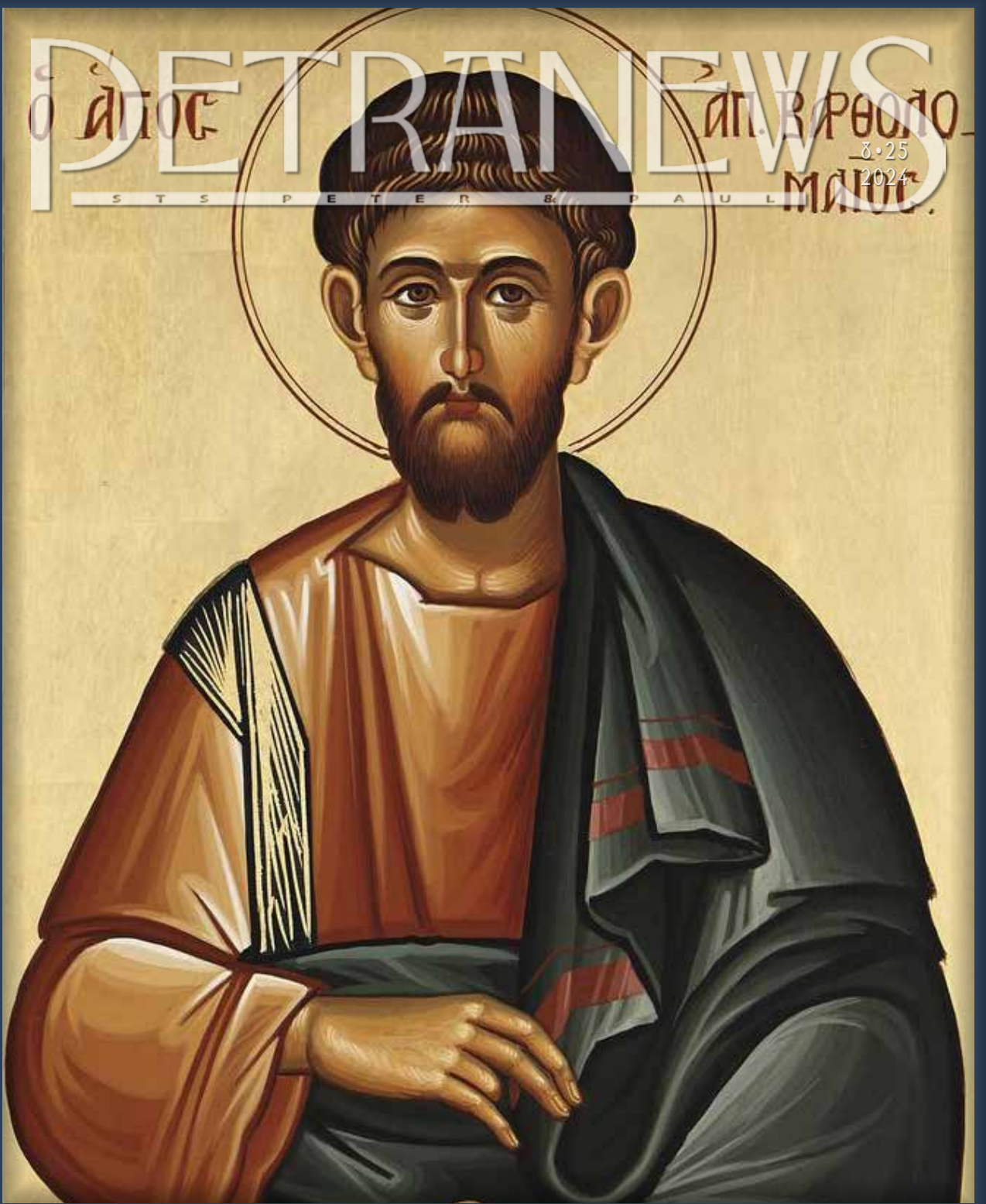


PETRANEWS

Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ

ΑΠ. Β. ΡΩΜ. 10
8.25
2024
ΜΑΙΟΣ

S T S P E T E R B P A U L



This Week's Services

Wednesday, August 28

Vespers _____ 5:00pm

Thursday, August 29

Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Orthros _____ 8:30am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9:30am

Saturday, August 31

Vespers _____ 5:00pm

Sunday, September 1

Orthros _____ 8:30am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9:30am

Fellowship Hour

Thank you to the Dancing Zorbas for providing the fundraiser luncheon today!

- 9/1: Theodora Koliass
- 9/8: Taste of Orthodoxy
- 9/15: OPEN

Fellowship hosts are needed! We invite you to sign up to host Fellowship Hour by visiting our website at stspeterandpaulboulder.org/fellowship. Pair up with a friend or another family, and plan to offer something easy, such as donuts or bagels!

Hymns for the Memory of the Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Titus

Resurrection Apolytikion

Mode Plagal 4

*From the heights didst Thou come down,
O Compassionate One.
And Thou didst submit to three-day burial
that from the passions Thou might deliver us.
O our Life and Resurrection, O Lord,
glory be to Thee.*

Apolytikion for the Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Titus

Mode 3

*O holy Apostles, intercede with the merciful God
that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offences.*

Apolytikion of our Patron Saints

Mode 4

*O leaders of the Apostles, and teachers of the world,
intercede with the Master of all,
that He may grant peace unto the world,
and to our souls His great mercy.*

Kontakion for the Birth of the Theotokos

Mode 4

*Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness,
and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death,
O immaculate one, by thy holy Nativity, which thy people,
redeemed from the guilt of offences, celebrate by crying to thee:
The barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.*

The Orthros Gospel according to John, 20:19-31



On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and

place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe." Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

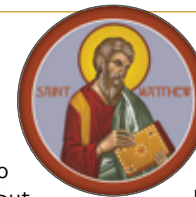
Epistle: St Paul's letter to the Corinthians, 3:9-17



Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder, I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire,

and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

The Gospel according to Matthew, 14:22-34



At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was out on the sea, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord,

if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

Memory of the Holy Apostles Bartholomew and Titus

Ninth Sunday of Matthew

Matthew 14:22-34 (Walking on Water)

After feeding thousands of people with just five loaves of bread and two fish, Jesus dismisses the crowds and even His disciples, and He stays behind on the mountain, alone, to pray at night. Jesus Christ is the Son of God, but He takes on our human nature to unite it with His Divine Nature. He heals our humanity by uniting it to His Divinity. The Lord, Who created the heavens and the earth, and holds all things in the palm of His hands in His divine love, finds time to be alone with the Father to pray. We are called to imitate Christ in all things, especially when we come to God in prayer. As the Lord takes time for Himself, alone, for prayer and contemplation, so He teaches us to take time for ourselves for prayer and contemplation.

In the meantime, the disciples have taken the boats to cross the Sea of Galilee to the western shore, towards the region of Capernaum. Many skilled fishermen, such as Peter, James, and John, navigate the Sea of Galilee constantly. However, this night, the wind was too strong. It is late and dark, and it is the "fourth watch of the night," which means between 3 am and 6 am. They are afraid, especially because the Lord is not in the boat with them.

Jesus shows that He is greater than Moses as He had fed thousands of people in the desert by multiplying the five loaves and the two fish. Now, once again, He calls to mind familiar Old Testament disclosures of God. When the Israelites left Egypt by the command of God, they reached the Red Sea. At that time, God told Moses to stretch out his staff so the Sea could be parted, and the Israelites crossed safely to the other side.

That event also happened right before the daybreak, after a strong wind blew all night (Exodus 14). Here, Jesus is fulfilling the conquering of the Sea, not by parting it with a staff, but by walking on its water. He is also fulfilling the Psalm, which, speaking of God, says, "Those who go down to the sea in ships ... cried to the Lord in their affliction, and He commanded the storm, and it became a breeze,

and its waves were still ... Let them give thanks to the Lord for His mercies" (Psalm 106).

Jesus walks across the water and comes to His disciples. In the Old Testament, the waters of the sea often serve as a symbol of death and new life emerging. Now, the Son of God comes to help His disciples, to deliver them from death, to be with them, to calm the storm, and to cross with them to the other side. The Lord was not in the boat when the storm arose, but He was still with them because He knew everything and was praying. He tests their faith, but He knows exactly when to come to them in their hour of need.

This is also true in our lives. We are on a journey to the Kingdom of God. We sail across the sea of this life, and even if we are experienced sailors, it is inevitable that, at times, the winds will blow against us, and the waves will threaten to sink us. It might, sometimes, feel as though the Lord is not with us because we are only focusing on the danger; we are focusing on the trial. However, the Lord is always with us. He lives inside our hearts, He knows all things, and He loves us infinitely. Christ tramples death by death and, therefore, tramples on the waves which threaten to drown us. He walks on them. He is victorious over them.

Christ's victory over the storm is our victory. If our focus is on Him, we also walk securely over the waves and the storms of life, not because we have any power to do so on our own, but because He gives us His strength when we ask. He says to us, "Come!" Jesus reveals Himself as the God of Heaven and Earth, of the seas and all that is in them. Christ is the Lord of the natural elements: earth, water, fire, and air. He is the Lord of life; He rules over all things and loves us unconditionally.

Sometimes, like Peter, we go to Christ feeling strong and full of faith, but other times our faith falters because we take our gaze off Christ. Instead, we begin to focus

on the storm around us. When we do that, we fear. When we worry, our faith diminishes, and we begin to sink. However, the Lord does not abandon us, just as He does not let Peter sink. All Peter has to do is to call out to the Lord, saying, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reaches out His hand and catches him, saying, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?"

The Lord then pulls Peter out of the water and out of his fear. The Lord grabs Peter, much like how we see Him grabbing the wrists of Adam and Eve in the icon of the Resurrection. Their hands are not able to grasp Him, but He holds them up with His firm grip on their wrists, pulling them out of the grave with the power of His life and love.

We pray in the petitions in every service: "Help us, save us, O Lord." The first word in the Greek petition is «ἀντιλαβοῦ» (antilavou), which means "take me by my hand." Jesus takes Peter by his hand and saves him as he is drowning, and He does the same with us. He answers our prayers when we cry out to Him, and He always helps us. Teaching prayer, Saint Paisios of Mount Athos says, "I send a signal (prayer), I ask for help. I constantly ask for help from Christ, from Panagia, from the Saints, for myself, and for others. If I do not ask, I will not get helped." The moment we think we have lost everything, including hope, is the time to cry out: "Lord, save me!" And He answers our prayer for whatever is beneficial for our salvation and the salvation of others.

When we accept the love of God and put our trust in Him, then fear begins to disappear. Jesus says to us, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear!" There is no fear in love because perfect love casts out fear (1 John 4:18). To abide in God's love is to trust in Him, to come to Him in prayer, to spend time alone with Him in communion. When our hearts are open to His love, the storms of life cannot sink us because He is with us. The grace of God brings about faith in our hearts, and with strong faith, we can work miracles through His power and love.



Events & Announcements

Akathist to St. Olga

Sunday, August 25th
Following Fellowship



Join the St. Olga Prayer Ministry to pray the AKATHIST TO OUR RIGHTEOUS MATUSHKA OLGA MICHAEL, our newest North American Saint. This group has adopted St. Olga as our patron saint, and we look to her as we continue to intercede for the many needs in our parish. We welcome new members to our group. It's a tremendous blessing to receive regular updates, to pray for individual parishioners and others (last names and specifics are not necessary) and to know our prayers are making a difference in people's lives. Call Vuka Mitchell with any questions at 303-589-1352. Texts will be provided on August 25.

Bible Study

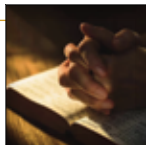
Begins Wednesday
September 11th



Fr. Gabriel will continue the study of St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, covering the topics of: How Worship Should be Conducted, The Eucharist, The Body of Christ, Spiritual Gifts, Love - The Highest Gift, and The Resurrection and the Coming Kingdom.

Prayer Class

Beginning September 11th



Fr. Gabriel will begin a class on prayer on Wednesday evenings. He will be using the book, The Beginnings of a Life of Prayer by Matthew Steenburg. You can purchase the book in our bookstore to follow along with the discussion. Grab a flyer in the Narthex for more information.

Wednesday Wonder Workers

Begins Wednesday,
September 11th



We will resume meeting each week following Bible Study. We will straighten the kitchen, put away dishes from Sunday's Fellowship, and set up for the next event. There may be some light cleaning and straightening, followed by lunch. Please feel free to join in! Contact Joanne Ashmun with any questions at horizon80501@yahoo.com

Sisterhood Camping Retreat

September 20-22nd



The women of Sts. Peter and Paul are invited to join a Sisterhood Camping Retreat. It will take place at the Crow Valley Campground at the Pawnee Buttes National Grasslands (East of Greeley). Come for one day, both days, or just drop in and hang out with some really cool women. If you are interested in learning more, contact Juli Sarris at JL80303@gmail.com or Cindy Stamus at CGSTAMUS@gmail.com.

Sunday School

Begins September 15th



Sunday School is quickly approaching! If you have a child that has not attended Sunday School before, please visit our website at www.stspeterandpaulboulder.org/SundaySchool to register them for the school year. You will also find our school calendar for the year.

ToO TASTE OF ORTHODOXY

September 6-8th

70% Filled!



Like a fast-paced job? Sign up for the food tent! Prefer a job by yourself? We need help directing cars to park. We also need help with set-up the week before and take down on Sunday afternoon. Contact Nicole Tsiouvaras, 303-489-4491, if you need help choosing a spot

Dancing Zorbas

Practice Today

Practice will continue on Sundays following Fellowship. We've also added a practice every other Wednesday. Check the Church Calendar on our website for practice dates.

Adult Practice

Next Practice, 8/28, 8:00pm

Dancing Zorbas' Costume Pizza Fundraiser

Today!

To help with the cost of costumes we're hosting a pizza fellowship. Minimum donation per plate is \$15. This includes 2 slices of pizza and salad. Thank for your support, OpA!

Medical Personnel On-Call?

If you are currently first-aid or CPR certified, or are a medical professional who will be working the festival, please contact Nicole Tsiouvaras to add your name to our list of emergency responders.

Still-To-Do List

Help Promote ToO

Ask the businesses you frequent to hang a Festival Poster and if they'd like to be a Festival Sponsor by purchasing an ad in this year's program. Stop by the festival table for posters and information for potential sponsors.

Tent Setup – Sunday, following Fellowship

See Nick Kallan following Fellowship to get started.

Facebook ToO

Be sure to visit, 'Like, and Share,' our Facebook page with family and friends. facebook.com/TasteOfOrthodoxy/

Beverage Donations

Donating beverages to the cause is a great way to help reduce the costs of hosting our event. Please bring your donations to the hall by August 31st. Soda 'CANS' only.

Last names beginning A-E: Coke; F-K: Diet Coke; L-R: Sprite; S-Z: bottled water. Please bring your donations to the hall by August 31st. Soda 'CANS' only.

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1973



2024



About Our Parish

We welcome visitors worshiping with us today. Our diverse church family encompasses Greek, Arab, Romanian, Serbian and Russian Orthodox Christians as well as many converts to the Orthodox Christian Faith.

The foundation of the Orthodox Church are the teachings and Holy Tradition of Jesus Christ. We follow the first Christians who began to worship Jesus Christ after the Crucifixion and Resurrection.



Holy Communion

Holy Communion is reserved only for baptized and/or chrismated Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared by prayer, fasting, and confession.

The Orthodox Church understands the reception of Holy Communion to be the highest expression of our faith. Both Orthodox and non-Orthodox alike are invited to receive the 'antidoron' (blessed bread) at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

*If you are new to our Parish or just visiting,
please join us for our fellowship hour following this morning's service.*

Priest

Fr Gabriel McHugh

Church Office

Shanyn Bateh, Manager

Choir Director

Presbytera
Kedrann Dotson

Parish Council

Steven Dzilvelis, President
Michael Bateh, Vice-President
Jim Azar, Treasurer
David Dinsmore, Secretary
Andriy Andreyev
Gabriel Chiriac
Nick Karis
Michelle Mann
Nicole Tsiouvaras

Philoptochos

Dana Gall & Lis Troicky
Presidents
Julie Powers
Treasurer
Olga Coleman
Secretary & Bookstore
Photini Westover
Corresponding Secretary



METROPOLIS
OF DENVER

Recurring Services

Saturday Vespers - 5pm • Sunday Divine Liturgy - 9:30am (Orthros - 8:30am)
Visit our website for a complete calendar of upcoming services and events.

1973 **Sts PETER & PAUL**
Greek Orthodox Church

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