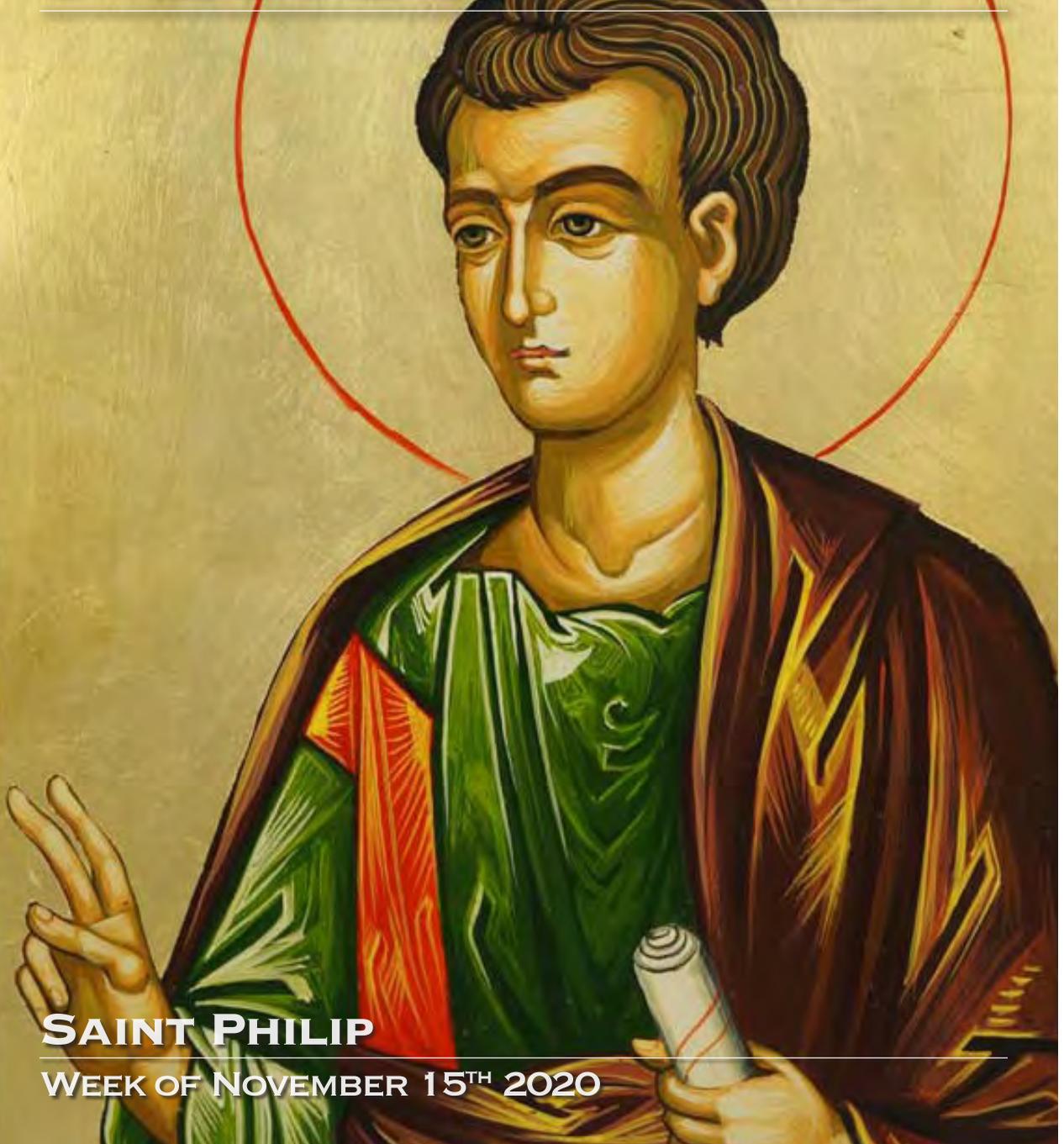


PETRA NEWS



SAINT PHILIP

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 15TH 2020

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH 2020

STS PETER & PAUL WEEKLY SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Evening Divine Liturgy _____ 5pm

SATURDAY MORNING, NOV 21

Feast Entrance of the Theotokos

Orthros _____ 8am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9am

SATURDAY EVENING, NOV 21

Great Vespers _____ 4pm

**NATIVITY FAST BEGINS
NOVEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 24**

FELLOWSHIP HALL CLOSED ON SUNDAY

Due to the present challenges and health care guidelines, the Fellowship Hall will remain closed on Sundays effective immediately. **The welcome committee and Parish Council will offer coffee & pastry 'To Go' at the end of service.** We hope and pray this situation is temporary, and at the appropriate time we will be able to open the Parish Hall for Sunday Fellowship. **Please be respectful and patient with these guidelines.**

HYMNS FOR THE 8TH SUNDAY OF LUKE

RESURRECTION HYMN (PLAGAL 2ND TONE)

*“When the angelic powers appeared at your tomb
and those who guarded You became as though dead,
and standing by Your sepulcher 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 FOR THE MARTYRS

*“You have given us the miracles of Your holy Martyrs as an
impregnable fortress, O Christ our God. As their entreaties,
frustrate the plots of foreign enemies, and strengthen our
nation, for You alone are good and love humanity.”*

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 World,
and to our souls His great mercy.”*

KONTAKION HYMN

*“The Savior’s most pure and immaculate temple,
the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin,
who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God,
on this day is introduced into the House of the World,
and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit.
She is extolled by the Angels of God.
A heavenly tabernacle is she.”*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Orthros Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Epistle: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: St Luke 10:25-37

EIGHTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

FIRST ORTHROS GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 28:16-20

At that time, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all

nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age. Amen."

EPISTLE: ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS 2:4-10

Brethren, God who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness

toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God: not because of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 10:25-37

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live."



But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and

when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

“We thank You, loving Master, benefactor of our souls, that on this day You have made us worthy once again of Your heavenly and immortal Mysteries. Direct our ways in the right path, establish us firmly in Your fear, guard our lives, and make our endeavors safe, through the prayers and supplications of the glorious Theotokos and ever virgin Mary and of all Your saints.”

– St John Chrysostom Divine Liturgy Prayer

Dear Faithful in the Lord,

The most recent directives from the local and state authorities have reduced the number of faithful attending worship services. **Sts Peter and Paul is allowed only 25 people in the church during services.** These are difficult times. The church will continue to offer services on Sunday and during the week to allow for as many faithful to participate in the Divine Services. We will continue to live stream the Sunday Services. The office will send out the weekly sign-up for the Wednesday Evening Liturgy (5 pm), Saturday Divine Liturgy (9 am), Saturday Evening Vesper (4 pm), and Sunday Divine Liturgy (9:30 am). **Please be considerate and sign up for only one service per week.** Please allow others to sign up if you have already attended, especially if it was the prior Sunday. If at the end of the week the list is not filled, then please sign up. **Masks are mandatory for all services** (Wednesday Evening, Saturday and Sunday Liturgy). If you did not sign up or prefer not to attend on Sunday, Holy Communion will be offered from 11:30 - 12 noon. I will continue to minister to our shut ins.

We enter the Holy Period of Nativity Fast on November 15. It is important to observe the fast with prayer and thanksgiving to God. Fasting when practiced with love is a true fast for God. It is important, especially during the Fast, to make the time for spiritual reading, prayer and Holy Scripture. This will help keep our heart and mind focused on the birth of our Lord Jesus. I encourage you to turn off the TVs and Internet, and prepare a meal or baked goods for a neighbor or some one in need.

May our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ continue to strengthen and guide us as we work together as a true Church Family through these challenging days.

With love in Christ,

Father Jordan

THE JOURNEY TOWARDS BETHLEHEM: NATIVITY FAST

By Fr Anthony Christos

The Feast of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ is one of the biggest days of Christendom. Along with Pascha it is the biggest celebration in the Orthodox Church. On this day we celebrate the Incarnation of God the Word, when the Second Person of the Holy Trinity descended into the world. God became man that man may become a god by grace. Christ comes down from heaven to earth, to raise man from earth to heaven. Christ came among us to save the human race, to rebuild once again the ruined bridge of our communication with God, to restore man to his true glory, to reveal to us the will of God. Christ deeply humbled Himself to elevate us, He was born in time so we could overcome time, and He took human nature in order to deify it. This is why we feast, rejoice and celebrate.

In the early centuries of the Church the Nativity and Baptism of Christ were celebrated together on the same day, January 6th, and they went by the common name of Epiphany. In the middle of the fourth century the separate celebration of Christmas was established for December 25th, while January 6th remained by itself the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

The great importance of the Christmas / Nativity feast and the reverence of Christians for it, under the influence in those days of the Great Lent of Pascha,



led to the establishment of a preparatory period, during which the faithful would spiritually prepare to “journey” to the cave of Bethlehem. This preparatory period last 40 days, call the Nativity 40 day Fast, and it begins every year on November 15th.

We must always keep in mind that in our Church true fasting is not only about abstaining from certain foods, but also abstaining from the passions and sins. St Photios the Great says: “Fasting that is acceptable

to God is that which combines the abstention of food with the aversion of chatter, envy, hatred and other sins. The one who fasts from food, but does not temper the passions, is like one who puts a splendid foundation to a house he has built, but allows snakes, scorpions and every poisonous reptile to live within.” We thus aim for a spiritual fast during this period, to avoid sin and keep the will of God, being an embodiment of love and forgiveness and mercy, as well as striving to attain even greater virtue. In this way we will better understand and realize the words of Saint Basil the Great:

“True fasting is to alienate ourselves from all evil, all sin, all impassioned thoughts, all unclean desires.”

NEW COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Church services will continue with the revised Colorado Safer-at-Home guidelines set forth by the Governor of Colorado (please review by clicking on the button below). Church attendance will now be limited to 25 people in the Church during the services, but we will continue with offering three Divine Liturgies during the week. Due to the limited number of people allowed in, a sign-up will be sent out at the beginning of each week to give those interested the chance to attend. Please be mindful and sign up for only one of the services offered during the week.

The weekly schedule of services are as follows:

Wednesday Evening, Divine Liturgy at 5pm
Saturday Morning, Divine Liturgy at 9am
Saturday Evening, Vespers at 5pm
Sunday Morning, Divine Liturgy at 9:30am

PLEASE NOTE THAT A MASK IS REQUIRED AND TO BE PROPERLY WORN AT ALL SERVICES DURING THE WEEK.

If you do not have one or have forgotten one, a mask can be provided at the Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SATURDAY

Due to the guidelines set forth, "Saturday School" Sunday School will be cancelled for the months of November and December. Our Sunday School Director, Aaron Wall, will continue to send out updates, as well as Youth and Family Ministry activities that can be done at home.

We pray that everyone stays healthy and safe during these times. If there are any further questions or concerns, please contact the Church Office or email Shany Bateh at shany.elserougi@gmail.com.



Philoptochos 2020 Holiday Gift Card Drive

Please consider purchasing gift cards through our local Philoptochos, TODAY!

Gift cards are perfect for gift-giving for Christmas, as well as; birthdays, graduations, for those in need, and purchases you're planning to make in-store or on-line.

Over 700 retailers are available and give 2-18% of sales back to Philoptochos. 100% of all proceeds go to support those in need.

The deadline to order is November 28 for a December 6th delivery.

Lis Troicky will be taking your orders and payments. Contact Lis with any questions and to place your order: etroick@aol.com or 720-771-7786.

Thank you for your support of our Philoptochos! Follow this link to see the entire list of retailers and start shopping today!

www.stpeterandpaulboulder.org/2020-Gift-card-list.pdf



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY NOVEMBER 18TH, 10AM

We will be discussing the Great Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos, celebrated November 21. The biblical texts which will be discussed are St Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28, and Hebrews 9:1-7.



Please join via live stream zoom or in person.

ORTHODOX FAITH SERIES

Classes scheduled for November and December have been canceled due to the most recent health care restrictions. Our hope and prayer is to resume the Orthodox Christian Faith Series in January 2021. If you are interested in learning about the Orthodox Faith, please contact Father Jordan at frjordanbrown@gmail.com or 303-581-1434.



SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SATURDAY

Due to the recent restrictions issued by Boulder County, in-person Saturday School will be discontinued until further notice.

In lieu of in-person classes, we will continue to offer our At-Home Ministry series via email. We will also be exploring the possibility of offering on-line classes while restrictions remain in place. If you have any questions, please contact Aaron Wall at awall609@yahoo.com or (720) 400-6579.

YOUTH MINISTRY

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS

The November 22nd College fellowship dinner has been canceled due to the most recent health care restrictions. Our hope and prayer is to have a college fellowship dinner in January 2021.

WE CAN'T HELP WITHOUT YOU!

Last month people donated over \$150.00 worth of canned goods. Along with donations from church, I was able to deliver close to 200 cans of meat.



They were so Thankful! Let's keep it up!

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 Dzilvelis at 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), and put "Our Center" in the memo line.

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.



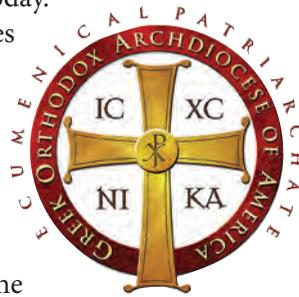


SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

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.