



Sts. Peter & Paul Boulder

Weekly Bulletin Week of September 24th, 2017



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

Service Schedule & Parish Activities

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|---------------|
| Tuesday, September 26 | OCF College Ministry | 6 pm |
| Wednesday, September 27 | Morning Bible Study Evening Paraclesis Service | 10 am 6 pm |
| Saturday, September 30 | Readers' Vespers Youth Seminar & Teen Fellowship* | 5 pm |

* See Announcements

Recurring Services

Orthros
Sunday @ 8:30 am
Divine Liturgy
Sunday @ 9:30 am
Great Vespers
Saturday @ 5 pm
Confession by appt.

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.

Hosts & Volunteers

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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ushers | Tony & Rimona Azar |
| Fellowship Hosts | Huskey/Mullery Families |
| Myrrhbearers | Demetra G., Cassie, Sophie |
| Choir | Georgia, Alexandra, Elizabeth |
| Epistle Reader | Elizabeth |

Have an Announcement?

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

Holy Protomartyr and Equal to the Apostles Thekla

September 24th

*He saved you, Thekla, when He rent the rock,
He at whose passion once the rocks were rent.
On the twenty fourth a rock received Thekla.*

Saint Thekla came from the city of Iconium, the daughter of a noble and distinguished woman named Theokleia, who was a Greek. At the age of eighteen she was engaged to a man named Thamyras.

When the Apostle Paul went to Iconium from Antioch, he stayed in the house of Onesiphoros, and there he taught the Christian faith to all who fled to him. At that time the blessed Thekla was sitting in the neighborhood, and heard through the door the sweet words of the blessed Paul, which brought her such enjoyment and longing, that she forgot about food or drink and all the necessities of life. She even forgot about her mother and her fiance, despite the fact that her mother and fiance tried to prevent her from listening to the sweet words of Paul. Thus when Paul was imprisoned, then that renowned woman went by night to the prison, and was nourished by the heavenly teachings of the Apostle, and from that time became his follower.

After the both of them stood before the proconsul, Paul was beaten and exiled from the land of Iconium, while Thekla was cast into flames, though through divine grace she remained unharmed. Leaving that place she went in search of the Apostle, and found him hidden in a tomb with his host Onesiphoros, and they went together to Antioch. As soon as they entered the city, one of the main

rulers, whose name was Alexander, was smitten with lust for Thekla. After pleading with Paul to take her as his wife, and failing to get what he desired, he unashamedly rushed at her in the middle of the street and began to kiss her. The Saint screamed, tore his coat and threw off the crown he wore on his head, looking only for her spiritual bridegroom Paul. Alexander could not withstand such shame and dishonor, so Thekla was brought before the governor. Hence the Martyr was given for food to a lioness, and then to a lion and bear. After remaining unharmed from the beasts, the Martyr saw a pond full of water. And since she very much desired to be baptized, she entered the water, and the seals that were in the water immediately died by divine power.

Then the Maiden was again given to the beasts. The women who were around there yelled out at the governor, speaking out against his unjust treatment of that woman, and they showed great love and kindness to her. Among these was a relative of Caesar named Tryphaina, who was entrusted from the beginning to protect Thekla, and had Saint Thekla as a daughter instead of her dead daughter Falkonilla.

After this the Saint was bound to two fearsome bulls of Alexander. From this also she emerged unharmed. Wherefore because the governor and the ruler Alexander saw that their devices were to no avail, and because they saw the noble Tryphaina faint from the extreme sadness she felt during the torments inflicted on Thekla, out of fear they released the Saint and set her at liberty to live how she wanted. The Saint therefore received her freedom, and after a certain time went to Myra where she met the blessed Paul. From there she returned to Iconium with the favor of the Apostle, and taught the unbelievers there the gospel of Christ.

Seeing that her mother according to the flesh was deaf to the words of the gospel, and refused to believe, she left her and Iconium and went to the tomb where she beforehand found the Apostle Paul hidden with Onesiphoros. After venerating and kissing it, she departed for Seleucia. And going outside the city about a Roman mile, she ascended Mount Calamon, and lived in a cave there. There the blessed one underwent many trials from the demons. Having become famous to all, not only for her virtues but also for her miracles, she attracted many noble and rich women to imitate her zeal and asceticism.

Since the Saint showed herself to be an unmercenary physician of souls and bodies, and released many people from demonic possession, she was envied by the physicians of Seleucia. So these defiled men sent certain licentious young men to dishonor her. But when this honorable old woman saw these men hasten to her without shame, she called upon the help of God. And - O the wonder! - she heard a divine voice from above say to her to enter into a rock, which had rent in two, and to repose there. Thus entering into the rent rock, she was spared from the unbridled hands of the young men, and the blessed one ascended to her bridegroom Christ, at the age of ninety.

Saints Peter and Paul Urgently Needs Your Financial Support!

Dear Church Family,

The summer months were a financial challenge, and so far in September we have not seen the customary rebound in stewardship. The good news is that Church attendance has been healthy and we have much to be grateful for in our parish. Our festival was a success, Sunday school is off to a good start and Boulder County has approved our dome project, which will be moving forward this fall.

Please be aware that over the summer months our collections have dropped almost \$40,000 below our operating budget and we have depleted our operating account. As a result, we will need to tap into our Taste of Orthodoxy and Building Funds to pay our upcoming bills. The Parish Council does not believe this is a sustainable approach and our current financial situation needs to be addressed as a community.

Our ultimate goal is to fund our budget through stewardship. This will provide a stable, fruitful and thriving parish, with a secure future and opportunities for our children.

The council is optimistic that we can get to a financially healthy state in the near future with your help. Please consider what the church adds to your life. The Saints Peter and Paul community exists because of your faithful and continual support.

We invite the entire community to discuss this at our next Town Hall meeting which is scheduled for Sunday, October 8th. Please see a council member with any questions.

The Stewardship committee will be hosting a few small group meetings to discuss the ministry of stewardship, and what we must do in order to be a healthy parish. The small group meetings will be offered in October and early November. All stewards will be receiving an invitation.

Please review your stewardship commitments to make sure you have not missed any stewardship payments. We also ask the parish to prayerfully reconsider your stewardship gift, and make an increase for the remaining months of 2017, if possible.

In Christ,

The Parish Council

“For with God nothing will be impossible.” St Luke 1:37

Small Acts of Kindness

“Whoever welcomes Me, and whoever welcomes Me welcomes the one who sent Me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.” (Matthew 10:40-42)

By “these little ones” Christ means anyone who happens to come to Him, or be brought to Him by others, - even little children, who may not even understand that they are being brought to Him, or Who He is, or what He is all about (Mt 18:4-6). In other words, I can bring “reward” or blessing into my world, both by simply being “one of these little ones” and allowing small acts of kindness to be done to me, or by doing unto other “little ones” small acts of kindness.

So today let me not underestimate the value of small acts of kindness, be it the everyday responsibilities of a mom or dad to their children, like making breakfast, or going to their boring workplace and sitting in a cubicle all day for their daily bread; or providing “a cold cup of water” to a hurricane-survivor through a small donation to a charity - organization (like International Orthodox Christian Charities, helping victims of Hurricane Harvey, Irma, and now Maria); or just offering a kind word to the lonely old lady in the elevator, instead of burying my nose in my phone, in disinterested silence.

Because any act of kindness, done in and from the light of the Lord’s word, said to us, will be “rewarded.” rather than underestimated, by Him. Thank you, Lord, for asking so little of us, because many of us have so little to give.

- Sister Vassa (Orthodox Russian Nun)

Events & Announcements

Sunday School

Welcome back students! This is a reminder to all students and teachers to please proceed to the parish hall immediately after receiving Holy Communion. Sunday school ends at 12 noon.

Adult Education: Orthodox Faith Class – Today at Noon

(Class will be held in the Church / Quiet Room)

Today's Topic: What we believe about Jesus

His Life, Crucifixion and Resurrection, Part 1

If you are inquirer, interested in the Orthodox Christian Faith or preparing to become an Orthodox Christian through the sacrament of Baptism and Chrismation, please join us. Father Jordan will be leading the class. If you have any questions, please contact Father Jordan at frjordanbrown@gmail.com or 303-581-1434.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

September 27, 10 am (We will meet in Parish Hall)

Please join us for Bible Study. The class is open to everyone. We will be discussing the gospel and epistle lesson of Sunday and major Feast Days. This is wonderful time to prayerfully read the scripture, and develop a better understanding of the Orthodox Church. Refreshments are offered.

YOUTH MINISTRY

College Ministry: OCF @ CU

Welcome back dear college students! **Please join us for dinner this evening at 5 pm, at the home of Father Jordan and Presbytera Marika (home address 7793 Essex Place, Boulder)** Our next OCF campus fellowship will be on Tuesday, September 26, 6 pm. We will be meeting at the St Thomas Student Catholic Center (corner of 15th & Euclid). If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact our OCF President, Marina @ or Father Jordan @ frjordanbrown@gmail.com.

Attention All Youth Workers, Sunday school Teachers and Teens

Retreat: Christian Education: Engaging our Youth

September 29-30, Friday & Saturday

The St Elias Antiochian Orthodox Church located in Arvada, will be hosting a very special event for youth workers, teens and young adults and parents. The 'Dynamic Duo,' Fr James and Kh. Gigi Shadid will be the retreat masters. Fr James will engage our teens and young adults in an energetic retreat while Khouria Gigi addresses parents, teachers, homeschoolers or anyone interested in the life of a child. **You won't want to miss this rare opportunity!** The complete schedule and registration material is available in the church narthex and the church website. We will be carpooling to the retreat. Please communicate with Father Jordan if you are planning to attend the retreat.

Joy & Hope Children

We need parent advisors!

Joy & Hope is the ministry serving children of grade school age. We are blessed to be growing in this area. We have more children! Father Jordan is looking for a few parents to help him with this ministry. The Joy Hope will be planning activities in October. Please reach out to Father Jordan if feel called to serve this ministry.

GOYA - Middle and High School-Age Children

Upcoming special youth events: Mark Your calendar!

September 30, Saturday 10 am - 3 pm, Retreat w/ Father James @ St Elias

October 14, Saturday 4 pm, Corn Maze w/ St Luke

October 28, Saturday 6 pm, Girls only Fellowship w/ St Luke's

November 4 - 5, Saturday & Sunday, Goya Fall Retreat @ Holy Apostles, Cheyenne

November, Altar overnight Retreat, Hot Sulphur, date TBA