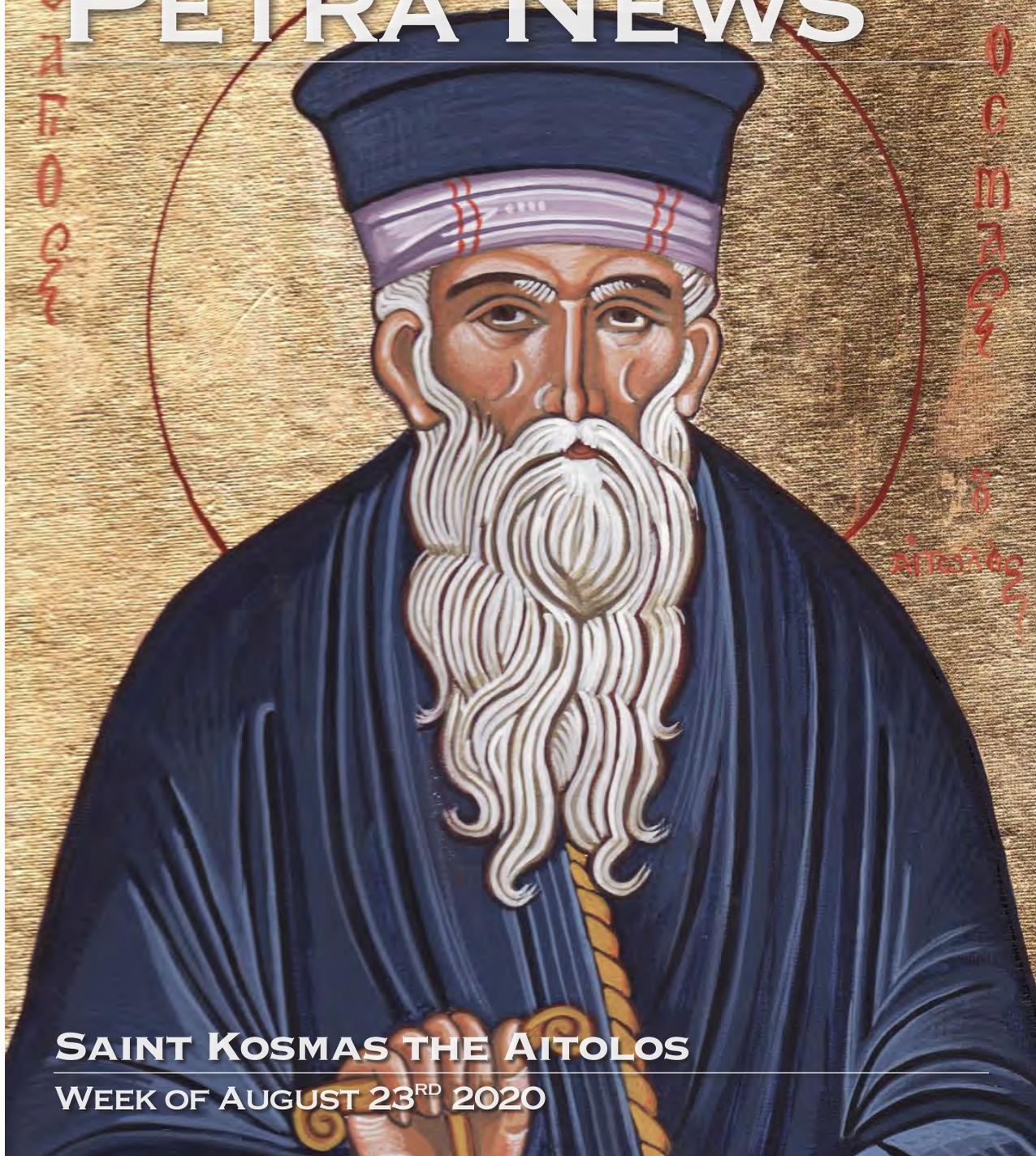


# PETRA NEWS



**SAINT KOSMAS THE AITOLOS**

**WEEK OF AUGUST 23<sup>RD</sup> 2020**

**STS PETER & PAUL  
WEEKLY SERVICES**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25**

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

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 29**

**Beheading of St John**, Strict fast day.

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

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

**SIGN-UP FOR SERVICES**

**Reserve a spot by visiting the church  
website at [stspeterandpaulboulder.org](http://stspeterandpaulboulder.org)**

Please email Shanyn Bateh at  
[shanyn.elserougi@gmail.com](mailto:shanyn.elserougi@gmail.com) if you have  
any questions. Thank you.

**CHURCH OFFERINGS**

*Due to current COVID-19 safety  
guidelines, we can not pass the usual  
offering basket at this time.*

*For those wishing to leave an offering,  
there are baskets available in the Narthex  
and at the South door as you exit.*

*You can also make an offering on-line, through  
**easyTithe**. See page 6 for details.*

---

**HYMNS FOR THE  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATHEW**

**HYMN FOR THE DORMITION FEAST**

*“You gave birth yet preserved your virginity.  
You fell asleep in death yet did not  
desert the world, O Theotokos.  
You were transported to life,  
as you are Mother of Life and,  
by virtue of your intercession,  
deliver our souls from death.”*

---

**RESURRECTION HYMN (2ND TONE)**

*“When You descended to the realm of death  
You as life immortal rendered to Hades  
a mortal blow by Your all radiant divinity.  
And when You from infernal depths  
and the darkness below did raise the dead  
all the hosts of heavens powers did proclaim  
and cry out O life-giving Christ a  
nd our God we give glory.”*

---

**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**

*“The Theotokos is undying in intercession.  
Immovable is our hope in her for protection.  
Neither death nor burial prevailed over her.  
As she is Mother of Life, she was removed to life by Him,  
the Lord who lived in her evervirgin womb.”*

---

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Epistle: 1 Cor 9:2-12

Gospel: St Matthew 18:23-35

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

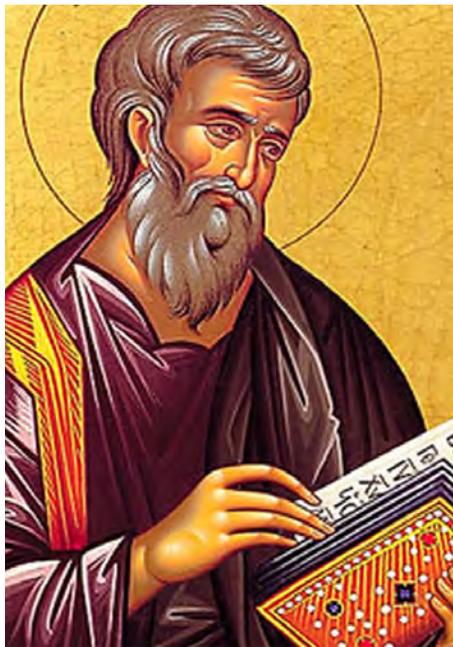
### EPISTLE: ST. PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS 9:2-12

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is

written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

### THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 18:23-35

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what



you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to

the torturers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

# SAINT COSMAS AITOLOS

by Bishop Augustinos

Saint Cosmas was born in a village of Acarnania. After he learned there his first letters, he left and went to the Holy Mountain where he was instructed by a famous teacher of the Church, Eugenios Voulganis. He lived a strict monastic life fasting, at the Holy Mountain, praying and studying Holy Scripture and the fathers of the Church. He did not, however, remain forever on the Holy Mountain because, within himself, he was hearing a voice which was telling him that he must go and preach and console the suffering people. He could not find peace while he was thinking that, down in villages and cities, Christians were suffering and being tortured for Christ's faith. Saint Cosmas finally left the Holy Mountain and went to the city. He expressed his desire to the patriarch and thus, with the blessing of the patriarch, at the age of 45, St Cosmas began his great mission. He became a second Apostle Paul. He made four great journeys, as Paul did. He went to many places but in particular he went to Thessaly, Western Macedonia, Epirus, and Albania; namely, to the places which were suffering greatly from the Turks.

He preached the word of God everywhere. In the places where he would place a cross and under the



cross he would put a stand which served as a temporary pulpit from which he would preach the word of God. Many people congregated. His words came out of his mouth like fire. The Holy Spirit was speaking with the fiery tongue of St Cosmas. Such was the grace of in luxury repented and left at his feet their jewelry. With them, St Cosmas bought baptismal fonts and books for the poor churches and built schools for the children of the slaves to be educated. Robbers,

who lived in the mountains, after they heard the preaching of Cosmas, repented and left thievery. Even the Turks who heard and saw the miracles of St Cosmas, were moved and said that this man was a saint.

Finally, some evil people defamed him to the Turks and the Pasha of Beration ordered that he be arrested and hanged. They brought him to Aoo River and on its bank, on 24 August 1779 hanged him from a tree. Before they hanged him, the saint prayed. He thanked God who enabled him to suffer martyrdom for His glory. His holy soul flew to heaven. In heaven, he never ceases praying for us and teaching us with his holy teachings, which he has left us.

The following words of St Cosmas,

*“Finally, I am telling you this now; to rejoice and be thankful that you were blessed to be pious Orthodox Christians. Also again, cry and lament for the impious unbelievers, and heretics who walk in darkness in the hands of the Devil. Be careful, my brothers, not to be proud, not to kill, not to steal, not to take oaths, not to lie, not to hate each other, not to slander, not to adorn this filthy body, which tomorrow the worms ill consume, but to adorn your soul which is more precious than the whole world. Quickly, as much as you can, pray as you are able and have always death in front of your eyes for there is no other teacher greater than death.”*

## FORGIVENESS

Reflection by Fr Anthony Coniaris of blessed memory

Jesus told a parable about forgiveness in today's Gospel lesson. A certain person, having been forgiven a large debt (today's standards in the \$ millions), went immediately to one who owed him a few hundred dollars, grabbed him by the throat and demanded payment. We react to a story like that and we say, "Nobody acts like that!" But Jesus told this parable to show us that this is the way we act every time we refuse to forgive someone. C.S. Lewis said once, "Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea until we have someone to forgive."

If you have to pick out something that our world need today more than anything else, what would it be? What is needed most in family life, in human



relations, in struggles with nations? When it comes right down to it, it is just plain forgiveness, where people put the past behind them, as God has done for them, and start out on a new track governed by new motives and a new way of doing things, the way of forgiveness.

Nothing is more God-like than forgiveness. And yet nothing is more difficult for anyone, including God, than to forgive people from the heart. Remember, forgiveness cost God His only Son on the Cross. Nothing is more wonderful than forgiveness freely given and freely received. It unblocks the channel of life, whether toward God or neighbor.

# ToOtoGo

## TASTE OF ORTHODOXY COVID-19 RELIEF FESTIVAL

Dear Sts Peter & Paul Community,

In lieu of our usual ToO festival, we are making plans for a two-day, drive-thru, food festival. This is an opportunity to come together as a community again, while also raising much-needed funds for our church.

For ToOtoGo, customers will be able to place food orders and pay online ahead of time and drive-thru our parking area to pick up their food. On-site orders will also be allowed while maintaining proper social distancing. Contact Nick Karis or the Parish Council with any questions.

We need a small group of volunteers to handle food-prep and work the festival to make this happen.

***We need to fill the volunteer schedule now in order to move forward with these plans.  
Go to [stspeterandpaulboulder.org](http://stspeterandpaulboulder.org) to sign-up!***

## Dear Brothers and Sisters,

"Sunday" School as we've come to know it will have a very different look this Fall! Covid-19 presents some obvious challenges, but our modified format will allow us to continue to offer youth education while preserving our sense of community. Without further ado, we'd like to introduce...



*Combining worship, fellowship, and education  
for students of all ages!*

**Class Schedule** In-person classes will be held every other Saturday, starting **Saturday, Sept. 12th**.

**Great Vespers, 5pm**

**Dinner, 5:30ish** We will serve pizza, takeout, etc.  
No potlucks or buffet-style meals will be served.

**Breakout Classes by Grade, 6 to 7pm**

**Adult Education for Parents** Father will also be offering an Adult Education class in the church while student classes are being conducted.

**Registration** It's important that you register your child even if they aren't attending in-person. That way, we can make sure that "Sunday School" can flourish at home! Go to [StsPeterandPaulBoulder.org](http://StsPeterandPaulBoulder.org) to register.

**Sign-Up for Classes** In-person attendance will be by **RSVP only**. This allows us to pre-plan and take necessary precautions based on the number of attendees. A Sign-Up Genius link will be sent via email the week prior to classes.

We look forward to working with you and your children and are excited for our new Saturday School / Family Night format! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you!

**Aaron Wall**

**"Saturday" School Coordinator**

[awall609@yahoo.com](mailto:awall609@yahoo.com) • (720) 400-6579

## "Saturday" School FAQ

### Where will classes be held?

We will utilize outdoor spaces whenever weather permits. When weather isn't cooperating, we will hold classes in separate areas of the hall and church and practice social distancing.

### What about parents/students who are immuno-compromised or who are simply not comfortable with attending in-person?

We want all of our families to feel like they are still part of this community, even if they aren't able to attend in-person! Our teachers will be communicating with parents on a weekly basis, providing lesson summaries and tips for "Sunday School" activities at home. Youth Ministry will provide additional e-resources periodically to encourage and facilitate at-home learning.

### What kind of precautions are you taking for Covid-19?

The safety of our students and teachers has ALWAYS been a top priority for Youth Ministry. **We will FULLY adhere to all state, county, and Metropolis regulations, and these will be updated as needed.** As of today, those restrictions are:

**All attendees 10 years or older are required to wear masks when indoors.** Masks are strongly encouraged for younger children whenever social distancing isn't possible.

**Attendees 10 years or older are required to wear masks outdoors when social distancing (6' separation) isn't possible.**

**Children will be segregated by class groups, and will be spaced 6' apart during class.**

### Meal-Time

Food will be served by select volunteers only. Teachers will escort their students over to the Hall for dinner.

We will avoid congregating in the Hall during meal-time.

**Sanitizer will be available and hand-washing will be encouraged.**

**All surfaces used by teachers/students will be sanitized before and after classes.**

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADULT EDUCATION

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME ON SEPTEMBER 9TH, 10AM**

### ORTHODOX FAITH SERIES

**First Class, Saturday  
September 12th, 6pm  
Topic: Worship and Prayer**



Class is open to all parents, adults and inquirers. This series will take place in the church. Questions: Please contact Father Jordan

## HOME VISITATIONS

Father Jordan is available to make home visitations for our elderly, shut ins, and all those with 'high risk' health challenges. Please do not hesitate to contact Father Jordan to schedule a visit. Parishioners with 'high risk' health challenges are welcome to visit the church during the week to schedule a time to pray and receive the Holy Sacraments.

## BOOKSTORE

We are here for you! **Philoptochos** would be happy to help you with your bookstore purchase on Sunday's after Liturgy. Please see Lis Troicky or Julie Powers.

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Please send an email to [ashleydz1@hotmail.com](mailto:ashleydz1@hotmail.com) with a letter providing details on why you feel you are a candidate for the Philoptochos scholarship. Include what school you are attending, school address and student id (if applicable). You or your family must be a part of the Sts Peter and Paul Church community. The deadline for the scholarship is September 15th.

## PHILOPTOCHOS IS HERE TO HELP

If you need food, rent assistance, house maintenance, etc., Please contact Father Jordan or Dana Gall.

## WE CAN'T HELP WITHOUT YOU!

**OUR Center** is in need of canned food donations (meat, tuna, chicken, etc). There is a box outside the church building to drop off your donation. If you would like us to shop for you, we will be taking donations. You can contact Ashley Dzilveris at [ashleydz1@hotmail.com](mailto:ashleydz1@hotmail.com) or send money via Venmo to @AshDz. You can also mail a check to Julie Powers, please contact her for her address ([powerjulie@gmail.com](mailto:powerjulie@gmail.com)), and put "Our Center" in the memo line.



## GROCERY GIFT CARDS

Philoptochos sells gift cards to Safeway, Natural Grocers Vitamin Cottage, Whole Foods and Sprouts. Also available are



**OLD CHICAGO PIZZA PALZ**, an \$11 gift card that you redeem at an Old Chicago

restaurant by ordering any large pizza valued up to \$25! Restaurants are located in Broomfield, Arvada, Denver, Thornton, Westminster, Loveland, Ft. Collins, Greeley, Brighton, Aurora, Lakewood, Highlands Ranch. **Please contact Julie Powers** ([powerjulie@gmail.com](mailto:powerjulie@gmail.com), 970.412.5338) to purchase these gift cards. She will either mail them to you or deliver them to you on Sunday after Liturgy.



## KING SOOPERS SHOPPERS

All you have to do is create an account with your King Soopers loyalty card (or alternate id, your phone number) on their website at [kingsoopers.com](http://kingsoopers.com). Once your account is created, you will link your loyalty card to "Sts Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church Philoptochos" by doing the following: 1) Sign in to your account and select "community rewards" (left hand side, under my account); 2) Search for "Sts Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church Philoptochos", under category "faith based"; 3) Select enroll. Remember to use your loyalty card whenever you shop and the Philoptochos will receive a portion of your purchase.





## SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

---

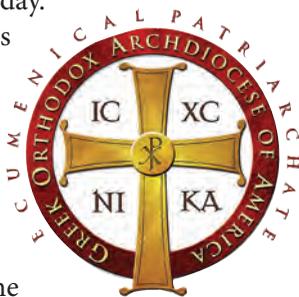
5640 Jay Road, Boulder, CO 80301  
303.581.1434 • stspeterandpaulboulder.org

### 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 '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  
Secretary - Phillip Haratsaris

### PHILOPTOCHOS

---

Presidents - Dana Gall and Sharon Dzilvelis  
Treasurer - Julie Powers

### BOOK STORE

---

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.