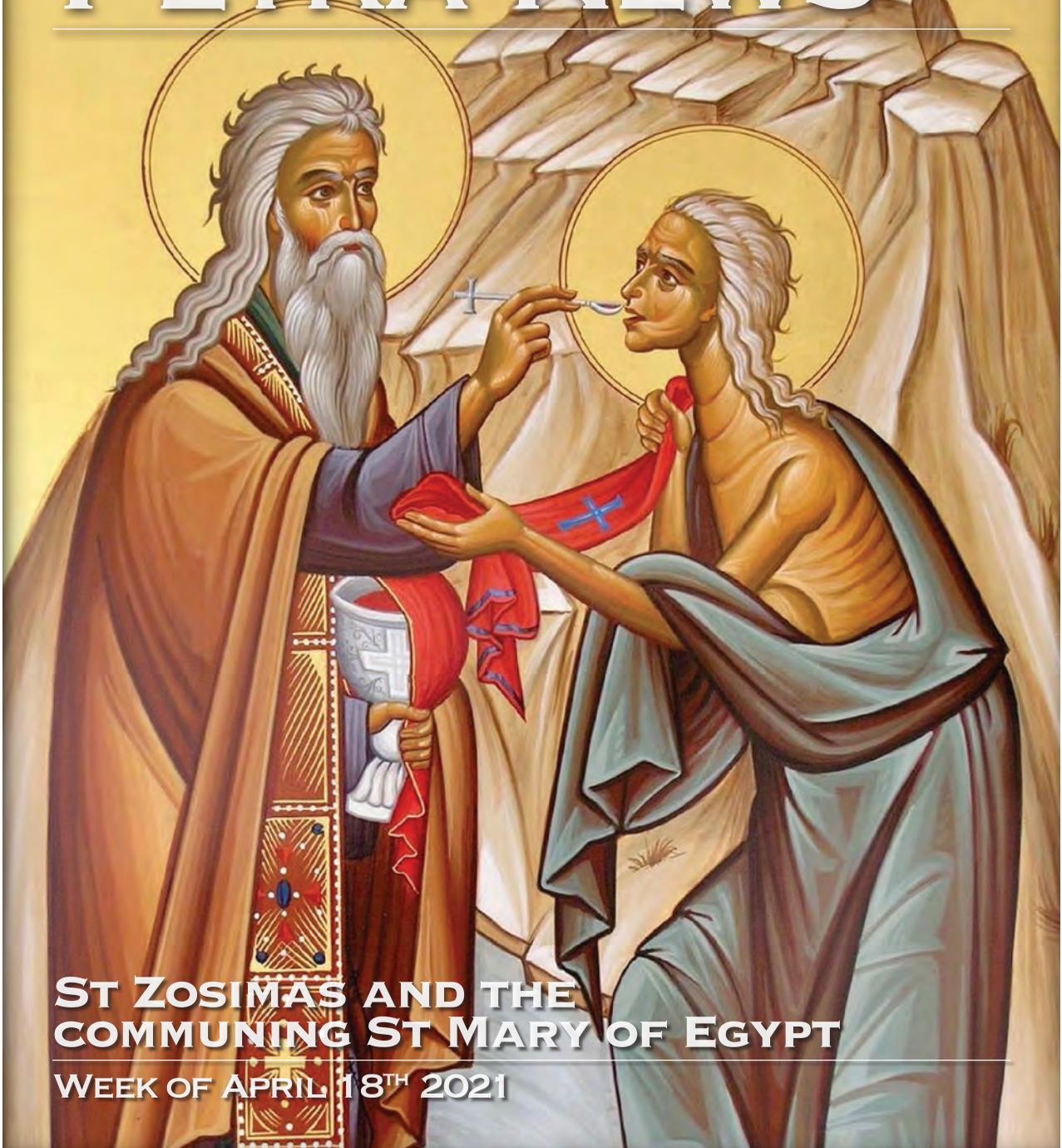


Ὁ ἍΓΙΟΣ ΖΩΣΙΜᾶΣ Ἡ ΟὐΝΙΑ ΜΑΡΙΑ Ἡ ΑἴΓΥΠΤΙΑ.

PETRA NEWS



**ST ZOSIMAS AND THE
COMMUNING ST MARY OF EGYPT**

WEEK OF APRIL 18TH 2021

SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH 2021

WEEKLY SERVICES

MONDAY, APRIL 19

Great Compline _____ 6pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

Presanctified Liturgy _____ 5:30pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

Great Vespers _____ 6pm

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 24

Saturday of Lazarus

Orthros _____ 8am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9am

SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 24

Great Vespers _____ 5pm

LITURGY OF SAINT BASIL

We celebrate the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil on the Sundays during Great Lent. The supplemental prayers are available in the Church Narthex for you to prayerfully participate with the clergy and chanters.

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 ST MARY OF EGYPT

RESURRECTIONAL HYMN (4TH TONE)

“When the tidings of the Resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished to the Apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore and Christ our God has Risen from the dead and granted to the world His great mercy.”

HYMN FOR SAINT MARY OF EGYPT

“In you, O Mother, is preserved undistorted what was made in the image of God; for taking up the cross, you followed Christ and by example taught, that we should overlook the flesh, since it passes away, and instead look after the soul, since it is immortal. And therefore, O devout Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels.”

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

“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; Matthew 28:16-20
Epistle; Hebrews 9:11-14
Gospel; Mark 10:32-45*

SUNDAY OF ST MARY OF EGYPT

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 HEBREWS 9:11-14

BRETHREN, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For

if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism



with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

SUNDAY OF SAINT MARY OF EGYPT

On the Fifth Sunday of Lent the Orthodox Church commemorates our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt. The feast day of Saint Mary of Egypt is April 1, however, she is also commemorated on this Sunday due to her recognition by the Church as a model of repentance.

Our holy mother Mary was born in Egypt. She had left her parents at the age of twelve to go to Alexandria, where she spent the next seventeen years in debauchery and the greatest profligacy. Living on charity and linen-weaving, she nevertheless offered her body to any man, not being forced to it by dire necessity as were so many poor women, but as though she were consumed by the fire of a desire that nothing was able to appease.

One day, seeing a crowd of Libyans and Egyptians moving towards the port, she followed them and set sail with them for Jerusalem, offering her body to pay her fare. When they arrived in the Holy City, she followed the crowd that was thronging towards the Church of the Resurrection, it being the day of the Exaltation of the Cross. But, when she reached the threshold of the church, an invisible force prevented her entering in spite of repeated efforts on her part, although the other pilgrims were able to go in without hindrance. Left alone in a corner of the narthex, she began to realize that it was the impurity of her life that was preventing her approaching the holy Wood. She burst into tears and smote her breast and, seeing an icon of the Mother of God, made this prayer

to her: “O Sovereign Lady, who didst bear God in the flesh, I know that I should not dare to look upon thine icon, thou who are pure in soul and body, because, debauched as I am, I must fill thee with disgust. But, as the God born of thee became



man in order to call sinners to repentance, come to my aid! Allow me to go into the church and prostrate before His Cross. And, as soon as I have seen the Cross, I promise that I will renounce the world and all pleasures, and follow the path of salvation that thou willest to show me.”

She felt herself suddenly freed from the power that had held her and was able to enter the church. There she fervently venerated the Holy Cross and then, returning to the icon of the Mother of God, declared herself ready to follow the path that the Virgin would

show her. A voice replied to her from on high: “If you cross the Jordan, you will find rest.”

Leaving the church, she bought three loaves with the alms a pilgrim had given her, discovered which road led to the Jordan and arrived one evening at the Church of Saint John the Baptist. After having washed in the river, she received Communion in the Holy Mysteries, ate half of one of the loaves and went to sleep on the riverbank. The next morning, she crossed the river and lived from that time on in the desert, remaining there for forty-seven years without ever encountering either another human being or any animal.

During the first seventeen years, her clothes soon

having fallen into rags, burning with heat by day and shivering with cold by night, she fed on herbs and wild roots. But more than the physical trials, she had to face violent assaults from the passions and the memory of her sins and, throwing herself on the ground, she implored the Mother of God to come to her aid. Protected by God, who desires nothing but that the sinner should turn to Him and live, she uprooted all the passions from her heart by means of this extraordinary asceticism, and was able to turn the fire of carnal desire into a flame of divine love that made it possible for her to endure the implacable desert with joy, as though she were not in the flesh.

After all these years, a holy elder called Zosimas (April 4), who, following the tradition instituted by Saint Euthymios, had gone into the desert across the Jordan for the period of the Great Fast, saw one day a human form with a body blackened by the sun and with hair white as bleached linen to its shoulders. He ran after this apparition that fled before him, begging it to give him its blessing and some saving words. When he came within ear-shot, Mary, calling by name him whom she had never seen, revealed to him that she was a woman and asked him to throw her his cloak that she might cover her nakedness.

At the urging of the monk, who was transported at having at last met a God-bearing being who had attained the perfection of monastic life, the Saint recounted to him with tears the story of her life and conversion. Then, having finished her account, she begged him to come the following year to the bank of the Jordan with Holy Communion.

When the day arrived, Zosimas saw Mary appearing on the further bank of the river. She made the sign of the Cross and crossed the Jordan, walking on the water. Having received Holy

Communion weeping, she said: “Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation” (Luke 2:29). She then took leave of Zosimas, asking him to meet her the following year in the place where they had first met.

When the year was past, Zosimas, going to the agreed spot, found the Saint’s body stretched on the ground, her arms crossed and her face turned towards the East. His tearful emotion prevented him from noticing at once an inscription traced on the ground by the Saint, which read: “Abba Zosimas, bury here the body of the humble Mary; give what is of dust to dust, after having prayed for me. I died on the first day of April, the very night of the Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, after having partaken in the Holy Eucharist.” Consoled in his grief by having learned the Saint’s name, Zosimas was amazed to discover that she had, in several hours, covered a distance of more than twenty days’ march.

After having vainly tried to break up the earth with a stick, he suddenly saw a lion approaching Mary’s body and licking her feet. On the orders of the Elder, the beast dug a hole with its claws, in which Zosimas devoutly placed the Saint’s body.

On his return to the monastery, he recounted the marvels that God had wrought for those who turn away from sin and move towards Him with all their hearts. From the hardened sinner that she had been, Mary has, for a great many souls crushed under the burden of sin, become a source of hope and a model of conversion. This is why the Holy Fathers have placed the celebration of her memory at the end of the Great Fast as an encouragement for all who have neglected their salvation, proclaiming that repentance can bring them back to God even at the eleventh hour.

UPCOMING SERVICES

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS, APRIL 24

Orthros _____ 8am
Divine Liturgy _____ 9am
Pancake Breakfast Palm Folding _____ 10:30am

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 25

1st Divine Liturgy 8:30 am (Orthros 7:15 am)
2nd Divine Liturgy _____ 10:30am

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY EVENING, APRIL 25

Bridegroom Service _____ 6pm

HOLY MONDAY, APRIL 26

Presanctified Liturgy _____ 9am
Bridegroom Service _____ 6pm

HOLY TUESDAY, APRIL 27

Presanctified Liturgy _____ 7am
Bridegroom Service _____ 6pm

HOLY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

Holy Unction _____ 10am
Holy Unction _____ 6pm

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 29

Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper _____ 9am
Passion Service / 12 Gospels _____ 6pm

HOLY FRIDAY, APRIL 30

Royal Hours _____ 9am
Preparing the Kouvouklion
(Jesus Tomb) _____ 11am
Apokathelosis
(Taking Christ down from the Cross) _____ 2pm
Lamentations _____ 6pm

HOLY SATURDAY, MAY 1

Divine Liturgy of the Resurrection _____ 9am
Vigil _____ 11:30pm

HOLY PASCHA, MAY 2

Anastasi Resurrection
Orthros / Divine Liturgy _____ 12am
Agape Vespers _____ 12 noon
Pascha Easter Lunch _____ 1pm

COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Updated 4/18/2021 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: MASK IS REQUIRED AND TO BE PROPERLY WORN AT ALL SERVICES, INCLUDING ALL WEEKDAY SERVICES.

Please sign up for one of the following services for Palm Sunday, April 25th:

1st Divine Liturgy _____ 8:30am
2nd Divine Liturgy _____ 10:30am

Please be considerate and allow others to sign-up if you have already attended either the Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy or Sunday Divine Liturgy. If at the end of the week (Saturday Evening), and the Sunday list is not filled, then please sign-up. If you did not sign-up for Sunday, and we have reached the maximum number allowed by the county, you are welcome to participate from the exonarthex (outside entrance into the church). There are chairs placed at the outside entrance of the church. The parish hall will be open to accommodate the overflow of people. Those outside and in the hall are welcome to come inside the church at the end of service for the sacrament of Holy Communion.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORTHODOX FAITH SERIES

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 12 NOON
TOPIC: SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Orthodox Christian Faith Class will meet today after the Divine Liturgy. Class will begin at (12 noon). We will be meeting in the parish hall (upstairs classroom). 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.

ICONS FOR GREAT LENT

The Church offers special icons during the Great and Holy Lent. If you would like to help with donating an icon for the Lenten Season, please see Father Jordan. The icons are from the Life Giving Women's Monastery located in Dunlap, California.

Icons needed for Great Lent:

Sunday of Orthodoxy, St Gregory Palamas, Crucifixion of our Lord, St John of the Ladder, St Mary of Egypt, Palm Sunday, Raising of Lazarus, Resurrection. (suggested donation \$400) Questions, please contact Father Jordan @ frjordanbrown@gmail.com.

HOLY WEEK FLOWERS

The church is accepting donations for the Holy Week Flowers. There is a special offering basket in the Narthex. Thank you



PASCHA EGGS

We need eggs for Pascha. A handful of parishioners have graciously offered to prepare the red eggs for Pascha. If you are able, please donate a dozen brown natural raw eggs, and bring them on Palm Sunday, Holy Monday or Holy Tuesday. Thank you



YOUTH MINISTRY, APRIL SCHEDULE:

SATURDAY OF LAZARUS RETREAT
APRIL 24, 9 AM - 12 NOON.

We are planning a special retreat for our youth on the Feast of Lazarus. The Divine Liturgy will begin at 9am. The children will prepare the palm crosses for Palm Sunday. A Lenten Pancake Breakfast will be offered.

HOLY FRIDAY YOUTH RETREAT
FRIDAY, APRIL 30

We are planning a special youth retreat for Holy Friday. The children will help with the decorating of Christ's tomb. The retreat will begin at 11am, and end with the Taking down of Christ, at 2pm.

2021 PHOTO DIRECTORIES

2021 Photo Directories have arrived! See Nicole Tsiouvaras after Liturgy for your copy. One copy per family please. Directories will also be delivered to families that cannot make it to church. Watch your email for more information.



PHILOPTOCHOS

2021 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our annual membership drive has begun! If you would like to join this amazing charitable organization or renew your membership, fill out the membership form (available in the Narthex or by the south exit) and return it to Lis Troicky or Julie Powers by Sunday May 9. If you have any questions, contact Lis at etroick@aol.com, 720-771-7786

PASCHA BAKE SALE FUND RAISER

Philoptochos of Sts Peter & Paul is happy to announce their Pascha BAKE SALE Fund Raiser. Place your order for Greek specialty cookies (baklava, koulourakia, kourebeithes, paximathia, finikia) or a loaf of Tsourekis by Sunday, April 18th for pick up Sunday April 25th. Suggested cookies donation \$20, Tsourekis donation \$15. Order forms are available in the Narthex and the south exit.



SAINTS PETER & PAUL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

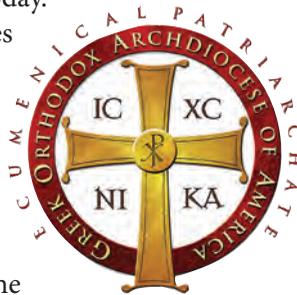
5640 Jay Road, Boulder, CO 80301
303.581.1434 • stspeterandpaulboulder.org

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

ABOUT OUR PARISH

We welcome visitors 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
frjordanbrown@gmail.com

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.