

PETRA NEWS

11-27
2022

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



PETRA NEWS, WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27TH 2022

THIS WEEK'S SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Orthros _____ 8:15am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9:30am

Welcome...

... His Grace Bishop Constantine, newly appointed to the Holy Metropolis of Denver.



Fellowship Hour

Thanks to Ileana Barbu for today's Fellowship.

12/4: OPEN

12/11: OPEN

12/18: Sunday School

Looking for fellowship hosts for 12/4 and 12/11. Are you able to bring a small Lenten snack to share with others on one of those days? Sign-up at stspeterandpaulboulder.org



Hymns FOR THE 13TH Sunday OF Luke

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION

Grave Mode - Green Hymnal, page 102/103

*By Your Cross, O Lord, You shattered death;
to the thief You opened Paradise.*

*You transformed the Myrrhbearers' lamentation,
and commanded Your Apostles to proclaim that You arose,
Christ our God, granting to the world Your great mercy.*

APOLYTIKION FOR GREAT-MARTYR JAMES THE PERSIAN *Tone 4*

*Your Martyr, O Lord,
was worthily awarded by You the crown of incorruption,
in that he contended for You our immortal God.
Since he possessed Your power, he defeated the tyrants,
dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance.
O Christ God, at his fervent entreaties, save our souls.*

HYMN FOR OUR PATRON SAINTS

*"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 OF THE FOREFEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE THEOTOKOS *Tone 4*

*On this day the Virgin comes to the cave
to give birth to God the Word ineffably,
Who was before all the ages.
Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings;
with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him
Who is willing to be gazed on
as a young Child Who before the ages is God.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Orthros Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

Gospel: Luke 18:18-27

13TH SUNDAY OF LUKE

Second Orthros Gospel ACCORDING TO Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back - it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the

right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

EPISTLE: St. Paul's LETTER TO THE Ephesians 2:14-22

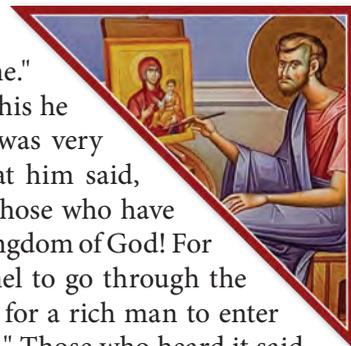
Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both

have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

THE Gospel ACCORDING TO Luke 18:18-27

At that time, a ruler came to Jesus and asked him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven;

and come, follow me." But when he heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus looking at him said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" But he said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."





APOSTLE ANDREW, THE HOLY AND ALL-PRAISED FIRST-CALLED

Commemorated on November 30

The Holy Apostle Andrew the First-Called was the first of the Apostles to follow Christ, and he later brought his own brother, the holy Apostle Peter, to Christ (John 1:35-42). The future apostle was from Bethsaida, and from his youth he turned with all his soul to God. He did not enter into marriage, and he worked with his brother as a fisherman. When the holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John began to preach, Saint Andrew became his closest disciple. Declaring Christ to be the Lamb of God, Saint John the Baptist himself sent to Christ his own two disciples, the future Apostles Andrew and John the Theologian.

After the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, Saint Andrew went to the Eastern lands preaching the Word of God. He went through Asia Minor, Thrace, Macedonia, he reached the River Danube, went along the coast of the Black Sea, through Crimea, the Black Sea region and along the River Dniepr he climbed to the place where the city of Kiev now stands.

He stopped overnight on the hills of Kiev. Rising in the morning, he said to those disciples that were with him: "See these hills? Upon these hills shall shine forth the beneficence of God, and there will be a great city here, and God shall raise up many churches." The apostle went up around the hills, blessed them and set up a cross. Having prayed, he went up even further along the Dniepr and reached a settlement of the Slavs, where Novgorod was built. From here the apostle went through the land of the Varangians towards Rome for preaching, and again he returned to Thrace, where in the small village of Byzantium, the future Constantinople, he founded the Church of Christ. The name of the holy Apostle Andrew links the mother, the Church of Constantinople, with her daughter, the Russian Church.

On his journeys the First-Called Apostle endured many sufferings and torments from pagans: they cast

him out of their cities and they beat him. In Sinope they pelted him with stones, but remaining unharmed, the persistent disciple of Christ continued to preach to people about the Savior. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the Lord worked miracles. By the labors of the holy Apostle Andrew, Christian Churches were established, for which he provided bishops and clergy. The final city to which the Apostle came was the city of Patra, where he was destined to suffer martyrdom.

The Lord worked many miracles through His disciple in Patra. The infirm were made whole, and the blind received their sight. Through the prayers of the Apostle, the illustrious citizen Sosios recovered from serious illness and Maximilla and Stratokles, the wife and brother of the governor of Patra, were healed. The miracles accomplished by the Apostle and his fiery speech enlightened almost all the citizens of the city of Patra with the true Faith.

Few pagans remained at Patra, but among them was the prefect of the city, Aegeatos. The Apostle Andrew repeatedly turned to him with the words of the Gospel. But even the miracles of the Apostle did not convince Aegeatos. The holy Apostle with love and humility appealed to his soul, striving to reveal to him the Christian mystery of life eternal, through the wonder-working power of the Holy Cross of the Lord. The angry Aegeatos gave orders to crucify the apostle. The pagan thought he might undo Saint Andrew's preaching if he were to put him to death on the cross.

Saint Andrew the First-Called accepted the decision of the prefect with joy and with prayer to the Lord, and went willingly to the place of execution. In order to prolong the suffering of the saint, Aegeatos gave orders not to nail the saint's hands and feet, but to tie them to the cross. For two days the apostle taught the citizens who gathered about. The people, in listening to him, with all their souls pitied him and tried to take Saint Andrew down from the cross. Fearing a riot of

Continued on the following page.

THE FEAR OF GOD

The fear of God illumines the soul, annihilates evil, weakens the passions, drives darkness from the soul and makes it pure. The fear of God is the summit of wisdom. Where it is not you will find nothing good. Whoever does not have the fear of God is open to diabolical falls.

St Ephraim Syrian

Sin makes man a coward; but a life in the Truth of Christ makes Him bold.

St. John Chrysostom, On the Statues, VIII.2

Continued from the previous page.

the people, Aegaeos gave orders to stop the execution. But the holy apostle began to pray that the Lord would grant him death on the cross. Just as the soldiers tried to take hold of the Apostle Andrew, they lost control of their hands. The crucified apostle, having given glory to God, said: "Lord Jesus Christ, receive my spirit." Then a blazing ray of divine light illumined the cross and the martyr crucified upon it. When the light faded, the holy Apostle Andrew had already given up his holy soul to the Lord. Maximilla, the wife of the prefect, had the body of the saint taken down from the cross, and buried him with honor.

A few centuries later, under the emperor Constantine the Great, the relics of the holy Apostle Andrew were solemnly transferred to Constantinople and placed in the church of the Holy Apostles beside the relics of the holy Evangelist Luke and Saint Paul's disciple Saint Timothy.

Commemorated on November 27

The Holy Great Martyr James the Persian (the Sawn-Asunder) was born in the fourth century into a pious Christian family, both wealthy and illustrious. His wife was also a Christian, and the couple raised their children in piety, inspiring in them a love for prayer and the Holy Scriptures. James occupied a high position at the court of the Persian emperor Izdegerd (399-420) and his successor Barakhranes (420-438). But on one of the military campaigns James, seduced by the emperor's beneficence, was afraid to acknowledge himself a Christian, and so he offered sacrifice to idols with the emperor.



Learning of this, James' mother and wife wrote him a letter, in which they rebuked him and urged him to repent. Receiving the letter, James realized the gravity of his sin. Faced with the horror of being cut off not only from his family, but also from God Himself, he began to weep loudly, imploring the Lord for forgiveness.

His fellow-soldiers, hearing him pray to the Lord Jesus Christ, reported this to the emperor. Under interrogation, Saint James bravely confessed his faith in the one True God. No amount of urging by the emperor could make him renounce Christ. The emperor then ordered the saint to be put to death.

They began to cut off his fingers and his toes one by one, then his hands and his feet, and then his arms and legs. During the prolonged torture Saint James offered prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord, Who had granted him the possibility of redemption from his sins by enduring these terrible torments. Finally, the martyr was beheaded. Christians gathered up the pieces of his body and buried them with great reverence.

NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Parish Council Elections



DECEMBER 4

The Election Committee will be receiving names for those interested in serving a 2-year term on the Parish Council, beginning in January of 2023. There will be 3 spots available. If you are interested in joining, please let George Tsiouvaras, Cyndi Yost-Gregory, or Matt Melonakis know.

Stewardship Packets

AVAILABLE, DECEMBER 4

Along with other stewardship materials, you'll find your 2023 Commitment Card. Knowing the total commitment of all our stewards allows your Parish Council to better plan for the new year's goals and the financial obligations that come along with them. **Be sure to complete your card (paper or on-line) by Stewardship Sunday on January 8.** Contact Nicole Tsiouvaras with any questions.



Wonder Workers Wednesday

FINAL WEDNESDAY OF THE YEAR, DEC 14



Join us anytime between 9:30 and 3:00. We'll be making final preparations to the Hall before the holidays. Lunch will be provided. Contact Joanne Ashmun, 303-678-0440, horizon80501@yahoo.com, or Zoe Zwierzynski, 720-999-2208, zoezwier@gmail.com with any questions.

Iconography Project, Phase-2

We are looking for a few individuals that would be interested in joining the fundraising team for Phase-2 of our Iconography Project. If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact Jim Azar, Shanyin Bateh, or Matt Melonakis.

GIVING TUESDAY IS THIS WEEK

We would like to express our gratitude to those that have given towards the Giving Tuesday Campaign for Phase 2 of our Iconography Project! Since we began the Campaign earlier this month, we have raised \$3,077.77 towards our \$10,000 goal! Our hope is to close the gap and raise the additional \$6,922.23 by the end of Tuesday, November 29!

We realize there are many giving opportunities this Giving Tuesday. However, we ask you to prayerfully consider contributing to this Project for the beautification of our Church. This \$10,000 is only a small portion needed to complete Phase 2.

If you would like to donate, please click the "Donate Now" button below. Be sure to select "Iconography Phase 2" when donating on-line. When writing a check, please be sure to include "Iconography Phase 2" on the memo line. Thank you for your continued support and prayers!



Goal: \$100.000
As of 11/21,
we have a total
of \$17,615.

Philoptochos

2022 GIFT CARD DRIVE



Here is a great way to support your Philoptochos. With over 600 popular retailers available, 2-18% of every purchase comes back to Philoptochos. 100% of proceeds go to support those in need. **Orders are due by Sunday, December 4th** with delivery on the 11th. Lis will be taking your orders and payments. Contact her with any questions and to place your order: etroick@aol.com or 720-771-7786. For a complete list of this year's retailers go to stspeterandpaulBoulder.org/2022-gift-card-retailers

GIFT GIVING TREE



Philoptochos will sponsor two young families again this year for Christmas. If you are able to donate a gift, or a gift card, please see the

Christmas tree set up in the hall. Each tag has a suggestion for toys and clothes for the little ones! Please sign up for the gift you will be providing on the sign-up sheet. Drop off the gifts in the donation box in the hall by December 11. If you prefer to give a gift card, you can purchase them from the Philoptochos during their special gift card fund raiser. This will make your shopping even easier!

CHRISTMAS COOKIE FUNDRAISER

We are providing a nice selection of Mediterranean cookies for a minimum donation of \$25. See order forms in the Narthex or hall to place your order. **Orders are due by Sunday, December 11th with pick up on the 18th.** Give you order and payment to Julie Powers at the gift card table in the hall.



SISTERHOOD CHRISTMAS BRUNCH SATURDAY, DEC. 10TH, 10:30-1:00

All Ladies of Sts Peter & Paul – Plan on joining us for our annual Brunch and gift exchange in the Church fellowship hall. Bring a new gift valued up to \$15 and a breakfast or lunch item to share.



WE CAN'T HELP WITHOUT YOU!

Your Philoptochos has made a commitment to make monthly donations to the **OUR Center** (Outreach United Resource Center) in Longmont. **OUR Center** provides critical services such as food, housing, and utilities to help families reach self-reliance. We need canned meat, tuna, and chicken, as well as personal items like shampoo and toothpaste. Leave your donations at the **OUR Center** table in the Fellowship Hall near the ramp door entrance.





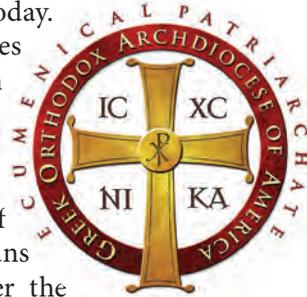
Sts PETER & PAUL Greek Orthodox Church

5640 Jay Road, Boulder, CO 80301
303.581.1434 • stspeterandpaulboulder.org

His Grace, Bishop Constantine, with Steve Dzilvelis, Fr Dino Sinos, and Fr Lou Christopulos, at the Feast of St Nektarios.

About Our Parish

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



Please introduce yourself to our priest and members of our community. We also encourage you to join us for our fellowship after services in the parish hall.

Holy Communion in the Orthodox Church

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 'antidoro' (blessed bread) at the end of the Divine Liturgy.



Priest

Metropolis of Denver will be providing clergy for the Sunday Divine Liturgy as we prayerfully wait for our new priest to be assigned.

Parish Council

Steven Dzilvelis, President
Michael Bateh, Vice-President
Jim Azar, Treasurer
David Dinsmore, Secretary
Gabriel Chiriac
George Saliba
Jan Marose-Swiszcz
Manuel Soulakis
Nick Kallan

Philoptochos

Dana Gall and Lis Troicky, Presidents
Julie Powers, Treasurer
Rola DeGeorge, Secretary
Olga Coleman, Bookstore

Choir Director

Presbytera Kedrann Dotson

Youth / GOYA

Steve & Ashley Dzivelis, George & Nicole Tsiouvaras, Parent Advisors

Petra News

Rick Leonidas

Recurring Services

Orthros - Sundays, 8:15am
Divine Liturgy - Sundays, 9:30am