

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. Mar. 16, 2025 9:00am **Second Sunday of Great Lent: St. Gregory Palamas**

TODAY'S READINGS:

Heb. 1:10-2:3

Mark 2:1-12

Heb. 7:26-8:2

John 10:9-16 (St. Gregory)

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Today:

Coffee Hour,

4:00pm

Mission Vespers, St. Alexis, Clinton

Tue. Mar. 18 5:30pm

Daily Vespers

Wed. Mar. 19 5:00pm

Confessions

6:00pm

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and lenten supper

Sat. Mar. 22 4:15pm

Memorial Saturday service (we will be praying for parish departed)

5:00pm

Great Vespers, Confessions

Sun. Mar. 23 9:00am

Third Sunday of Great Lent: Veneration of the Cross

4:00pm

Heb. 4:14-5:6

Mark 8:34-9:1

Mission Vespers, Holy Ghost, Bridgeport

Welcome to all our visitors who join us for services!

Celebrations: Birthday: **Claire** Catherine Cowan, Mar. 11th; **Andrew** Boyd, **Thomas** Halvorsen, **Steven** Willis, (18th) Many years!

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

Orthodox Charity of the Month: In March we will be supporting **Stewards of the Diocese of New England**. This is a diocesan program to support initiatives above and beyond budgeted items, such as seminarian scholarships, youth rally, and others. Please be generous. To donate by check, simply put "Charity of the Month" in the memo line.

Confessions

As has been the practice over many years, when you come to confession during Great Lent, please remember to sign the confession book that will be available. Please don't wait until the end of lent to make time for your confession. We will not be celebrating general confession until after Pascha.

Men's Reading Group: Continues weekly on Thursday mornings at 7:15am. We are currently studying The OT Book of Ecclesiastes. Just click on the link [here](#) to join us.

St. Gregory Palamas: Is remembered on the Second Sunday of Great Lent, after a Synod was held in 1341, in Constantinople, exonerating him. From the proceedings of this Synod, Barlaam the Calabrian came to a community of monks on Mount Athos, sharing his own thoughts about the ability to perceive the essence of God rationally. Later he turned and accused the same monks of these false teachings, identifying St. Gregory Palamas directly. St. Gregory defended the right theological understanding that we cannot know God's essence, but we can participate in His Divine energy, revealed through the Grace of the Holy Spirit. His defense was a written work entitled: *Triads in defense of the Holy Hesychasts*. His arguments were then presented at the synod in 1341, and in a Hagioritic Tome, the abbots from monasteries on Mount Athos signed their agreement with St. Gregory's arguments, and his practice of stillness in prayer that had already been known for centuries. As the Sunday of Orthodoxy celebrates the icons in the midst of the church, this second Sunday affirms the life of stillness in knowing God through prayer.

Veneration of the Cross Sunday: "The remembrance of the Cross on the third Sunday of Lent speaks only to our faith and reverence. It is to proclaim the part played by the Cross in the history of salvation and to prepare us for the vision, still far-off, of the Cross which, on Holy Friday, will be erected on Golgotha." (*The Year of Grace of our Lord*, SVS Press, Crestwood, pp.123)

Annunciation Feast: on Tuesday of next week we will celebrate the Feast of Annunciation, the only great feast to occur during Great Lent. We will celebrate a Vesperal Divine Liturgy on Tuesday at 6:00pm, with Confessions beginning at 5:00pm. With the leavetaking on Wednesday with Presanctified Liturgy, the leavetaking commemorating the Archangel Gabriel is set aside this year.

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Храмовые службы теперь благословляются дважды в неделю. Щелкните [здесь](#), чтобы запросить посещение церковной службы.

(Видеозаписи домашних вечерних служб доступны [здесь](#) на нашем сайте.)

Сегодня- Литургия: Вторая Святого Поста: Святой Григорий Палама

[Послание к Евреям 1:10-2:3 и от Марка 2:1-12]

[Послание к Евреям 7:26-8:2 и от Иоанна 10:9-16]

16:00 Постная вечерня; Клинтон

Сред. 17:00 Исповедь; 18:00 Литургия Преждеосвященных Даров

Субб. 16:15 Панихида

17:00 Великая Вечерня и Исповедь

Воск. 9:00чу Литургия: Неделя - Третья Святого Поста; Почитание Святого Креста Христова

[Послание к Евреям 4:14-5:6 и от Марка 8:34-9:1]

4:00чд Постная вечерня; Бриджпорт