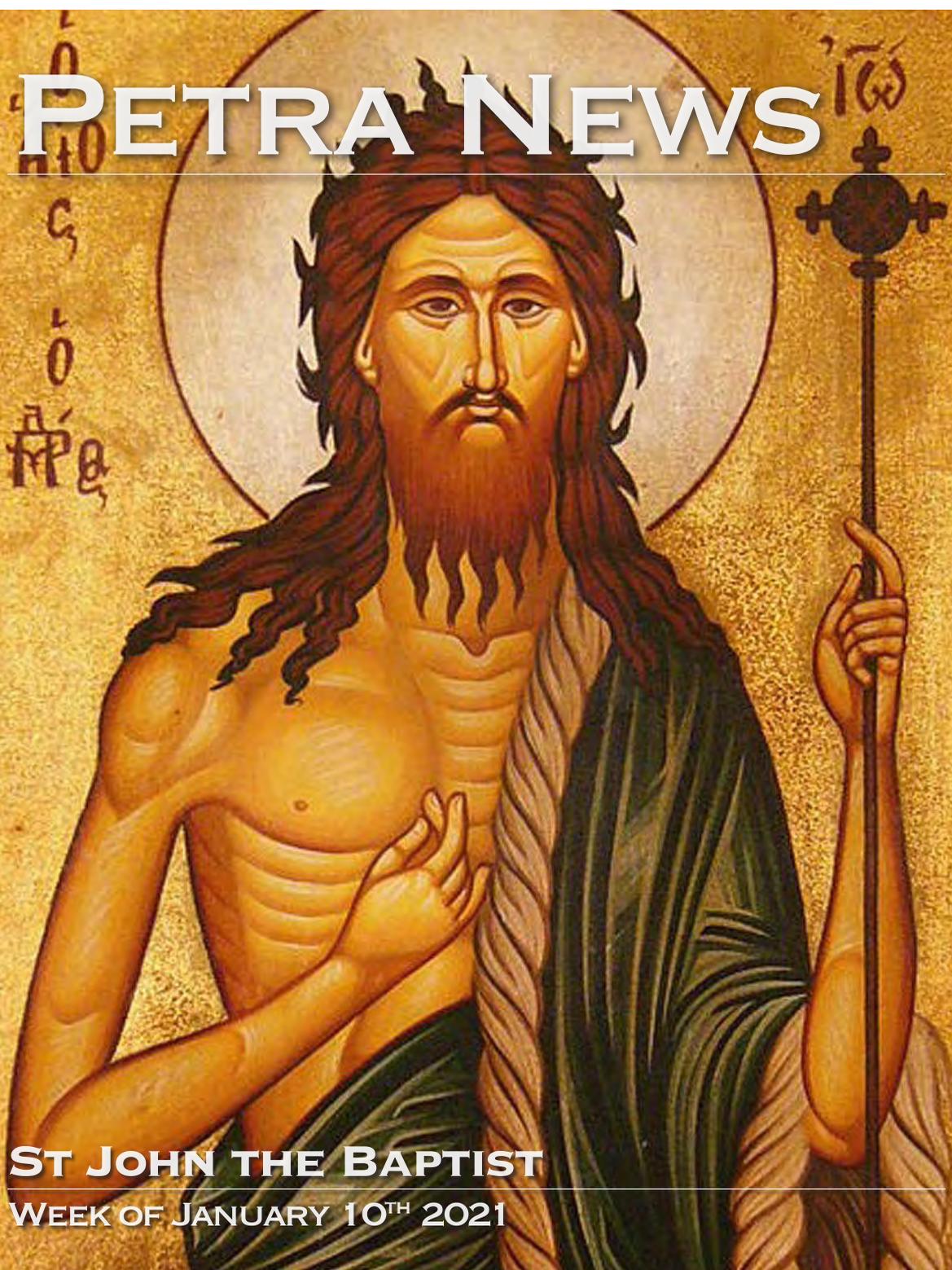


# PETRA NEWS



**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**WEEK OF JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2021**

# SUNDAY, JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2021

## STS PETER & PAUL WEEKLY SERVICES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

### Paraclesis to the Mother of God

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

### Veneration of the Chains of St. Peter

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

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

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

## THE PRAYER FOR THE CATECHUMENS

“Lord our God, Who dwells on high and watches over the humble, You sent forth Your only-begotten Son and God, our Lord Jesus Christ, for the salvation of the human race. Look down upon Your servants, the catechumens, who have inclined their necks to You, and grant them at a proper time the baptism of rebirth, the remission of sins, and the garment of incorruption. Unite them to Your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and number them among Your chosen flock.”

Baily, Chad, Justin, Natasha, Yehor

## SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

### SPECIAL EPIPHANY ANTIPHON HYMNS

“Save us, O Son of God,  
who were baptized in the Jordan by John.  
We sing to You, Alleluia.”

### HYMN FOR THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY

“When Thou was baptized in the Jordan O Lord,  
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest,  
and the Spirit in the form of a dove  
confirmed that the certainty of the Word,  
O Christ our God was has appeared  
and has enlightened the world, Glory be to Thee.”

### 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 STS PETER 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 FOR THE EPIPHANY

“You appeared today to us \* on earth, O Master,  
\* and Your light was signed on us \* who cry aloud to You and  
say \* with understanding, O Christ our God: You came and  
shone forth, O Light unapproachable.”

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Orthros Gospel; John 20:19-31  
Epistle Reading; Ephesians 4:7-13  
Gospel Reading; St. Matthew 4:12-17

# SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

## NINTH ORTHROS GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them: "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him: "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them: "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails,

and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said: "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

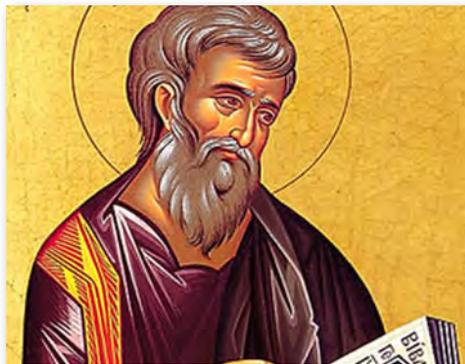
## EPISTLE: ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS 4:7-13

BRETHREN, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (in saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that

he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 4:12-17

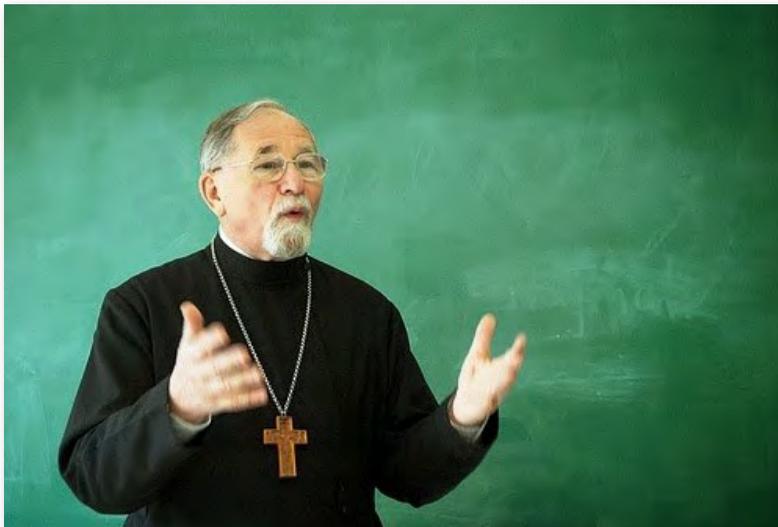
At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward



the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles, the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

# THE GRACE OF GOD HAS APPEARED

by Father Thomas Hopko



“For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all people, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ .... But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.....” (Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7)

The word for appearing in this letter is the Greek word ‘epiphania.’ And where the apostle uses the verb ‘to appear,’ again the root word in Greek is ‘epihanein.’

The grace of God, is said to make its epiphany for the salvation of all people. Divine grace shines forth so that something can happen in the lives of people while still living in this world. What happens is that we are to react to God’s grace by

specific works of conversion. We are to respond to God’s grace by renouncing impiety and worldly passions which are our lustful cravings for ego-gratification and fleshly pleasures which inevitably lead us to hostility, anger, distress, frustration and depression. All this disappears when God’s grace appears. What comes instead is sobriety and uprightness; dispassion, self-control, interior freedom and voluntary self-determination according to God’s will. This is real liberation’ the only genuine liberation that exists. All other “liberation” is in fact enslavement. For the grace of God liberates; the power of the devil, working through the ego and the flesh, enslaves.

When people respond to the grace of God that appears, the result is one of blessed hope; the happy expectation of another appearing, another ‘epiphania,’ which is that of the final “glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” which is to come at the end of the ages. In a word, the first appearing of Jesus to “redeem us from all iniquity and to purify us for Himself as a people zealous for



good deeds” results directly in our anticipation of the ultimate resolution of all things in the Lord’s second coming: the ‘epiphania’ at the end.

Thus there are two epiphanies; two manifestations and appearance. The first is for our salvation and redemption which God has accomplished in Christ “not because of any deeds done by us in righteousness, but by virtue of His own mercy.” And the second is when, being “justified (or made righteous) by His grace,” we actually enter into the eternal life of God’s kingdom. We participate in

the second only of condition that we love the first; and prove our love by our godly lives fulfilled in good deeds.

In His baptism in the Jordan, and in His subsequent ministry, the Son of God descended in the human condition to the very depths so that He might fill all things with Himself. And after His descent, He ascended into the heavens, taking us with Him into the presence of God, and giving us gifts for the sake of service. Each person has a different

gift and a different calling. Whatever it may be, it is given for the sake of building up the body of Christ, which is the Church; and for the sake of the sanctity and salvation of all. The goal of everyone is “mature person-hood: the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all people. The salvation which God’s grace brings in its appearance is that all people might do the good deeds that Christ Himself has done, and so attain unto the measure of the stature of His fullness, thus being filled with all the fullness of God. The apostle Paul sums this up for himself in this 2nd letter to Timothy.

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing - ‘epiphania.’ (2nd Tim 4:7-8)

## COVID-19 GUIDELINES UPDATE 1/10/2020

---

The revised Colorado Safer-at-Home guidelines set forth by the Governor of Colorado allow Sts Peter Paul to 45 people in Church during the services.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT MASKS ARE REQUIRED AND TO BE PROPERLY WORN AT ALL SERVICES INCLUDING ALL WEEKDAY SERVICES.**

Please be considerate and **sign up for only one of the weekend services** (Divine Liturgy). 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 (Saturday evening), the list is not filled, then please sign up. If you did not sign up or prefer not to attend on Sunday, please contact Father Jordan (frjordanbrown@gmail.com or 720-329-5212. Arrangements can be made to receive Holy Communion during the week.

**The weekly schedule of services are as follows:**

- Wednesday, January 13, Paraclesis 6pm  
*No sign-up required*
- Saturday, January 16, Divine Liturgy 9am  
*Sign-up required*
- Sunday, January 17, Divine Liturgy, 9:30am  
*Sign-up required*

**The fellowship Hall will remain closed on Sundays. The Welcome committee and members of the Parish Council will offer coffee & pastry 'To Go' at the end of service. Due to recent restrictions, in person Sunday School, Classes and Bible Studies are discontinued until further notice. The Wednesday Bible Study is available via 'zoom.' Father Jordan will offer a youth discussion via 'zoom' beginning December 5th (details TBA).**

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY JANUARY, 10TH

---

*Please return your stewardship cards today by dropping in the collection basket or by mailing to the church. We have a goal of receiving all cards no later than January 31.*

*Thank you!*

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING OF HOMES 2021

Father Jordan will begin blessing homes on the Feast of Epiphany, January 6th. Father will be blessing all the homes of our parish. The house blessing schedule will be going out next week. House blessings will be a little different for 2021. Father Jordan will be blessing only the entrance of the home. If you are new to our parish or have any questions for Father, please contact him.



## ADULT EDUCATION

### WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Classes will resume on February 3rd

### ORTHODOX FAITH SERIES

If you are interested in learning about the Orthodox Faith, please contact Father Jordan at [frjordanbrown@gmail.com](mailto:frjordanbrown@gmail.com) or 303-581-1434. The Orthodox Christian Faith Classes will begin on Sunday, February 7th, 11:30 pm - 12:30 pm. The class will take place in the church



## 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.



## GROCERY GIFT CARDS

Remember to purchase your grocery gift cards and old Chicago pizza Palz from Julie Powers on Sunday or contact her directly at [powerjulie@gmail.com](mailto:powerjulie@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SATURDAY, IS BACK!

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 16TH  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 30TH  
5 PM TO 7 PM**

**Sunday School on Saturday** classes are back and are being offered for children in pre-school and elementary school. We will start with Great Vespers at 5pm, followed by a meal and classes. Please contact Aaron Wall if you have any questions: (720) 400-6579; [awall609@yahoo.com](mailto:awall609@yahoo.com)



## YOUTH MINISTRY

**FIRESIDE CHAT  
(MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 23**

Sts Peter Paul will host a Fireside Chat for our teens (middle and high school age only) beginning Saturday, January 23th. We will meet for evening prayer, Vespers at 5 pm, and gather for dinner and discussion in the parish hall (5:45pm / 6pm). We will gather in a safe distance manner. If you have any 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.



## SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

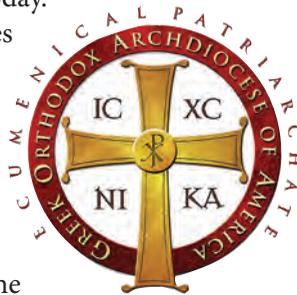
---

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

### PHILOTOCHOS

---

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.