



Sts. Peter & Paul Boulder

Weekly Bulletin Week of March 26th, 2017

Welcome to Our Parish!

The mission of Sts. Peter & Paul is to be a beacon of Orthodox Christian spirituality in the greater Boulder area. We strive together to live our Orthodox Christian Faith by having a devoted prayer life, through fasting and almsgiving, and through regular participation in the services and sacraments of the Holy Orthodox Church.

Service Schedule & Parish Activities

The St John Serbian Orthodox Church will be hosting the Pan Orthodox Vespers this evening at 5 pm

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| March 29, Wednesday | 6 pm | Presanctified Liturgy (5:45 pm 9th hour) |
| | 7:30 pm | Lenten Potluck & Lenten Lecture |
| March 31, Friday | 9 am | Presanctified Liturgy |
| | 7 pm | Akathist Service |
| April 1, Saturday | 5pm | Great Vespers |
| April 2, Sunday | 5 pm | Pan Orthodox Vespers at St Luke's Antiochian Church |



Contact Info

**Sts. Peter & Paul
Greek Orthodox Church**
5640 Jay Rd.
Boulder, CO 80301
Office: 303-581-1434

www.stspeterandpaulboulder.org

Rev. Fr. Jordan Brown
Frjordanbrown@gmail.com

Recurring Services

Orthros
Sunday @ 8:15 am
Divine Liturgy
Sunday @ 9:30 am
Great Vespers
Saturday @ 5 pm

Parish Council

President - George Tsiouvaras;

Vice President - Nick Kallan

Treasurer - Oliver Huskey

Secretary - Steve Dzilvelis

Jim Azar

Tom Jacky

Hosts & Volunteers

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|-----------------------------|---|
| Ushers | Manny & Candy Soulakis |
| Fellowship Hour Host | Jan Marose & Family (in honor of John Marose) |
| Myrrhbearers | Demetra G., Sophie |
| Choir | Alexandra, Elizabeth, Georgia |
| Epistle Reader | Nicholas |

Have an Announcement?

Please contact Aaron Wall:
awall609@yahoo.com
(720) 400-6579
Deadline is every Wed.

The Salutations Service (Hairitismi / Akathistos)

The “Akathist Hymn” is a profound, developed poem, which sings the praises of the Holy Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary. It is a composite work by more than one of our Ecclesiastical Hymnographers, as we know it today. It was originally recited, or rather prayed in the year 626 A.D., in the Church of the Theotokos (Mother of God) of Vlachernae in Constantinople, on the occasion of the deliverance of the “Queen City” from the siege of the Avars.

This particular Prayer Service is a very important one, and most certainly an integral part of our religious and ecclesiastical life. It is chanted in all the Orthodox Churches throughout the world during the first 5 Fridays of Lent. In essence it constitutes a very concrete spiritual preparation for the awesome Holy Week and Easter Services. When we participate during the first Friday Service, we sense the feeling that we are commencing to ascend the spiritual steps of the lengthy Lenten period, which lead us to the peak, by the celebration of the Lord’s Resurrection on the glorious Day of Pascha.

The devotional Hymns to the Virgin Mary are almost as ancient as the first Christian Church. The Byzantine Empire from its inception early in the 4th Century A.D., allied itself closely to the Virgin Mary, and always sought Her protection. This we see in the Prayer Services from the 5th to the 8th Century.

The “Akathist Hymn,” which has more than one author, was known and prayed for the most part even before the “Hymn’s” established year of 626 A.D. The Kontakion “To the Invincible Champion ... we ascribe the victory” was added in 626 A.D., and came to be recognized with the existing hymn as the “Akathist Hymn” because of the following miracle attributed to the Theotokos.

In 626 A.D. The Emperor of Byzantium Heraclesios was already on an expedition to stem the aggression of the Persians on their own grounds.

In his absence, there appeared outside the high protective walls of Constantinople barbaric hordes, mostly Avars.

The siege lasted a few months, and it was becoming apparent that the outnumbered troops of the Queen City were reaching desperation. However, as history records, the faith of the people worked the impossible. The Venerable Patriarch Sergios carrying a Holy Icon of the Virgin Mary with the Christ Child, accompanied by many of his Clergy, and the High Official Vonos, commenced to March around the great walls of Constantinople to bolster the faith of the defenders of freedom.

It wasn’t long after, that the miracle happened. Unexpectedly, as the chronicler narrates, a great storm, with a huge tidal waves destroyed most of the enemy’s fleet and a full retreat ensued.

The faithful of Constantinople spontaneously filled the Church of the Theotokos at Vlachernae at the Golden Horn. With the Patriarch Sergios officiating, they prayed all night singing the praises of the Virgin Mary without sitting.

Hence the title of the Hymn, “Akathistos,” the Greek word for “not sitting.” This is the great glory of the Holy Orthodox Church! Faith in our Almighty God without question has always been, and is, primary and all-important.

Our devotion and dependence on God has always been beyond question, and from this faith all the faithful should strive never to stray. Therefore, Services like the “Akathist Hymn” should be an integral part of our spiritual dedication. We should always look forward to participate at these Services, to appreciate even more the great wealth we have inherited as Orthodox Christians.

Furthermore, by attending these Services, we become linked in a way to a glorious period of our Christian history. Living in these trying times, besieged by so many forces of evil, it is my hope and prayer that the “Akathist Hymn,” as well as the other inspirational Services of our Holy Orthodox Church will become the bulwark to withstand, and indeed overcome evil.

+Fr George Papadeas, blessed memory

Events & Announcements

Memorial Service

Today is the 40 day memorial service for John Marose, brother of Jan Marose. May his memory be eternal!

ToO Update

- Next ToO meeting will be held on March 26 at 11:45am in the Cry Room. We will be discussing the menu. Anyone is welcome to attend.
- Interested in placing an ad in the ToO Ad Book for 2017? See Robin Glasener for details.

Attention Parents: Special Youth Ministry Meeting - Sunday, March 26th at Noon

Do you want to see youth ministry grow in our parish? Dear parents of middle and high school students, please mark your calendar and attend this very important meeting regarding youth ministry. Father Jordan will discuss some very important upcoming youth events. Parents play a vital role in the success of church youth ministry. Please consider serving as a parent youth advisor. The meeting will take place in the large Sunday school room. Contact Fr. Jordan with any questions.

Pan Orthodox Lenten Vespers

The Orthodox Parishes in Denver and the Front Range area will be celebrating together every Sunday during Lent. This evening at 5 pm, the St John Serbian Orthodox Church will be the host parish. This is a great opportunity to join in prayer and fellowship with our Orthodox family in the Front Range and the Denver Metro area.

Philoptochos Fundraiser for Boulder Safehouse

Philoptochos is collecting much-needed supplies for the women and children of Boulder Safehouse. Safehouse offers support and services that provide healing, hope, and opportunity to adults, youth and children who have been impacted by domestic or dating violence. **Please consider purchasing a Target gift card from the Philoptochos bookstore this week or next to donate to this cause by March 26th.** These gift cards will be used to purchase the supplies that the organization needs most, such as toilet paper, baby wipes, diaper cream, dish soap, and other household essentials. A small percentage of your gift card will also benefit the Philoptochos Society to allow us to make further cash donations to organizations such as Safehouse and others throughout Boulder County. Contact Liz Soderberg with questions: 530-209-6281 or lizsoderberg@outlook.com.

Wednesday Lenten Evening Class

Please join us this Wednesday, and every Wednesday during Great Lent for a lenten supper and reflection. The Presanctified Liturgy will begin at 6 pm, and immediately following services we will dinner in the parish hall (7:30 pm). Please bring a lenten dish. During the meal, Father Jordan and additional guest speakers will be offering a lenten spiritual reflection.

Pascha Cookie Basket Fund Raiser

If you are looking for ethnic cookies for Pascha, look no more! Philoptochos is selling baskets of ethnic cookies for \$27. Deadline to order is April 2nd. See flyer for more details.

Philoptochos Special Gift Card Fund Raiser

Please consider purchasing gift cards through our local Philoptochos TODAY! Gift cards are perfect for gift-giving for graduations, birthdays, Pascha, Mother's day, Father's Day, distributions to those in need, or purchases you're planning to make in-store or online. Over 300 popular retailers are available (including Starbucks, AMC, Macy's, Target, and many, many more!) and give 3-18% of the sale back to Philoptochos. 100% of proceeds go to support local, national, and international charities. **The deadline to order is April 2nd for an April 9th delivery.** Lis Troicky will be taking your orders and payments. Contact Lis for more information at the gift card selling table in the hall, by email at etroick@aol.com, or phone at 720-771-7786. Thank you for your support of our Philoptochos!

AND ---> Don't forget to stop by the Philoptochos gift card table to purchase your weekly grocery gift cards or Old Chicago Pizza Palz gift cards. We have King Soopers reloadable gift cards at \$2.50 each, where you take the card to King Soopers and BEFORE the cashier scans your transaction, ask the cashier to put any denomination you wish on the card (or go to Customer Service). You can pay King Soopers with a credit card, check or cash to add money to the card! Philoptochos will receive 5% of your sale. Philoptochos also sells the following gift cards in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations: King Soopers, Safeway, Sprouts, Whole Foods, Vitamin Cottage and Lucky's. Stop by the Gift card table in the hall today!

Philoptochos Bookstore

Lenten Books have arrived! Lenten Podcasts available! The *Holy Week Easter Service Book* is available for pre-order! Limited quantities, so reserve your copy today! Some of our top picks include Fr Alexander Schmemmann's *Great Lent* and *Thirty Steps to Heaven* by Fr Vassilios Papavassiliou. For Great Lenten Listening, go to the Ancient Faith website and check out great sermons by Fr Thomas Hopko and "Coffee with Sister Vassa."

Flower Donations for Holy Week

We are in need of donations to offset the cost of the Holy Week Flowers, especially to decorate the epitaphio (tomb of Christ) on Holy Friday. The donation basket is located in the narthex on the left side. Thank you for all your help.

Getting the Word Out

The Parish Council is implementing a new tool to facilitate more timely communication within our community. This tool is called Flocknote. In the coming weeks you will begin to see communications from Flocknote related to church services, events and ministries. We believe this tool will allow more timely exchange of information and help us to better serve our community.

Sunday Fellowship

Please let us know if you are interested and can help us out. Remember this doesn't have to be a full meal, just a light snack.. The calendar Fellowship sign up is in the fellowship hall. Presbytera Kedrann, Fran Dzivelis and Mary Lymberopoulos are coordinating the Sunday Fellowship Ministry. Please sign up today.

2017 PASCHA COOKIE BASKET FUNDRAISER

Sponsored by and benefits the many philanthropic projects of the Philoptochos Society
of Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church



Cookie Basket includes a variety of Mediterranean specialty pastries

Minimum Donation of \$27.00 per basket

Please order on or before Sunday, April 2, 2017

Please pick up your basket(s) on Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 11AM to 12:00PM
at Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church

Mail (or return on Sunday) the order form below along with your check made payable to
Philoptochos:

Pascha Cookie Basket Fundraiser
Philoptochos Society
Sts. Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church
5640 Jay Road; Boulder, CO 80301

2017 Pascha Cookie Basket Fundraiser Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

_____ # of Cookie Baskets @ \$27.00 each = \$_____ Total

Paid: Check # _____ or Cash \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Philoptochos - Thank you for your support!