



# Sts. Peter & Paul Boulder

## Weekly Bulletin Week of October 8th, 2017



### Contact Info

**Sts. Peter & Paul  
Greek Orthodox Church**  
5640 Jay Rd.  
Boulder, CO 80301  
Office: 303-581-1434  
[www.stspeterandpaulboulder.org](http://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.**

### 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

|                       |   |                      |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| Monday, October 9     | Parish Council Meeting  | 6:30 pm              |
| Tuesday, October 10   | Church Cleaning<br>OCF College Ministry   | 9:30 am<br>6 pm      |
| Wednesday, October 11 | Morning Bible Study<br>Paraclesis Service<br>St. Elizabeth Convent Presentation | 10 am<br>6 pm        |
| Saturday, October 14  | Pan-Orthodox Corn Maze<br>Choir Practice<br>Readers' Vespers                    | 4 pm<br>4 pm<br>5 pm |

### Hosts & Volunteers

|                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Fellowship Hosts | Troicky & Zissimos Families   |
| Ushers           | John & Sharon Dzilvelis       |
| Myrrhbearers     | Demetra G., Cassie, Sophie    |
| Choir            | Georgia, Alexandra, Elizabeth |
| Epistle Reader   | Alexandra                     |

### Have an Announcement?

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

# St. Pelagia of Antioch (Feast Day - October 8)

By St. Nikolai Velimirovich

Pelagia was a repentant sinner. She was born to pagan parents in Antioch, and was endowed by God with great physical beauty. Pelagia used her beauty to the destruction of her own soul and those of others. She became very wealthy as a result of her prostitution.

Once, while walking past the Church of the Holy Martyr Julian, in which Bishop Nonnus was preaching, she stopped in and heard a sermon on the Dread Judgment and the punishment of sinners. Those words so shook her and changed her that she immediately felt revulsion for herself, acquired true fear of God, repented of all her sins and fell down before St. Nonnus with the plea that he baptize her: "Have mercy on me, a sinner, holy Father. Baptize me and teach me repentance. I am a sea of iniquity, an abyss of destruction, a net and weapon of the devil." Thus this penitent begged the hierarch of Christ with tears, and he baptized her. At her baptism, Blessed Romana, the deaconess of the church, was her godmother. Romana, as her spiritual mother, grounded her well in the Christian Faith.

But Pelagia was not satisfied with baptism alone. She was keenly aware of the multitude of her sins and, pricked by her conscience, decided on a great ascetic labor. She left her enormous, sinfully gained wealth to the poor, and secretly went to Jerusalem as the monk Pelagius. There, she shut herself up in a cell on the Mount of Olives, and began the difficult asceticism of fasting, prayer and all-night vigils.

After three years, St. Nonnus's deacon, James, visited her and found her still alive, but when he visited her again several days later, he found that she had reposed, and he honorably buried her body. St. Pelagia entered into rest in about the year 461. Thus, this formerly terrible sinner pleased God by her repentance and labor, was forgiven of her sins, and became sanctified. And her purified and enlightened soul was deemed worthy of the Kingdom of God.

Oh, if only we would invest as much effort in our souls as we invest in our bodies!

Oh, if only we could become as desirous of adorning ourselves with virtue before God and His glorious angels, as we do with the vain, transitory, external displays of appearances!

At first, both Pelagia and Thais were only aware of their bodies, while their souls were slaves bound in the prison of the body. Both were adorned with nothing but vanity: clothed in vanity, arrayed with vanity, surrounded by vanity, and flattered by vanity. But what a sudden change! What a divine turn of events in their lives! More wondrous than if a wild apple were to be grafted and begin to bring forth sweet fruits; or if a turgid, fetid swamp were suddenly to become clear, pure potable water.

When Bishop Nonnus, in the company of other bishops, first saw the sinner Pelagia in her outward splendor - clothed in the most expensive garments, adorned and bedecked with rings, necklaces and baubles, perfumed, and surrounded by slaves - Bishop Nonnus began to weep, and said to his companions: "In truth, I have learned much from this woman. The Lord will set her before His Dread Judgment and will rebuke us through her. How many hours does this woman spend in her room bathing herself, clothing herself, adorning herself, and looking at herself in the mirror - and for what? Only to appear more beautiful to men. And we, who have the immortal Bridegroom in heaven, do not strive to adorn our souls with repentance; we do not hasten to bathe them with the tears of repentance and clothe them in the beauty of the virtues, that they might appear more beautiful before the eyes of God!"

## Hymn of Praise: The Venerable Pelagia

Pelagia the sinner repented,  
And with knowledge of the true Faith, illumined her soul.  
The world beckoned her, the world enticed her, but she hearkened not.  
Her conscience was awakened, her soul began to shine.  
How much effort she applied, how many struggles  
She endured, wrestling with her sinful body-  
Itself like a decaying apple.  
So much effort, so much suffering she invested,  
Until she deified her unhappy soul through faith.  
In the heavens, God's sun shone,  
But Pelagia's soul shone more.  
Repentance-God has left us repentance.  
By repentance, Pelagia was glorified.

# 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

## Memorial Service

Today's memorial service is offered for the Troicky and Zissimos families; Helen (mother of Jim Zissimos), Elizabeth & David (parents of Lis Troicky), Nina & Sergey (parents of Alex Troicky), Lissa (god daughter of Lis Troicky). May their memories be eternal. Thank you to the Troicky and Zissimos families for hosting today's fellowship hour.

## 40 Day Blessing

We welcome a new family to our parish, Yianna and Drew Antonopoulos Lebonoski. Today we celebrate the 40 day blessing for Yianna and their baby girl Ariandne. Blessings of our Lord with your family

**Adult Education: Orthodox Faith Class** - Sunday, October 15, 12 pm

**Topic: Prayer, Fasting & Almsgiving**

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. Class will be held in the Church / Quiet Room

If you have any questions, please contact Father Jordan at [frjordanbrown@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanbrown@gmail.com) or 303-581-1434.

## Church Cleaning, Tuesday 9:30 am - 12 pm

Thank you to the handful of dear parishioners who offer their stewardship gift of taking care of our beautiful church, parish hall and grounds. **FYI - The cleaning of the church, parish hall, and upkeep of the grounds are all done by volunteers.** Please prayerfully consider helping out with cleaning on Tuesday, between 9:30 am - 12 noon. **One hour can make a big difference.** If you have any questions and may be available to help with cleaning, please visit with either Presbyteria Kedrann Dotson or Joanne Ashmun.

**College Ministry: OCF at CU - Tuesday, October 10, 6 pm**

**Welcome CU parents! Dear parents, welcome to Sts Peter Paul.**

**It is a great blessing to have your child be a part of our parish family.**

**This weekend is parents weekend at CU.**

Our next OCF campus fellowship will be this Tuesday. We will be meeting at the St Thomas Student Catholic Center (corner of 15th & Euclid). Please join us for dinner, fellowship & prayer. **Mark your calendar! Sunday, October 15,** OCF lunch 1:30 pm (near campus) If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact our OCF President, Marina @ or Father Jordan @ [frjordanbrown@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanbrown@gmail.com).

## Wednesday Morning Bible Study - October 11, 10 am

Please join us for Bible Study. We will meet in the Parish Hall. 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 1 pm. We need parent advisors! Please contact Father Jordan if you able to help.

**Sisters of the St. Elizabeth Convent - Wednesday, October 11  
(presentation immediately following 6 pm Paraclesis)**

Please welcome the visiting sisters from the Convent of St Elizabeth (Minsk, Belarus). The sisterhood of St Elizabeth takes care of children and adults with mental and physical disabilities, prisoners and drug and alcohol addicts. The sisters will bring beautiful religious handcrafts made in the workshops of the Convent. Please take this opportunity to support the beautiful work and mission of the sisters. The presentation will be offered in the parish hall.

## 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**

## Outreach Ministry Presentation - Sunday, October 22

Our parish has an opportunity to help with the Cafe Outreach Center located in Longmont. The Center is a non-profit that assists individuals and families in the St Vrain Valley School District in need of food, resources and to develop vital life-long skills to enable self-sufficiency. There are openings for our parish to volunteer as a group on a Saturday or Holiday with cooking, serving and cleaning in their community cafe. (Must be 16 years old to serve in the kitchen) In addition, there is help needed in their Community Market. The **ADOPT-A-SHELF PROGRAM** is asking our parish to adopt a shelf of food and refill it once a month with certain items. This will ensure nutritious food for families working on self-reliance. The Market serves an average of 80 families per day. **On Sunday, October 22, Lisa Tatusko, parishioner from St Luke, will offer a presentation on the OUTREACH MINISTRY during the fellowship hour, and how our parish can begin serving.**

## Sunday Fellowship Host Needed

Please prayerfully consider hosting the fellowship hour. This is a wonderful expression of Christian Hospitality. The following dates have not been sponsored: October 15 & 22, November 5, 12, 19 & 26, December 3 & 10.