrance for all three.)
	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Great Vespers and Confessions</b>
Oct. 8	Sun <b>9:00am</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy- Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b> [II Corinthians 9:6-11 and Saint Luke 7:11-16] church school and coffee hour

*To be married in our parish  
 Olga Kochurova and Peter Romanovsky  
 Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 2:30 P.M.*

On Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a special parish meeting for the purpose of amending our parish by-laws to bring them into compliance with the new Statute of the Orthodox Church in America. Beginning next Sunday, we will be making the ‘official’ announcements as required by our by-laws. This is an advance notice for your planning.



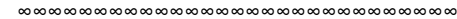
You must love every man, seeing in him the image of God, disregarding his vices. You must not dismiss people with coldness.  
*Saint Nikon, Staretz of Optina*

**ON DEATH AND LOVE — from a Sermon of Saint Basil the Great On Death and Love**

Brethren, let us be afraid and terrified of death.... Brethren, hold nothing in higher esteem than boundless love. We commit many sins, every day, every night, every hour, every season. Let us, therefore, have love; for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. What gain do we have, children, if we acquire the whole world, but do not have the love that saves us? What use is it if someone makes a great banquet, and invites a king or a prince to come, and prepares all that is necessary in great abundance, but lacks salt? Would anyone wish to partake of such a feast? Is it not the same if a man has prepared a wealth of good things but finds himself ashamed before the guests who are invited? Likewise, my brethren, what profit is there in many labors, if they are cast to the wind, being without love? For without love every deed is unclean. If anyone has virginity, or fasting, or vigils, or prayer, or hospitality, or offers gifts to God, or brings the fruits of his labor to the Church, or does anything else, but without love, it is all for naught in the sight of God, who has no need of our goods. Do not even think of ever doing anything good without love. If you say, I love Christ, but I do not wish to make peace with my brother, you will be found to be a liar. St John the Apostle himself will rebuke you; for the end of the commandment is charity. Great is the power of unconquerable love! Great is the power of unlimited love! There is nothing greater than love, either in heaven or on earth. This holy love is the chiefest of virtues; love is the sign of any virtue; love is as salt to everything. Charity is not puffed up; it is the fulfilling of the law. It dwelt in the heart of Abel. It assisted the Patriarchs, and therefore they held it fast. It abode with the Prophets. It made David a home of the Holy Spirit. It also strengthened Job. What more can I say? Only this: It brought the Son of God down to us from heaven. Because of love all that is good has appeared. By its death was put to death, Hades was taken captive and Adam was made new. Because of love angels and men were made one flock.

Because of love paradise was opened. Because of love the kingdom of heaven was proclaimed. It made the wilderness a city. It made fishermen wise. It filled mountains and caves with hymnody. It taught men and women to walk along the narrow way of afflictions. I will not stop at this in speaking about love. Not even the angels can tell all that love has accomplished in the virtues of the blessed. It is love that brings about every good work. Blessed is the man who has acquired true and sincere love. As the Master said: Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his neighbor. The Apostle Paul had this love, and he said: Love works no ill to his neighbor. Let none render evil for evil unto any man, nor slander for slander. When you have acquired this love, despise not any man, neither envy him, nor murmur, nor hate your brother at any time. Do not love only those who love you, but love even those who hate you.

The Protomartyr Stephen possessed this holy love, and therefore he prayed to God for those who were stoning him, saying: Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. Blessed is the man who acquires this love and holds it higher than all else. His reward grows from day to day; a crown is prepared for him; all the angels bless him; and God will never leave him. God is love; and he that dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him. Everything is through love. To our God be glory, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.



Сегодня- 17-я Неделя по Пятидесятница и Покров Пресвятыя Богородицы  
 [Второе Послание к Коринфянам 6:16-7:1 и от Луки 6:31-36 (17-я Неделя)]  
 [Послание к Евреям 9:1-7 и от Луки 10:38-42; 11:27-28 (Покров)]

Субб. 5:00чд Великая Вечерня и Исповедь

Воск. 9:00чу Литургия- 18-я Неделя по Пятидесятница  
 [Второе Послание к Коринфянам 9:6-11 и от Луки 7:11-16]