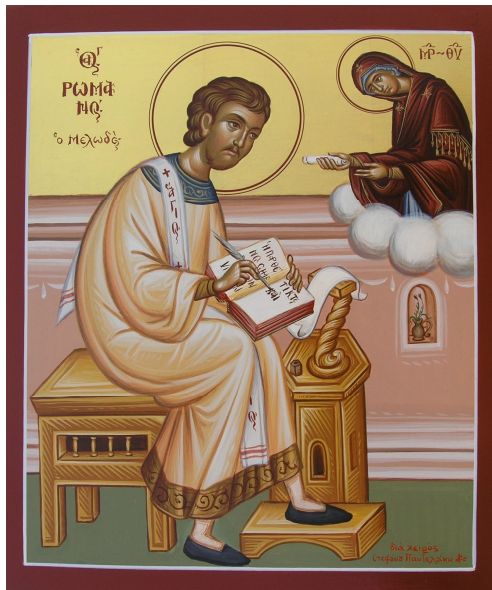




Sts. Peter & Paul Boulder

Weekly Bulletin Week of October 1st, 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

Recurring Services

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

Service Schedule & Parish Activities

Wednesday, October 4	Morning Bible Study	10 am
	Evening Paraclesis Service	6 pm
Saturday, October 7	Philoptochos Meeting	9:30am
	Philoptochos Brunch	11 am
	(All Women are welcome)	
	Great Vespers	5 pm

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

Ushers	Dion & Kiki Cheronis
Myrrhbearers	Alexandra, Elizabeth, Sophie
Choir	Georgia, Demetra G., Cassie
Epistle Reader	Georgia

Have an Announcement?

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

St. Romanos as Models for our Lives

By Protopresbyter Fr. George Papavarnavas

Saint Romanos the Melodist lived in the sixth, or according to others the eighth, century. He was ordained a Deacon in Beirut and then went to Constantinople, where he served in the Sacred Church of the Theotokos in Kyros, but participated in all-night vigils which were often done in the Sacred Church of the Panagia of Blachernae. He constantly supplicated the Panagia for the gift to compose hymns, because he really wanted to do this work but was unable. During the overnight service on the eve of Christmas, at the moment when the Canons of the feast are read, he fell asleep for a bit and saw the Panagia in his dream who, after greeting him, gave him a scroll of paper and told him to eat it. When he woke up he felt great sweetness in his mouth and unspeakable joy, because he realized he was given the gift to compose hymns. Therefore, full of divine inspiration, he began to recite the Kontakion which he composed at that moment for the feast of Christmas, the well-known "Today the Virgin". He served with zeal the work of hymnography and mainly composed Kontakia. The Kontakion of every feast is read before the Synaxarion.

Saint Romanos the Melodist was "perfected in peace". His life and times give us the opportunity to emphasize the following:

First, Saint Romanos, as indeed all the Saints, was a lover of services. That is, he loved to participate in the services of the Church, both during the day and at night, and primarily the Divine Liturgy, which is the center of all the Mysteries, since all the Mysteries take place in order for us to participate in the Divine Eucharist. At Mount Athos, as well as many other Orthodox Monasteries, the Divine Liturgy is performed daily and all-night services take place often, especially during celebrations and great feasts.

The readings, hymns and general atmosphere created with the performance of Sacred Services, and especially during the Divine Liturgy, creates devoutness and a prayerful mood. Analogous to each one's receptivity, the Grace of God acts in their existence, resulting in the pacification of the heart, which repels sadness and despair within and showers us with divine consolation. "The consolation from hymns produces a state of soul that is cheerful and free of sorrow" (Basil the Great).

A contemporary Elder said, regarding our participation in the worship of the Church, among other things the following:

"An Orthodox Christian must necessarily attend church, to participate in the Divine Liturgy by following the priest and chanters, and to pray especially at the time when the officiator says: 'Thine own of Thine own'. At that moment the heavens open and the Holy Spirit comes and changes the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. It is the most important moment of the Divine Liturgy. Also, when the priest emerges holding the Holy Things, during the so-called Great Entrance, and he commemorates the living and dead, we should also pray at that moment... By going to church we receive the strength to continue our struggle during the new week. Just as the body has need for rest, so also the soul needs to renew her strength. This renewal can only be found near God. How can we nurture our soul if we don't go to church?"

Second, Saint Romanos, as we saw above, received by means of a dream the gift of hymnography. "A dream," according to Saint John of Sinai, the author of *The Ladder*, "is a movement of the mind while the body is at rest." Dreams sent from God were seen by other Saints, but in accordance with the teachings of the Orthodox Church we must not believe in dreams, because the devil, by means of dreams, led many people into delusion and danger, since many times he transforms himself into "an angel of light", in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect. Saint John Climacus stresses that "he who believes in dreams is like a person running after his own shadow and trying to catch it."

Saints have the ability to discern, according to their spiritual experience, when a dream comes from God and when it comes from the devil, but they still do not give importance to dreams, but they leave it to the judgement of illumined spiritual fathers and ask their opinion for their confirmation. When one is humble they are not willing to accept their dreams come from God, because they believe they are unworthy of this, and no matter what they seek the advice of their spiritual father.

But there are also dreams which, according to Basil the Great, are associated with the cares of the day, and he therefore advises: "Let not night herself be all, as it were, the special and peculiar property of sleep. Let not half your life be useless through the senselessness of slumber. Divide the time of night between sleep and prayer. Yes, let your slumbers be themselves experiences in piety; for it is only natural that our sleeping dreams should be for the most part echoes of the anxieties of the day. As have been our conduct and pursuits, so will inevitably be our dreams."

Participation in the worship of the Church draws the soul to uncreated Divine Grace, which empowers the believer in their daily struggle; and obedience to a spiritual father, moreover, shields us from error.

Source: *Ekklesiastiki Paremvasi*, "Ρωμανός ο Μελωδός Ο ποιητής των Κοντακίων", October 2009. Translated by John Sanidopoulos.

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.

Financial Support (Cont'd)

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

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.

National Church Music Sunday, October 1, 2017

Today is the day parishes across our Archdiocese honor the gifts and stewardship of the church musicians of our parish - our clergy, the choir, our chanters, readers and those who teach the hymns of our Church to our youth. Their contributions enhance our worship and assure that the glorious treasury of our hymnography continues to edify us and future generations. Those who contribute to our year-round music program and who deserve our thanks for a job well done include: **Presbyteria Kedrann, Presbyteria Marika, William, Maria, Anastasia Robin, Georgia, Melanie, Cynthia and Bruce Philip**. When you see any of these people, please tell them how much you appreciate their gift to our parish.

Adult Education: Orthodox Faith Class – Today at 12 pm

Today's topic: *What we believe about Jesus
His Life, Crucifixion and Resurrection & The Holy Trinity*

Class will be held in the Church / Quiet Room

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.

Sunday Fellowship Host Needed

This Wednesday, October 4, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, we will be preparing baked items for the Sunday Fellowship Hours which have not been sponsored. Please come and help your parish this Wednesday. The Sunday Fellowship is a wonderful expression of Christian hospitality. **The following dates are have not been sponsored: October 15 & 22, November 5, 12, 19 & 26, December 3, 10 & 17.**

College Ministry: OCF @ CU

Welcome back dear college students! Our next OCF campus fellowship will be on Tuesday, October 10, 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.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

October 4, 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: Joy & Hope Children

**Join us on Saturday, October 21, for an outing at the
Cottonwood Farm Pumpkin Patch**

Cottonwood is a family farm. They sell pumpkins and fall produce. There is a corn and straw bale maze to play in, and farm animals to see. The farm offers a wagon ride (fee \$3 per person). The farm is located at 75th & Arapahoe (1535 N 75th Street). This will be a wonderful parish family event. The JOY HOPE event is scheduled from 10 am to 12 noon. We need parent advisors! Please contact Father Jordan if you able to help.

Youth: GOYA - Middle and High School age children

Upcoming special youth events: Mark Your calendar!

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

October 14, Saturday, 8:30 am, Greek Dance Workshop & Glendi

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

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

Please Fr Jordan with any questions or more details

Icon Painting Workshop: October 12, 14 & 15

Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church in Loveland will be hosting an icon painting workshop on October 12, 14 and 15. The workshop is open to all levels; no previous painting or iconography experience is necessary. All materials are included in the workshop. Space available for 9 - 12 participants on a first-come, first-serve basis at a cost of \$275 per participant. The workshop will be instructed by Mr. Christopher Gosey, whose studio is in New Hampshire, where he specializes in Russian, Byzantine, and Ethiopian Orthodox icon-writing. In order to register, please contact Cathi Aigaki at 303-916-3256 or caigaki@saintspyridon.church