Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church

A parish of the New England Diocese ✣ Orthodox Church in America
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The Very Reverend Steven Voytovich, D.Min., Rector, e-mail: *voyts90@gmail.com*
Very Reverend Sergius Halvorsen, Ph.D., Attached

Sun. Sep. 15, 2024 9:00am **12th Sunday after Pentecost: Sunday after the Exaltation Feast**

TODAY'S READINGS: Gal. 2:16-20 (Sun. after) Mark 8:34-9:1
I Cor. 15:1-11 Matt. 19:16-26

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Today:	Coffee Hour
Thu. Sep. 19 5:00pm	OCF Vespers, Lovett Room Battell Chapel
Sun. Sep. 22 9:00am	**13th Sunday after Pentecost:** with our Fr. Sergius!
	I Cor. 16:13-24 Luke 5:1-11

Welcome to all our visitors who join us for services!

Pray for: Nancy Muro who is at Artis Senior Living, Branford; **Tatiana** Oji is at Orange Care Center, **Maria** Scheirer is at Elim Long-term care, Cheshire. **Carole** Rossick and **George** Jafferis, continue in cancer treatment.

Fr. Steven and Mat. Cindy will be away on vacation beginning Sept. 16, and returning on Oct. 6th. For pastoral emergencies during this time, please contact Robin Milberg, our Council President, either by e-mail at robinmilberg@yahoo.com or by phone: 203.216.2779. She will contact clergy covering pastoral needs during these weeks.

Orthodox Charity of the Month In September we will be supporting ***the restoration of St. Theodosius Cathedral,*** in, in Cleveland, Ohio, following the horrific fire there. To donate by check, simply put "Charity of the Month" in the memo line.

Coffee Hour: To assist in preparations for upcoming coffee hours, here is the link to the sign-up sheet Please communicate your plan to bring what you are able to in coordinating with others and share with parish faithful.

FORCC Banquet:
Is now scheduled for **October 6th**. The banquet will be at St. Dimitri Orthodox Church in Easton, doors opening at 12:30pm. You can find a flyer here. **Alex Oji** has again committed to be our ticket chairman, and **registration forms are now available** at the candle desk, with **deadline of Sept. 20**. This will be the 31st anniversary of FORCC, and **His Grace, Bishop Benedict** will be the speaker!

Men's Reading Group: Continues weekly on Thursday mornings at 7:15am. We are currently studying St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Just click on the link here to join us.

The Very Rev. Sergius Halvorsen, attached to our parish, and serving on September 22 and 29, is assistant professor of Homiletics and Rhetoric at St. Vladimir's Seminary, and serves as director of the Doctor of Ministry Program. In addition to teaching homiletics and preaching, he also teaches courses in apologetics, faith and science, and Christian education. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology (1992), an M.Div. from St. Vladimir's Seminary, (1996), and Doctorate from Drew University (2002). He was ordained to the diaconate in 1999 and to the priesthood in February 2004, serving as supply priest as his seminary schedule allows. He is an accomplished liturgical musician and has contributed to a number of "Archangel Voices" recordings, not to mention the beautiful hymns sung here in New Haven! He is married to Matushka Dina, and they have three adult children, Thomas, Timothy, and Mary. He loves gardening, hiking, biking, and reading biographies and fiction.

Lukan Jump: On the Monday following the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, our church ordo calls for beginning reading the Gospel of St. Luke. You will see on Sunday Sept. 22nd the first of these readings. The reason for this relates to the narrative of the birth of John the Baptist that is only recorded in Luke's Gospel.

A note on finances: Summer is a difficult time for many non-profits, and our church has seen donations slump over the past months. *We need, on average, gifts totalling $15,000 each month to meet routine expenses*. The new church year is an opportunity to take new steps in giving -- please prayerfully consider how you might make Holy Transfiguration's continued flourishing a financial priority. To learn more about proportionate giving, see this presentation from 2023. We welcome gifts by check, directly from a bank, or via PayPal.

Our parishioner, **Neely Bruce**, is celebrating both his 80th birthday and 50 years of teaching at Wesleyan University! A series of concerts will be given in his honor, the first being today at 3:00pm in Crowell Concert Hall at Wesleyan University. Use this link to find out more. Congratulations and many years!

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