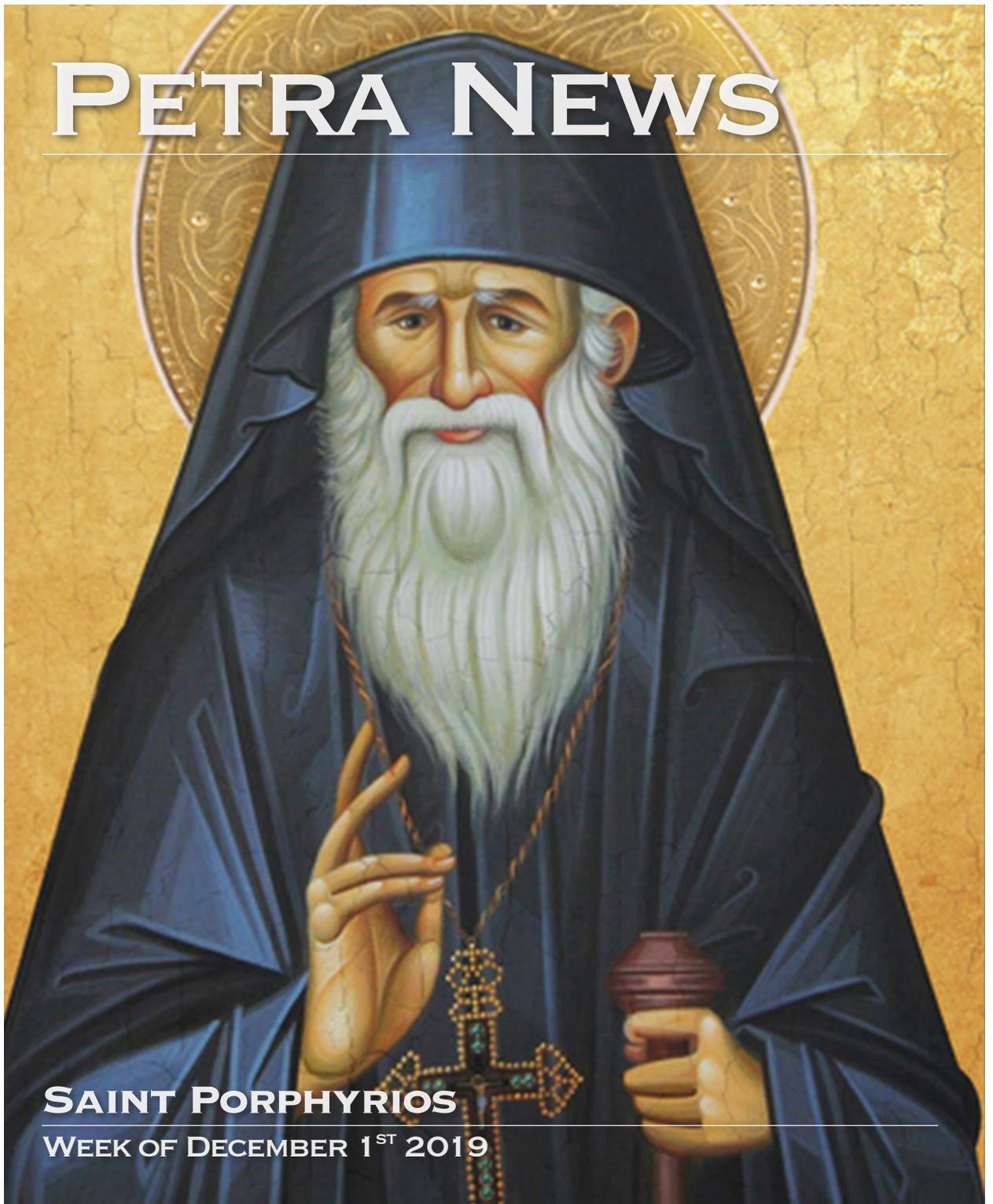


# PETRA NEWS

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**SAINT PORPHYRIOS**

**WEEK OF DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2019**

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# SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2019

## HOSTS & VOLUNTEERS

### MYRRHBEARERS

Cassie Tinsley & Demetra Gregory

### EPISTLE READER

Georgia Geerdes

## SERVICES & FEASTDAYS

### Monday, December 2

Feast of St. Porphyrios

Orthros \_\_\_\_\_ 5pm

Evening Divine Liturgy \_\_\_\_\_ 6pm

Parish Council Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ 7pm

### Wednesday, December 4

Paraclesis \_\_\_\_\_ 6pm

Orthodox Faith Class, \_\_\_\_\_ 7pm

### Friday, December 6

Feast of St. Nicholas

Orthros \_\_\_\_\_ 7am

Divine Liturgy \_\_\_\_\_ 8am

### Saturday, December 7

Parish Council Seminar \_\_\_\_\_ 3pm

Great Vespers \_\_\_\_\_ 5pm

GOYA w/ St. Luke teens \_\_\_\_\_ 6pm

## NATIVITY CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

### Tuesday, December 24

Vesporal Divine Liturgy \_\_\_\_\_ 5pm

### Wednesday, December 25

Orthros \_\_\_\_\_ 8am

Divine Liturgy \_\_\_\_\_ 9am

## HYMNS OF THE DAY

### HYMN FOR THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

#### RESURRECTION HYMN

(BARIS TONE, P. 88-89 GREEN HYMNAL)

*“When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb and those who guarded You became as though dead, and standing by Your sepulchre was Mary seeking Your pure and sacred body. For You did vanquish Hades and uncorrupted by its touch You came unto the virgin woman, bestowing the gift of life O You who rose from the dead. Lord we give glory to You.”*

#### HYMN OF SAINTS PETER PAUL

*“Oh 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

*“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.”*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NATIVITY PAGEANT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

Please join us for our annual Nativity Pageant on December 15th after Liturgy. Parents, regular Sunday School classes will be cut short to allow time for the kids to begin rehearsals for the Christmas pageant. Please continue to bring the children over as usual for snacks and classes after receiving Holy Communion. In addition to the afterschool rehearsals, we will be holding a final rehearsal at the church on Saturday 12/14 at 3 pm.

# DAILY READINGS - 14TH 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, for 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 any one, for they were afraid.

## EPISTLE READING: 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 ac-

cess 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 18:35-43

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.



### “I GREW UP WITH ST. PORPHYRIOS”

Renowned Byzantine musician Nektaria Karantzi and her parents were spiritual children of Elder Porphyrios. Weekly, they would visit the Elder before he died, and she would sit next to his bed and receive his blessing. When she was eight years old the Elder told her parents to put her at the chanter's stand to learn Byzantine music. This was because he would teach her hymns and got her to love singing them. It was the dream of the Elder to form a choir of women to chant in churches on Sunday. This choir was formed by a priest who was a spiritual child of the Elder, and one of the girls was Nektaria. This kicked off her career as a Byzantine musician. She later completed her studies in Byzantine Music, and received a Degree and a Diploma from the Byzantine Music School of the Metropolis of Piraeus, taught by notable tutors including Dimitris Verykios.

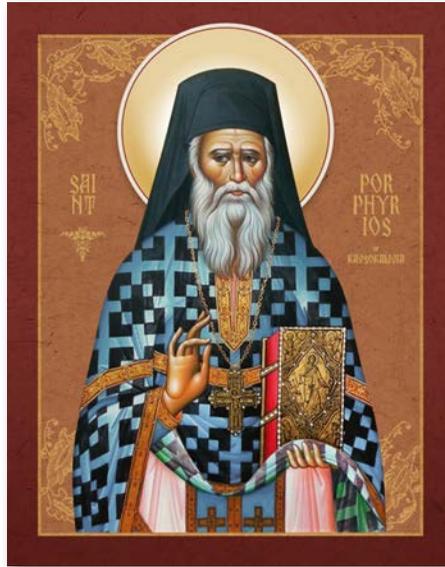
Nektaria Karantzi is known for her recordings with the Elder between the ages of fourteen and nineteen which can be heard online, where they are heard chanting together. However, these recordings were done after the death of the Elder, as she explains, and his voice was dubbed onto the recording to make it sound like they were together.

One day not long ago, when Nektaria was visiting a certain monastery in Attica, the abbess was overjoyed to see her. This was because when the Elder was still alive, and the abbess was going through a hard time, he would call her every night to comfort her, and at the end of the conversation he told her to come to his monastery so she could hear the recording of a child chanting the Canon to our Sweetest Jesus. The abbess told Nektaria that it was her that she heard that day. But Nektaria explained that those recordings were not done

until after the Elder died. It seems that the Elder miraculously had these recordings during his lifetime before they were even recorded.

Another miracle experienced by Nektaria took place, again after the death of the Elder, when she was around nineteen and went to the chapel near his cell to make her final recording. However, that day there was something wrong with her voice and she couldn't chant. Knowing that the Elder could help her, she went to his cell, where she often sat when she was younger, and asked for his help. Returning to the chapel, the recording began, and her voice was immediately restored as if nothing was ever wrong. They recorded all day, her voice remaining strong the entire time, but when she sang the last note of the last hymn of the recording, her voice closed again.

Her impressions of the Elder was that he was a man of deep love who had such a gift of clairvoyance that he was able to tell each person what they needed to hear, and not what they wanted to hear. Often when she was a child she would witness people leaving the cell of the Elder, with tears of joy in their eyes. Since she was very young when he died, she cannot remember the many words he shared with her family, but she can remember what it was like to experience growing up with a Saint through the eyes of a child. She says: “Though I did not understand every word he said, I did understand how many times he said the word ‘Christ’. There is no greater teaching than this. When the Elder said the word ‘Christ’, I have never heard a more sweet word from anyone. He constantly said the word ‘Christ’. For a child this is a more substantial teaching, by hearing the name ‘Christ.’”



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## DO FIGURES LIKE STS. PORPHYRIOS AND PAISIOS EXIST TODAY?

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By Metropolitan Hierotheos of Nafpaktos

Fortunately, we knew these really enlightened Elders, Fathers Paisios and Porphyrios and other patristic personalities, who showed us what the Church is and how God shows, through the Church, his friends. Many of us felt God's love near them. These elders comforted thousands of people and in many cases brought rest to the most unruly children of God. We must feel unworthy of such a gift.

However, since God and the Church exist, such holy figures always exist. As I said before, the saints are the offspring of the Church, having passed through the Cross and Resurrection of Christ, and Pentecost, and give testimony of the new life which God brought to earth.

Alas if there are no such figures today. It's like thinking that the Church has ceased to exist or is barren and cannot give birth. The truth is that when saints cease to exist, then will occur the Second Coming of Christ.

On Mount Athos today there are many blessed monks who glorify God and are glorified by Him. Mount Athos is still a great light, which, when those who see it do not have adequate vision, they are blinded and they blame

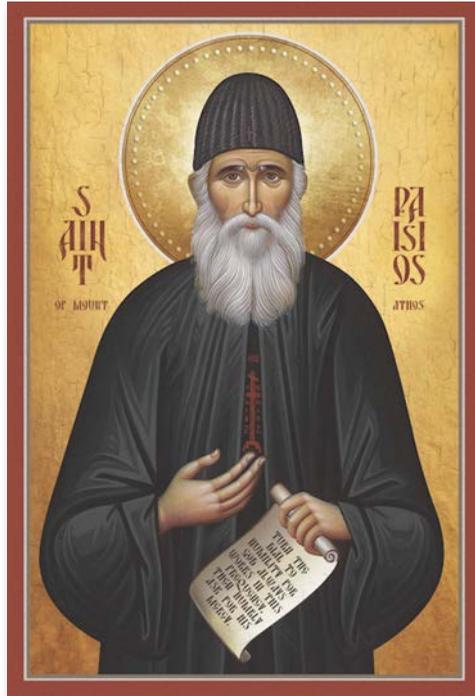
the monks who live there. And outside Mount Athos also, in monasteries and communities there are blessed children of God and the Church, which illuminate those who understand this and have need.

The problem is that we do not see the saints, do not feel them, do not smell their presence. This is because we do not have high pursuits, we do not have spiritual senses to recognize them and to feel them. We can apply in this case the words of Christ: "For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened" (Matt. 7:8). Those who truly seek God and His saints, they will certainly encounter them, or rather the living modern saints themselves will go to find them and fill them with the gifts of God. Such is our God. He comes secretly, He likes to reverse all logical possibilities, He shows His love loudly, suddenly

and surprisingly to those who hurt and are looking for Him. Soberly intoxicated are those who seek "the good wine", the strong wine.

Source: Translated by John Sanidopoulos.

St. Porphyrios of Kavsokalyva is Commemorated on December 3rd



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*continued*

Finally she explains how her acquaintance with a Saint as a child kept her close to God in her life. No matter all the troubles and suffering she went through later in life, the foundation of knowing the Elder as a child

kept her close to God. By this she sees the Providence of God in her own life. And the Elder had a particular way of bringing out the gifts of each of his spiritual children. For her it was to be a singer in the Church.

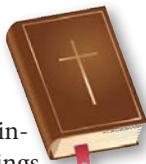
## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

### ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FAITH SERIES

Wednesday, December 4, 7pm

NEXT CLASS, TOPICS:  
"HOLY TRINITY: WHEN WE SAY GOD,  
PART 2"



This series will hopefully offer not only an introduction to the Orthodox Faith, the teachings and doctrines, but Orthodoxy as a way of life. What does it mean to be an Orthodox Christian? The class is open to everyone. Cradle Orthodox and those who are new to the Orthodox Church will enjoy this new series. If you have any questions, please contact Father Jordan @ frjordan-brown@gmail.com.

### LITURGY BOOK FOR CHILDREN

Attention Parents! You will notice a very special Divine Liturgy book designed for young children (toddler - grade school). This is a wonderful service book for our young children to participate in the Divine Liturgy. In addition, there is a **special Divine Liturgy Activity Book, for families with young children**. They are available in the Narthex. **We encourage each family (with young children only), to take one book home.**

### SISTERHOOD CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE AND BRUNCH

All women of the church are invited on Saturday, Dec. 14th from 10am - 1pm at Jan Marose's house (2153 Summerlin Lane, Longmont). Bring a \$10 wrapped gift if you'd like to participate and a dish to share.

### HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN ISAAH OF DENVER AND THE METROPOLIS COUNCIL

invite you to attend  
**The Metropolis Annual  
Christmas Celebration  
& Open House**

Friday, December 13, 2019

5 pm to 9 pm

Denver Metropolis Center

4550 East Alameda Avenue, Denver

### PHILOPTOCHOS

This Christmas Philoptochos will be helping Attention Homes in Boulder with their wish list. Attention Homes is an organization that is helping to break the cycle of youth homelessness in Boulder County. This past year they opened a transitional housing unit with 40 apartments for ages 18-24 to get back on their feet and off the street. They need help filling each unit with essential items. On the tree in the fellowship hall you will see some ornaments with items and prices on them. Please consider taking one or more ornaments and donating the money to Philoptochos so we can purchase these items and deliver them for Christmas. You can also go to [www.attentionhomes.org](http://www.attentionhomes.org) and click on the see wish list button at the top of the page. You have the option to either send directly to Attention Homes or yourself. It is up to you, but we are hoping to deliver as much as we can in December.

### LOOKING FOR BAKERS...

...to bake ethnic, American, holiday cookies for their annual Christmas cookie basket fund raiser. If you can help, please email or call Fran Dzilvelis at [fran\\_dzilvelis@yahoo.com](mailto:fran_dzilvelis@yahoo.com) or 303-775-6138 or see Fran after church on Sundays to sign up. We are asking for 9 dozen cookies. Bring them to the church by Sunday December 15th. Please write the total number of cookies on your container. Thank you so very much for your support!

### SAVE THE DATE

**Family Dinner Dance, Raffle and Silent Auction** will be held at the Avalon Ballroom on Saturday, Feb 22, 2020. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend. It promises to be a fun evening for all. The committee is working hard to make the ticket prices as low as possible.

# BURNING THE MORTGAGE CELEBRATION

**TODAY, 12 NOON**

THE STS PETER AND PAUL PARISH  
REACHED A VERY SPECIAL MILESTONE.

WE WILL BE MAKING OUR FINAL  
MORTGAGE PAYMENT THIS MONTH!

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN ISAIAH  
WILL JOIN US FOR THE  
DIVINE LITURGY AT 9:30AM!

THERE WILL BE A DELICIOUS LUNCH  
PREPARED IN HONOR OF THIS BLESSED  
PARISH MILESTONE.

**Sunday, December 8, 2019 @ 4 pm**  
Featuring Ancient and Modern Music Per-  
formed by The St Luke Antiochian Orthodox  
**Liturgical Choir**  
Free Admission - Refreshments - Christmas Carol Sing-  
along  
722 Austin Ave. Erie

**The Denver AHEPA FAMILY Invites you  
To our Annual Christmas Dinner Dance**

**Saturday, December 14, 2019**

Great Vespers (Evening Prayer) 5 pm

5:30 pm Cocktails - 7 pm Dinner

Where: St Catherine's Greek Orthodox Church

5555 S. Yosemite Street, Greenwood Village

Reservations Deadline, December 6th

Adults \$50 - Students \$40

Questions / Reservations:

Marshall Monsell 303-619-1753

Cash Bar - DJ - Santa - Valet Parking

## YOUTH EVENTS

### OCF - ORTHODOX COLLEGE / CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP

**WELCOME CU STUDENTS!**

Please join us for our next campus fellowship  
and dinner., **Sunday, December 8, 5pm.** If you  
have any questions, or need a ride to church,  
please contact Father Jordan at frjordanbrown@  
gmail.com or call 720-329-5212

### GOYA - ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE & HIGHSCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

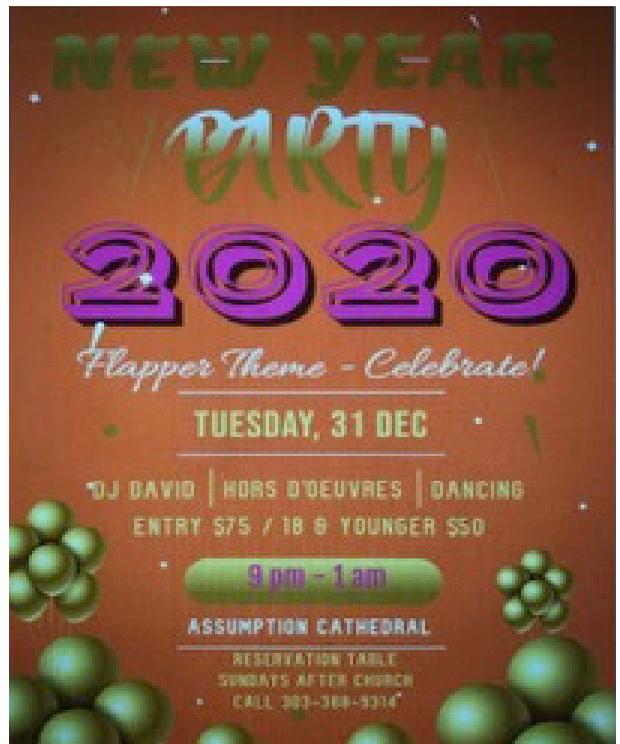
Mark your December calendar!

**DECEMBER 7, 8PM**  
**GOYA FIRESIDE CHAT**

Hosted at the Tinsley Home  
1825 Chilton Place, Broomfield

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH**  
Nativity Christmas Pageant

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST**  
Nursing Home & Shut in visitations  
with Father Jordan





## **SAINTS PETER & PAUL**

Greek Orthodox Church

5640 Jay Road, Boulder, CO 80301

303-581-1434 • [stpeterandpaulboulder.org](http://stpeterandpaulboulder.org)

### **ABOUT OUR PARISH**

We welcome visitors worshipping 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 and visit our bookstore. If you are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, please visit with our priest, Fr. Jordan Brown.

### **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 'antidoros' (blessed bread) at the end of the Divine Liturgy.



### **PRIEST**

Reverend Father Jordan Brown

### **PARISH COUNCIL**

President - George Tsiouvaras  
Vice President - Nicholas Kallan  
Treasurer - Brian Gregory  
Secretary - Phillip Haratsaris

### **PHILOTOCHOS**

Presidents - Dana Gall and Sharon Dzilvelis  
Treasurer - Julie Powers

### **BOOK STORE**

Sharon Dzilvelis

### **YOUTH / GOYA**

Fr. Jordan Brown

### **SENIOR MINISTRY**

Dena Tinsley

### **CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Presbytera Marika Brown

### **RECURRING SERVICES**

Orthros - Sundays, 8:15am  
Divine Liturgy - Sundays, 9:30am  
Great Vespers - Saturdays, 5pm  
Confession by appointment.