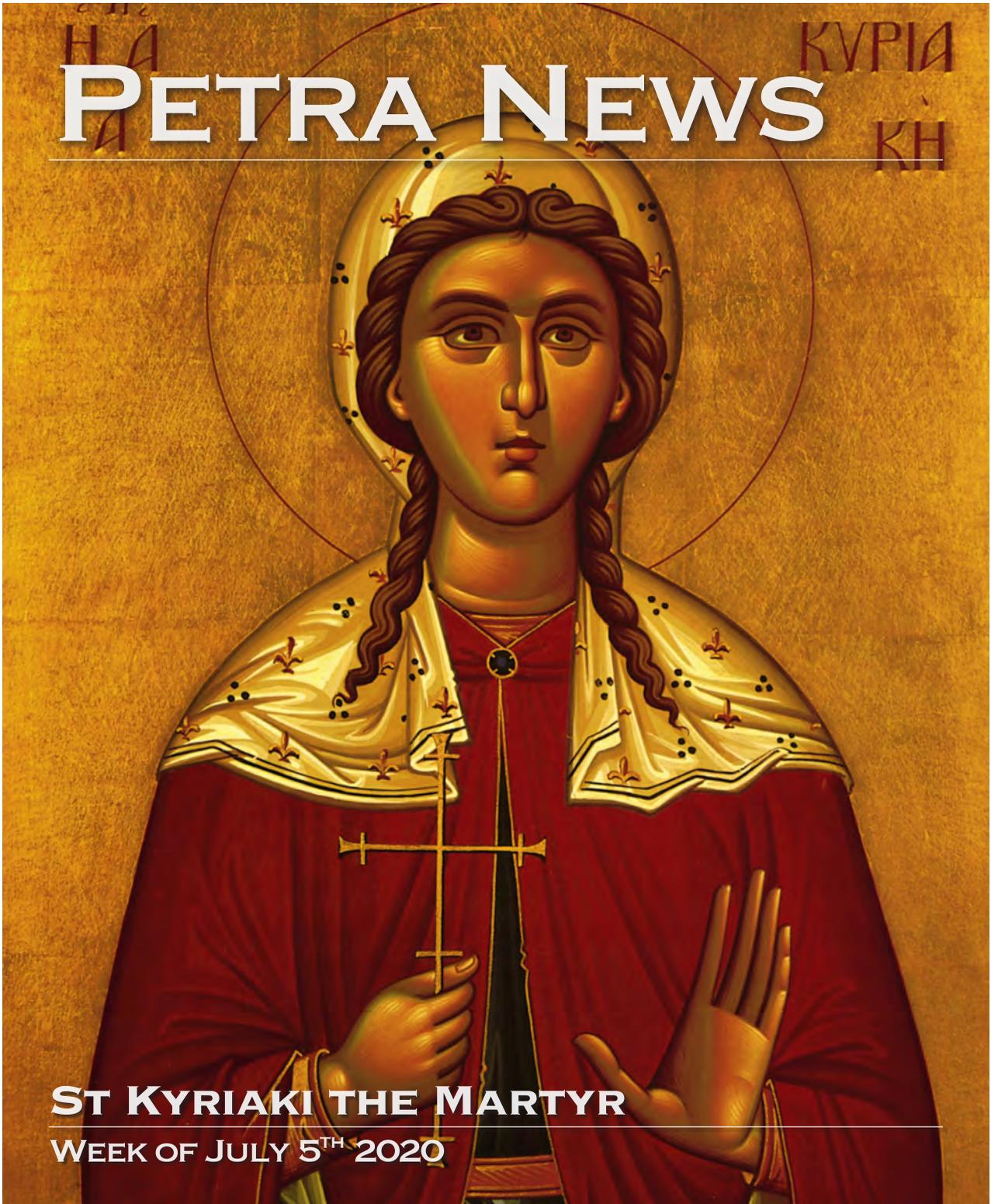


PETRA NEWS



ST KYRIAKI THE MARTYR

WEEK OF JULY 5TH 2020

**STS PETER & PAUL
WEEKLY SERVICES**

TUESDAY, JULY 7TH

St Kyriaki

Orthros _____ 8:15am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9am

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

Paracesis _____ 6pm

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 11

Divine Liturgy _____ 9am

SATURDAY EVENING, JULY 11

Great Vespers _____ 5pm

SIGN-UP FOR SERVICES

**Reserve a spot by visiting
the church website at**

stpeterandpaulboulder.org

Please email Shanyn Bateh at
shanyn.elserougi@gmail.com if you
have any questions. Thank you.

4TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW HYMNS

RESURRECTION HYMN (3RD TONE)

*“Let all things above in heaven rejoice,
and let all things below on earth be glad.
With all the might and strength of His arm
an eternal deed the Lord did perform.
Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death,
and first born of the dead has He become.
From the womb of Hades has He delivered us,
and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.”*

HYMN FOR ST ATHANASIOS OF ATHOS

*“Angelic hosts on high were filled with wonderment,
seeing your life in the flesh: how with your body you
courageously went out to wrestle with invisible foes;
and to the demonic hordes you inflicted serious wounds.
Therefore, Athanasios, you received from the Master Christ,
a wealth of gifts. Holy Father, intercede on our behalf
with Christ our God, to save our souls.”*

HYMN FOR STS PETER AND PAUL

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

KONTAKION HYMN

*“A protection of Christians unshamable,
intercessor to our holy Maker unwavering,
reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin;
instead, come to us, for you are good;
your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you:
hasten to intercede, and speed now to supplicate,
as a protection for all time,
Theotokos for those who honor you.”*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Orthros Gospel: Luke 24:1-12

Epistle: Galations 5:22-26;6:1-2

Gospel: St Matthew 8:5-13

3RD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

FOURTH ORTHROS GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 24:1-12

On the first day of the week, at early dawn, the women went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel; and as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of man must be delivered in to the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the

third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told this to the apostles; but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home wondering at what had happened.

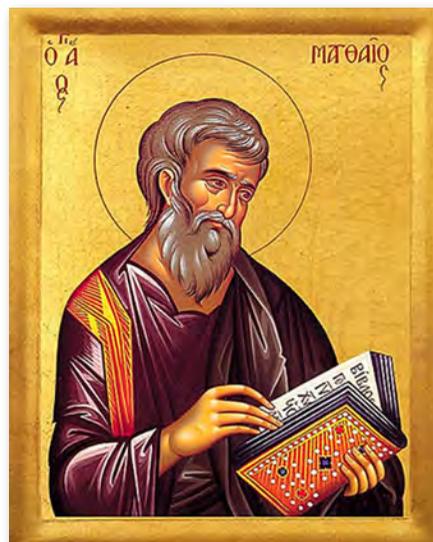
EPISTLE: ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE GALATIANS 5:22-26; 6:1-2

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us have no self-conceit,

no provoking of one another, no envy of one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Look to yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 8:5-13

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.



MARTYR KYRIAKE OF NICOMEDIA

Saint Kyriake was the only child of Dorotheus and Eusebia. Since she was born on a Sunday (Kyriake, in Greek), she was named Kyriake.

One day a wealthy magistrate wished to betroth Kyriake to his son. Not only was she young and beautiful, but her parents were wealthy, and the magistrate wished to control that wealth. The magistrate went to her parents to request her hand, but Saint Kyriake told him that she wished to remain a virgin, for she had dedicated herself to Christ.

The magistrate was angered by her words, so he went to the emperor Diocletian to denounce the saint and her parents as Christians who mocked the idols, and refused to offer sacrifice to them.

Diocletian sent soldiers to arrest the family and have them brought before him. He asked them why they would not honor the gods which he himself honored. They told him that these were false gods, and that Christ was the one true God.

Dorotheus was beaten until the soldiers grew tired and were unable to continue. Since neither flattery nor torment had any effect, Diocletian sent Dorotheus and Eusebia to Melitene on the eastern border between Cappadocia and Armenia. Then he sent Saint Kyriake to be interrogated by his son-in-law and co-ruler Maximian at Nicomedia.

Maximian urged her not to throw her life away, promising her wealth and marriage to one of Diocletian's relatives if she would worship the pagan gods. Saint Kyriake replied that she would never renounce Christ, nor did she desire worldly riches. Enraged by her bold answer, Maximian had her flogged. The soldiers who administered this punishment became tired, and had to be replaced three times.

Shamed by his failure to overcome a young woman, Maximian sent Saint Kyriake to Hilarion, the eparch of Bithynia, at Chalcedon. He told Hilarion to either

convert Kyriake to paganism, or send her back to him.

Making the same promises and threats that Diocletian and Maximian had made before, Hilarion was no more successful than they were. Saint Kyriake challenged him to do his worst, because Christ would help her to triumph. The saint was suspended by her hair for several hours, while soldiers burned her body with torches. Not only did she endure all this, she also seemed to become more courageous under torture.

Finally, she was taken down and put into a prison cell.

That night Christ appeared to her and healed her wounds. When Hilarion saw her the next day, he declared that she had been healed by the gods because they pitied her. Then Hilarion urged her to go to the temple to give thanks to the gods. She told him that she had been healed by Christ, but agreed to go to the temple. The eparch rejoiced, thinking that he had defeated her.

In the temple, Saint Kyriake prayed that God would destroy the soulless idols. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake which toppled the idols, shattering them to pieces. Everyone fled the temple in fear, leaving Hilarion behind. Instead of recognizing the power of Christ, the eparch blasphemed the true God as the destroyer of his pagan gods. He was struck by a bolt of lightning and died on the spot.

Saint Kyriake was tortured again by Apollonius, who succeeded Hilarion as eparch. When she was cast into a fire, the flames were extinguished. When she was thrown to wild beasts, they became tame and gentle. Therefore, Apollonius sentenced her to death by the sword. She was permitted time to pray, so she asked God to receive her soul, and to remember those who honored her martyrdom.

Just as Saint Kyriake ended her prayer, angels took her soul before the soldiers could strike off her head. Pious Christians took her relics and buried them in a place of honor.



THE CHURCH MUST ENCOURAGE HER CHILDREN

Message from Father Tryphon,
Abbot of the All-Merciful Savior Monastery on Vashon Island

It deeply saddens me when I see some in the Church taking the stand that the Church must be the enforcer of God's law. I remember a fellow high school teacher who had a good list and a bad list. The good list included students he liked, the ones whose grades were above average. On the bad list were those who were academically challenged and who more often than not already had a very low self-image.

Many of these students would walk away into my classroom the following period, and I could see their grades from the looks on their faces. It took considerable effort on my part to lift the spirits of those "bad" students. I followed the grading approach of an older, more experienced teacher. If there were twenty questions on a test, and the student got only four correct answers, I wrote 4+, with a smile star next to the number. I'd tell the student that four correct answers was a good start, and his or her grades always went up from there.



As the hospital for the soul, the Church should view everyone who walks through the narthex in the same light. Some people are always early for services, make good confessions, receive the Holy Mysteries frequently, and volunteer for whatever task is set before them. Others struggle with the Christian life and are barely identifiable as belonging to Christ. Yet both sets of people are in need of the healing that comes in an encounter with the living God.

If the Church loves only those who are in the first list, we have failed, for

those in the second list are in need of more attention and love than those on the first. A mother once told me she loved her youngest son the most, not because he was smart or polite or obedient or handsome, like her other two sons, but because he was troubled, homely, disobedient, and angry. That son needed her encouragement and love more than the others. This is why I have always loved the image of the Church as our mother.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DENVER

July 3, 2020

Beloved in the Lord,

Without a doubt, our world has changed significantly over the course of just a few months. Things such as social distancing, virtual meetings, and quarantines, which seemed obscure and rare concepts to many of us just a short time ago, are now commonplace realities that occupy a prominent place in the front of our minds. However, despite this new and strange existence we are collectively experiencing, our Lord remains unchanged. Truly, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Likewise, our faith in His saving grace remains undiminished in the face of the challenges and difficulties of these days.

As you know, I have allowed the parishes of the Metropolis of Denver to reopen their doors for corporate worship, within the bounds of local law and specific directives outlined in Protocols 20-08 and 20-09. This has been done to begin restoring essential spiritual care for our parishioners, and at the same time working to responsibly mitigate risks posed by the corona-virus/COVID-19 pandemic. I thank the clergy and lay leadership of our parishes who have diligently worked in this regard.

While the directives provided in the previous protocols remain in effect, I am writing to you today in order to allow some additional parish functions, and to address concerns which have been expressed. As a reminder, individuals who have been exposed to the virus, experienced symptoms, or who are part of vulnerable groups (elderly, immune-compromised, under a physician's care, etc.), should remain home, and may be ministered to individually. As well, we recognize that the pandemic and related situations continue to evolve. Therefore, parishes must continue to monitor legal mandates applicable to their location at any given time.

With these things in mind, I am now giving the blessing for non-liturgical gatherings to be held in our parishes, not to exceed a total of twenty people, **where permissible by local law**. This should allow for in-person parish council and committee meetings, catechism and Bible studies, and other similar gatherings. Certainly, social distancing guidelines and personal hygiene precautions are to be applied. Since youth Sunday School classes are not currently in session, they will be handled as a separate matter later in the summer, prior to the beginning of the new school year.

In various locations in our Metropolis, a discussion is taking place regarding the wearing of protective masks in church. It seems that certain individuals feel very strongly about this issue. Unfortunately, some have taken a very "hard-line" stance on one side or another, which is concerning.

As with many aspects of the pandemic response, there is little consistency in the various state and local orders. Some do not require the wearing of masks while others require it. Moreover, among those that do require masks, some grant exceptions to houses of worship. As stated in previous directives, in places where the wearing of masks is expressly required in houses of worship, they are also required in our churches. Where masks are not required by law they are not mandated by me at this time. However, I paternally encourage the wearing of masks as a prudent measure for each parishioner, and for the sake of those around them.

Regardless of the situation, it is imperative that we not allow the topic of masks, or any other, to become a divisive issue in our parishes. I ask that everyone instead practice Christian love and understanding. That we recognize and respect the choices of our brothers and sisters in a manner consistent with Holy Scripture and the teachings of the Church, and thus fulfill God's will.

It has been reported that although the overall number of COVID-19 cases has increased in recent days, that the mortality rate has decreased. We offer thanks to almighty God for this and pray that the trend of deaths continues to go down. Nevertheless, we must all continue to exercise diligence, caution, and sustained concern for one another.

May our loving and merciful God bless, strengthen, and protect us all toward this goal, toward peace and security, to His greater glory, and to our salvation.

With paternal blessings,

+Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT EDUCATION

CLASS: JOURNEY TO THE KINGDOM

“Journey to the Kingdom” will focus on a deeper understanding of the Divine Liturgy. The first class will be offered on Saturday, July 11, 4 pm.



SUMMER HOUSE BLESSINGS



Father Jordan will be blessing homes this summer. Our parish family has been separated, and we want to keep the special connection to the church. Father Jordan will bless your home at the front door, sprinkling Holy Water at the entrance of the home. Life cannot survive without water. Our spiritual life cannot survive without prayer and the life giving sacraments and services of the church. Parishioners will be contacted to work out a good time and day for the blessing.

DIRECTORY 2020

If you wish to update either your photo or listing information, contact Rick Leonidas at rick@salmonroe.com or 720.314.5217



This is the last day for providing updates.

DIRECTORY ADVERTISING

To help with cost of printing, we are offering stewards the opportunity to purchase ad space in the directory. Full-page/\$300 and 1/2-page/\$150. contact Rick Leonidas at rick@salmonroe.com or 720.314.5217 for more details.

This is the last day to reserve ad space.

PHILOPTOCHOS CAN'T HELP WITHOUT YOU!

We need canned donations for **Our Center!** We took a little break for the past few months, but they need canned meat, tuna, chicken, etc. There will be a box outside of church at the front door starting this weekend if you would like to drop off your canned food donation. If you would like us to shop for you, we will be taking donations. You can contact Ashley Dzilvelis at ashleydz1@hotmail.com or send money via Venmo to @AshDz and I will make sure to get what we need. You can also mail a check to Julie Powers, please contact her at powerjulie@gmail.com for her address, please put Our Center in the memo line.



STEWARDSHIP GIFTS

Restrictions on regular services has an impact on the financial health of our Church. Now more than ever, **easyTithe** can help ensure Sts. Peter & Paul remains strong through these difficult times.



You can set up recurring contributions to your stewardship pledge or make a one-time donation to Sts. Peter & Paul. Go to stspeterandpaulboulder.org and click on the **easyTythe icon**.

You may also mail your Stewardship checks C/O St. Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 5640 Jay Road, Boulder, CO 80301 and write “Stewardship” on your check.

Thank you!
Stewardship Chairs,
George and Nicole Tsiouvaras



SAINTS PETER & PAUL

Greek Orthodox Church

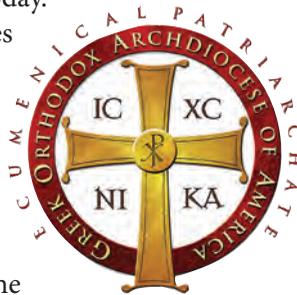
5640 Jay Road, Boulder, CO 80301

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



PRIEST

Reverend Father Jordan Brown

PARISH COUNCIL

President - Erica Gerakos
Vice President - Nicholas Kallan
Treasurer - Brian Gregory
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PHILOTOCHOS

Presidents - Dana Gall and Sharon Dzilvelis
Treasurer - Julie Powers

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Sharon Dzilvelis

YOUTH / GOYA

Fr. Jordan Brown

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Presbytera Marika Brown

RECURRING SERVICES

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