

PETRA NEWS

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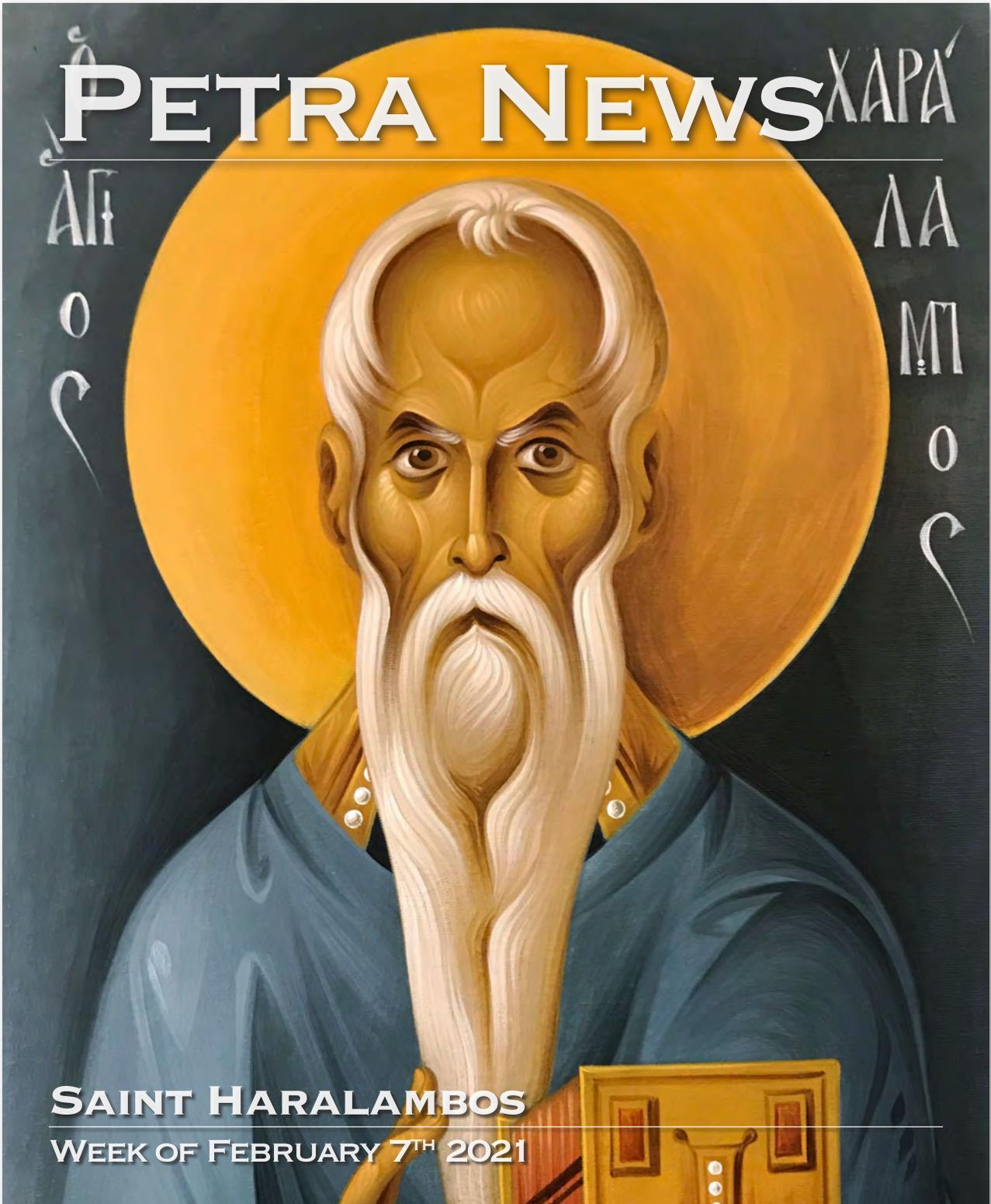
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SAINT HARALAMBOS

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7TH 2021



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH 2021

STS PETER & PAUL WEEKLY SERVICES

FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12

St Meletios

Orthros _____ 8:15am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9am

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 12

Paraclesis to the Mother of God /

Sacrament of Holy Unction _____ 6pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Readers Vespers _____ 5pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Orthros _____ 8:15am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9:30am

Sign-up required

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, Natasha,
Yehor, Kate*

HYMNS FOR 16TH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

RESURRECTIONAL 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 heaven’s powers did proclaim and cry out O life giving Christ and our God we give glory.”

HYMN FOR ST NIKIFOROS THE LEPER & WONDERWORKER (PRAYING FOR INTERCESSIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC)

*“All the Angels were awestruck by the courage and fortitude of Saint Nikiforos the Leper in ascetic deeds and contests, for like another Job he suffered pains with patience, ever glorifying God, who has crowned him now with glory, granting him grace to work great and wondrous miracles.
Rejoice, O guide of monastics and their aid,
Rejoice, O shining beacon of light,
Rejoice for your relics now exude a fragrance bringing joy to all.”*

HYMN FOR THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

*“Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness.
And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection.”*

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 PRESENTATION

*“You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us.
Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity.”*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Orthros Gospel; Mark 16:1-8

Epistle Reading; II Cor 6:1-10

Gospel Reading; St. Matthew 25:14-30

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

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: ST. PAUL'S SECOND LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS 6:1-10

Brethren, working together with him, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge,

forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 25:14-30

The Lord said this parable: "A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good

and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' As he said these things he cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

SAINT HARALAMBOS

Celebrated February 10th

Saint Haralambos, Bishop of Magnesia (Asia Minor), successfully spread faith in Christ the Savior, guiding people on the way to salvation. News of this preaching reached Lucian, the governor of the district, and the military commander Lucius. The saint was arrested and brought to trial, where he confessed his faith in Christ and refused to offer sacrifices to idols.

Despite the bishops' advanced age (he was 113 years old), he was subjected to monstrous tortures. They lacerated his body with iron hooks, and scraped all the skin from his body with iron hooks, scraped all the skin from his body. During this the saint turned to his tormentors, "I thank you, brethren, that you have restored my spirit, which longs to pass over to a new and everlasting life!"

Seeing the Elder's endurance and his complete lack of malice, two soldiers (Porphyrios and Baptus) openly confessed Christ, for which they were immediately beheaded with a sword. Three women who were watching the sufferings of Saint Haralambos also began to glorify Christ, and were quickly martyred.

The enraged Lucius seized the instruments of torture and began to torture the holy martyr, but

suddenly his forearms were cut off as if by a sword. The governor then spat in the face of the saint, and immediately his head was turned around so that he faced backwards.

Then Lucius entreated the saint to show mercy on him, and both torturers were healed through the prayers of Saint Haralambos. During this a multitude of witnesses came to believe in Christ. Among them also was Lucius, who fell at the feet of the holy bishop, asking to be baptized.

Lucian reported these events to the emperor Septimus (193-211), who was then at Pisidian Antioch (western Asia Minor). The emperor ordered Saint Haralambos to be brought to Antioch. Soldiers twisted the saint's beard into a rope, wound it around his neck, and

used it to drag him along. They also drove an iron nail into his body. The emperor then ordered them to torture the bishop more intensely, and they began to burn him with fire, a little at a time. But God protected the saint, and he remained unharmed.

Many miracles were worked through his prayer: he raised a dead youth, and healed a man tormented by devils for thirty-five years, so that many people began to believe in Christ the Savior. Even Galina,



the daughter of the emperor, began to believe in Christ, and twice smashed the idols in a pagan temple. On the orders of the emperor they beat the saint about the mouth with stones. They also wanted to set his beard on fire, but the flames burned the torturer.

Full of wickedness, Septimus and an official named Crispus hurled blasphemy at the Lord, mockingly summoning Him to come down to the earth, and boasting of their own power and might. The Lord sent an earthquake, and great fear fell upon all, the impious ones were both suspended in mid-air held by invisible bonds, and only by the prayer of the saint were they put down. The dazed emperor was shaken in his former impiety, but again quickly fell into error and gave orders to torture the saint.

And finally, the emperor sentenced Saint Haralambos to beheading with a sword. During Saint Haralambos's final prayer, the heavens opened and the saint saw the Savior and a multitude of angels. The holy martyr asked Him to grant that the place where his relics would repose would never suffer famine or disease. He also begged that there would be peace, prosperity, and an abundance of fruit, grains, and wine in that place, and that the souls of these people would be saved. The Lord promised to fulfill his request and ascended to heaven, and the soul of the hieromartyr Haralambos followed after Him. By the mercy of God, the saint died before he could be executed. Galina buried the martyr's body with great honor.

A SAINT FOR ALL TIMES

First, the name Haralambos is complex. It consists of the noun hara (which means joy) and the verb lambo (which means to shine). Truly, Saint Haralambos had a face that shined and radiated the perfect joy. "Perfect joy resides in humility, while the joy of beginners is not free of the imagination," wrote St. Diadochos). He had a peaceful, serene and cheerful disposition, even during the time of his horrible torture.

Joy is not a mere sentiment or feeling, but the fruit of the Holy Spirit, given to those who with the sacramental life and asceticism purified their nous and heart from the passions and the joy of the Holy Spirit came to dwell within them. Joy is closely linked with humility and repentance. When a person repents and returns to God, then all of heaven rejoices, Saints and Angels. "There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who repents" (Luke 15:7). And when the same repents sincerely, they receive the forgiveness of their sins and taste the grace of the Holy Spirit, according to their receptivity.

Joy is associated with selfless love, which is also a fruit of the Holy Spirit. In the Parable of the Prodigal Son, spoken by Christ, we clearly see how joy is closely associated with true love. When the prodigal son returns to his familial home 'the Church,' his father 'the Holy Triune God' runs to meet him with open arms. He dresses him in the brilliant outfit of Divine Grace, gives him the ring of sonship, sacrifices the fatted calf 'His Only-begotten Son,' and they rejoice and are glad.

Saint Haralambos did not abandon his flock in the time of danger. So it is with the genuine disciples of Christ. They do not sacrifice others that they may live, but they are sacrificed for their flock, for whom, moreover, they toil daily with great selflessness and willingness.

ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS OF AMERICA

PASTORAL VISIT TO THE METROPOLIS OF DENVER



His Eminence, Archbishop Elpidophoros of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America will be making his first pastoral visit to the Metropolis of Denver, February 13 & 14, 2021. **His Eminence will be celebrating Great Vespers on**

Saturday, February 13, at the St Catherine Parish in Greenwood Village. His Eminence will celebrate the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy with Metropolitan Isaiah at the Assumption Cathedral on Sunday, February 14. The services will be live-streamed. Please go to the St Catherines and Assumption Cathedral for details for live-streaming the services. **Father Jordan will be welcoming the Archbishop on Saturday along with the Denver and Front Range area clergy and will be serving Saturday Great Vespers with the Archbishop Elpidophoros and Metropolitan Isaiah.**

2021 STEWARDS, AS OF JANUARY 30TH

If you do not see your name on this list, and you have returned your stewardship card, please contact Nicole Tsiouvaras, tsiouvaras@msn.com or 303-489-4491

Gaynel Andrusko	Michelle Mann
Ileana Barbu	Matt Melonakis
Shanyn & Michael Bateh	Terry & Nena Melonakis
Fr. Jordan & Pres. Marika Brown	Nick Pappas & Joanna Johnson
Pres. Kedrann Dotson	Nick G. Pappas
Ashley & Steve Dzilvelis	Jim & Julie Powers
Angela Egeberg	Juli Sarris
Eric & Keity Elias	Eissa & Samira Serougi
Dana Gall	Voula Skodras
Katherine Gerakos	Manny & Candy Soulakis
Jane Garrity	Pete & Cindy Stamus
Laila Ghazzawi	Jan Marose-Swiszcz & Paul Swiszcz
Steven & Yoana Georgis	Dena & Dean Tinsley
Brian Gregory	Nicole & George Tsiouvaras
Philip & Jennifer Haratsaris	Nicholas V Tsiouvaras
Melanie & Oliver Huskey	Aaron & Viktoryia Wall
Nick Kallan & Danielle Cavallaro	Julie & David Welker
Nuha Kapatayes	Photini Westover
Rick Leonidas	Sheila & Jim Zissimos
Mary Lymberopoulos	Zoe Zwierzynski

COVID-19 GUIDELINES UPDATE 2/7/2020

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 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 is available via 'zoom.' Father Jordan will offer a youth discussion via 'zoom' beginning December 5th (details TBA).

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF HOMES 2021

Father Jordan will continue blessing homes this month. If you are new to our parish, please contact Father Jordan to schedule your house blessing. Frjordanbrown@gmail.com 303-581-1434



ADULT EDUCATION

ORTHODOX FAITH SERIES

The Orthodox Christian Faith Class will begin today, Sunday, February 7th. Class will begin at 11:30 am and end around 12:15 / 12:30 pm. We will be meeting in the church. If you are interesting in learning about the Orthodox Christian Faith and/or becoming an Orthodox Christian, please join us for class. Father Jordan will be leading, and providing the reading material. If you have any questions, please contact Father Jordan @ frjordanbrown@gmail.com or 303-581-1434.

Today's class topic:

What is the Church: Founded by Jesus Christ

"Christ's Church is not an institution, it is a new life with Christ and in Christ, directed by the Holy Spirit." – Sergius Bulgakov

YOUTH MINISTRY

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH FATHER JORDAN PLEASE JOIN US SATURDAY, FEB 20TH

Sts Peter Paul will host a Fireside Chat for our teens (middle and high school age only) on Saturday, February 20th. We will meet for evening prayer, Vespers at 5 pm, and gather for dinner in the parish hall (5:45pm / 6pm). Discussion 6:30pm - 7:30pm. We will gather in a safe distance manner. If you have any questions, please contact Father Jordan.

BIBLE STUDY: LENTEN SERIES

FRIDAY MORNINGS DURING LENT: 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM BEGINNING IN MARCH

Questions please contact Father Jordan at frjordanbrown@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SATURDAY!

SATURDAY, FEB 20TH 5 PM TO 7 PM

Schedule:

5pm Vespers (Evening Prayers)

5:45pm Dinner

6pm - 7pm Breakout Classes by Age / Grade

Father Jordan will be meeting with the middle & high school young adults in the church, 6pm - 7pm.



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.

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.





SAINTS PETER & PAUL

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Icon of the Theotokos “Sweet-Kissing”
by Ileana Barbu

ABOUT OUR PARISH

We welcome visitors worshiping 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

Nick Kallan - President
Steven Dzilvelis - Vice President
Brian Gregory - Treasurer
Philip Haratsaris - Secretary
Michael Bateh
Oliver Huskey
Kostas Pagratis
George Saliba

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.