



# Sts. Peter & Paul Boulder

## Weekly Bulletin Week of November 25th, 2018



St. Katherine the Great - November 25th



### 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

Tuesday, November 27	OCF Fellowship	6 pm
Wednesday, November 28	Bible Study	9 am
	Paraclesis Service	6 pm
	Orthodox Faith Class	7 pm
Friday, November 30	St. Andrew Divine Liturgy	7 am
Saturday, December 1	St. Philaret Divine Liturgy	8 am
	Advent Retreat (at St. Spyridon, Loveland)	4 pm
	Great Vespers (at St. Spyridon)	5 pm

## Hosts & Volunteers

Ushers	Steve & Ashley Dzilvelis
Myrrhbearers	Alexandra, Elizabeth, Cassie, Sophie
Epistle Reader	Georgia

### 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. Katherine of Alexandria as a Model for Our Lives

By Protopresbyter Fr. George Papavarnavas

(Commemorated November 25th)

A daily Athenian newspaper, as well as a major private television station, on the occasion of the National Holiday of October 28th, interviewed young people on the streets, among whom were students, and asked them: "What are we celebrating today, and why are there doxologies and parades?" Most pleaded ignorance, others said the most incredible things like "we are celebrating the Turks" or "we are celebrating the Germans", and other such comical tragedies. This situation is not so surprising, as painful as it is to open up the secret that education in our country is in a deep crisis and the responsibility lies more with us and less with the children. Certainly this is not the only piece of our history that we are ignorant of. For the Greeks of Ionia, who were rooted in that sanctified land for four thousand years where they blossomed and flourished, suddenly found themselves without a home, uprooted and hunted (for those who survived, of course), and very few young children know about this and learn it in schools. But education in our country is not so much an issue of the absence of knowledge, as much as what orientation it has and what sort of citizens we want to form.

In Romiosini, or so-called Byzantium, education addressed the entire person and its purpose was to make them a complete person, namely to direct them from the petty and vile to higher things, since this is what it means to be human (*ἄνθρωπος*=anthropos), to look high (*ἄνω θρόσκω*=ano throsko). As Basil the Great very succinctly says: "What is the form of quadrupeds? Their head is bent towards the earth and looks towards their belly, and only pursues their belly's good. Your head, O man, is turned towards heaven; your eyes look up. When therefore you degrade yourself by the passions of the flesh, being a slave of your belly and your lowest parts, you approach animals without reason and become like one of them. You are called to more noble cares; seek those things which are above where Christ sits. Raise your soul above the earth; draw from its natural conformation the rule of your conduct; fix your conversation in heaven. Your true country is the heavenly Jerusalem; your fellow citizens and your compatriots are 'the first-born which are written in heaven'" (*Hexaemeron* 11). Education then addressed not only the brain but especially the heart. And when we speak of the heart we are not talking about the physical organ, but the spiritual heart, the center of the spiritual activity of man. An education that does not care about the whole person, their way of life, their character and their personality, but merely transmits dry knowledge, cannot be and is not a complete education. The life and state of being of Saint Katherine allows us to clearly see the purpose and orientation of a correct and true education.

In the synaxaria and liturgical texts, Saint Katherine is called "All-Wise", not just "Wise", but "All-Wise". She studied and knew almost all the sciences of her time, which was very rare even for those days. "She was highly trained in all the knowledge of the Greeks and Romans, such as Homer and Virgil the great Roman Poet; Asclepius, Hippocrates and Galen the Physicians; Aristotle, Plato, Philistionos and Eusebius the Philosophers; and all the Rhetoricians found throughout the world, and not only, but even every word of every language did she learn, that brought amazement not only to those who saw her, but also to those who heard of her fame and wisdom and education." But that which, *par excellence*, reveals the fullness of her education is not only the things mentioned above, but rather the wealth of her heart. She was a bearer of "wisdom from above", which does not inflate the mind, but it widens the heart to contain the whole world. Good and humble that she was she had simplicity in her manners, but firmness in her decisions, and this is shown clearly in her martyrdom. With true wisdom she humiliated the pagan orators and allowed it to be transparent that their faith was false and their words pure babble. "And the impious words of the orators you stopped, Great-Champion." In another hymn it says: "She offered Christ thanks night and day, she destroyed their idols and all their mindless worship, and she trampled on the knowledge of orators."

Knowledge about human achievements in all areas is helpful, as well as the study and engagement with books because this sharpens the mind and opens up new horizons. Especially it is necessary to know History and primarily the history of our country since, as it has been rightly said, "a nation that does not know its history is doomed to die". But man's so-called existential problems, such as the questions: Why were we born? What is the purpose of our life? Why do we die? What happens after death? Is there a Heaven and Hell? and so on, are not able to be solved by human knowledge, but only by Theology, namely the Truth revealed by the Triune God Himself and experienced in the Orthodox Church. Orthodox Theology offers solutions to all the problems of man. It provides substantial assistance, teaching us the way to treat them and eventually to exceed them.

Saint Katherine as a carrier of human wisdom and education, but first and foremost the wisdom according to God, clearly reveals with her brilliant life, that true education is not that which merely provides dry knowledge, but rather it forms souls, creating an ethos and ultimately transforming existence.

# Events & Announcements

## Advent Kickoff - December 1st, 4 pm - 7 pm REGISTRATION DEADLINE - TODAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

St. Spyridon Orthodox Church will host a Community Advent Event. Join us and build an advent calendar to use throughout the month of December. The event will include Vespers, a homily given by guest speaker Fr. Jordan Brown, and a potluck dinner. The Nativity calendars will contain - a daily jigsaw piece culminating in a icon of the Nativity of Christ, daily readings in preparation for the feast, coins for kindness, weekly feast day icon ornaments, and much more! Register at: <[stspyridon.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/174738](http://stspyridon.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/174738)>

**Cost: \$25.00** per Calendar (We recommend one calendar for each household)

**Questions?** Contact Anna Grace Knudtsen; [agknudtsen@saintspyridon.church](mailto:agknudtsen@saintspyridon.church); 303-667-9871.

## Weekday Bible Study - Wednesday, November 28, 9 am

All our welcome to participate in the morning Bible Study. Class will begin at 9 am. Coffee and refreshments are provided.

## Orthodox Christian Faith Series - Wednesday, November 28, 7:30 pm

Are you interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian Church? Do you have a desire to become an Orthodox Christian? **Please join us for our next class. The class topic will be "The Sacrament of Baptism." If you have questions, please contact Father Jordan at [frjordanbrown@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanbrown@gmail.com) or 303-581-1434.** A Lenten meal will be provided.

## General Assembly - Sunday, December 2

Please note our Fall General Assembly has been rescheduled for **Sunday, December 2**. This will be a very important General Assembly. We will be discussing the Parish Council Elections and Parish Budget of 2019. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you

## Nativity Christmas Pageant - Sunday, December 16th

### Practices 11/25, 12/2 & 12/9

Dear Parents, our parish will hold a Nativity program on Sunday, Dec. 16th, after the Liturgy. Your children are invited and encouraged to participate in the program, which will incorporate singing, instrumental music and readings. Pres. Marika has met several times with the junior- and senior-high students to teach them songs, so they can provide the backbone of the program. **Pres. Marika would like to practice with children of all ages on 11/25, 12/2 & 12/9.** We will be meeting in the junior-high room. We'll start at 11:30 a.m., after an abbreviated Sunday school class. She will teach the preschoolers "Jingle Bells." If you want to get a head start and practice the song at home with your little ones, please do so. She will teach the other children Nativity hymns and Christmas carols. Please contact her if you are able to help her with the program. You can email her at [marikadb@aol.com](mailto:marikadb@aol.com). Your participation will be a wonderful gift to the congregation!

## Upcoming Youth Events

### OCF College Ministry

Dinner - November 27, 6 pm

Christmas Dinner, December 2, 5 pm

(St. Thomas Student Catholic Center)

### GOYA (Middle & High School)

Fireside Chat (Discussion & Dinner) - Saturday, December 8

Home of Fr. Jordan & Presbytera Marika

### Shut-in & Nursing Home Visitations - December 15

We will prepare gift bags and sing Christmas Carols / Nativity Hymns

### Sunday School

Christmas Pageant - Sunday, December 16



## DECEMBER 1ST, 2018 ADVENT KICKOFF

### Build Your Way Through Advent...

Join us for our community Advent kickoff, and build an advent calendar to use throughout the month of December. The event will also include Vespers, a homily given by guest speaker Fr. Jordan Brown, and a potluck dinner.

The Nativity calendars will contain - a daily jigsaw piece culminating in an icon of the Nativity of Christ, daily readings in preparation for the feast, coins for kindness, weekly feast day icon ornaments, and much more!

Register: [stspyridon.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/174738](http://stspyridon.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/174738)

- Deadline November 25<sup>th</sup>

Cost: \$25.00 per Calendar

- We recommend one calendar for each household

Contact: AnnaGrace Knudtsen with any questions

- [agknudtsen@saintspyridon.church](mailto:agknudtsen@saintspyridon.church)
- 303-667-9871

**Create a Nativity  
Icon Jigsaw Puzzle in  
Advent!**

**Vespers and Potluck  
Dinner**

**Speaker Fr. Jordan  
Brown**

**Saturday 4:00 –  
7:00pm**

**Register by  
November 25<sup>th</sup>!**

**ST. SPYRIDON ORTHODOX  
CHURCH**

807 W 20th St.  
Loveland CO, 80538  
970-667-5778



## 2018 Head Start Angel Project

For over 20 years, the parishioners of Sts. Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church have generously purchased gifts for the children of the Boulder Head Start Program schools. Starting Sunday, November 12th, a Christmas tree with Angels will be displayed in the fellowship hall. Each paper angel represents one child and is labeled with that child's name, age, and clothing sizes.

To participate in this wonderful program, please take one or more angels from the tree. **Sign your name, and phone number on the correct color-coded angel list. (i.e. the color of the angel determines the color list.)**

Take a shopping bag for each angel you choose. On the back of the angel is a list of items the child needs. Please try and provide ALL these items, in the correct sizes. It is also nice to provide a toy, but **NO CANDY. Please only do as many complete angels as you can provide for. Please return the bags by Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>!**

Please keep in mind that your purchases may be the only gifts the children receive for Christmas.

Please see Ashley Dzielvelis (303.884.7088 or [ashleydz1@hotmail.com](mailto:ashleydz1@hotmail.com))

If you would prefer to make a cash donation, please give to Liz Troicky or Julie Powers

If you would like to help with the delivery of the gifts on Tuesday, December 18th

Both Sts. Peter and Paul Philoptochos and the children of the Head Start program are very grateful for your loving spirit and kindness.