

PETRO NEWS

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2025

OF

GEORGIA



Memory Eternal

Please join us in prayer for the 40-day memorial of John Konidaris.

May his memory be eternal.

This Week's Services

Tuesday, January 14

St. Sava & St. Nina

Divine Liturgy _____ 8:00am

Friday, January 17

St. Anthony the Great

Orthros _____ 8:30am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9:30am

Saturday, January 18

Vespers _____ 5:00pm

Sunday, January 19

Orthros _____ 8:30am

Divine Liturgy _____ 9:30am

Fellowship Hour

Thank you to The Saint Constantine School for hosting fellowship today!

1/19: Andreyev Family

1/26: Ileana Barbu and Dana Gall

2/2: OPEN

Fellowship hosts are needed!

We invite you to sign up to host Fellowship Hour by visiting our website at stspeterandpaulboulder.org/fellowship. Pair up with a friend or another family, and plan to offer something easy, such as donuts or bagels!

Hymns for the Sunday after Theophany

Special Theophany Antiphon Hymn:

Save us, O Son of God, who was baptized in the Jordan by John, we sing to You, Alleluia.

Apolytikion of Theophany, Mode 1

When Thou wast baptized in the Jordan, O Lord, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son.

And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the certainty of the word.

O Christ our God,

Who hast appeared and hast enlightened the world, glory be to Thee.

Resurrection Apolytikion, Mode 4

Having learned the joyful proclamation of the Resurrection from the angel, and having cast off the ancestral condemnation, the women disciples spoke to the Apostles triumphantly: Death is despoiled, and Christ God is risen, granting great mercy unto the world.

Apolytikion of our Patron Saints, Mode 4

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 of Theophany, Mode 4

On this day Thou hast appeared unto the whole world, and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, is signed on us who sing Thy praise and chant with knowledge Thou hast now come, Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

Scripture Readings for the Sunday after Theophany

The Orthros Gospel according to John, 20:1-10

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb



first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths, but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

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 maturity, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

The Gospel according to Matthew, 4:12-17

At that time, Jesus when 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."

St. Nino (Nina)

January 14

The virgin Nino of Cappadocia was a relative of Great-martyr George and the only daughter of a widely respected and honorable couple. Her father was a Roman army chief by the name of Zabulon, and her mother, Sosana, was the sister of Patriarch Juvenal of Jerusalem. When Nino reached the age of twelve, her parents sold all their possessions and moved to Jerusalem. Soon after, Nino's father was tonsured a monk. He bid farewell to his family and went to labor in the wilderness of the Jordan.

After Sosana had been separated from her husband, Patriarch Juvenal ordained her a deaconess. She left her daughter Nino in the care of an old woman, Sara Niaphor, who raised her in the Christian Faith and related to her the stories of Christ's life and His suffering on earth. It was from Sara that Nino learned how Christ's Robe had arrived in Georgia, a country of pagans.

Soon Nino began to pray fervently to the Theotokos, asking for her blessing to travel to Georgia and be made worthy to venerate the Sacred Robe that she had woven for her beloved Son. The Most Holy Virgin heard her prayers and appeared to Nino in a dream, saying, "Go to the country that was assigned to me by lot and preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will send down His grace upon you and I will be your protector."

But the blessed Nino was overwhelmed at the thought of such a great responsibility and answered, "How can I, a fragile woman, perform such a momentous task, and how can I believe that this vision is real?" In response, the Most Holy Theotokos presented her with a cross of grapevines and proclaimed, "Receive this cross as

a shield against visible and invisible enemies!"

When she awoke, Nino was holding the cross in her hands. She dampened it with tears of rejoicing and tied it securely with strands of her own hair. (According to another source, the Theotokos bound the grapevine cross with strands of her own hair.)

Nino related the vision to her uncle, Patriarch Juvenal, and revealed to him her desire to preach the Gospel in Georgia. Juvenal led her in front of the Royal Doors, laid his hands on her, and prayed, "O Lord, God of Eternity, I beseech Thee on behalf of my orphaned niece: Grant that, according to Thy will, she may go to preach and proclaim Thy Holy Resurrection. O Christ God, be Thou to her a guide, a refuge, and a spiritual father. And as Thou didst enlighten the Apostles and all those who feared Thy name, do Thou also enlighten her with the wisdom to proclaim Thy glad tidings."

When Nino arrived in Rome, she met and baptized the princess Rhipsimia and her nurse, Gaiana. At that time the Roman emperor was Diocletian, a ruler infamous for persecuting Christians.

Diocletian (284-305) fell in love with Rhipsimia and resolved to marry her, but Saint Nino, Rhipsimia, Gaiana, and fifty other virgins escaped to Armenia. The furious Diocletian ordered his soldiers to follow them and sent a messenger to Tiridates, the Armenian king (286-344), to put him on guard.

King Tiridates located the women and, following Diocletian's example, was charmed by Rhipsimia's beauty and resolved to marry her. But Saint Rhipsimia would not consent to wed him, and in

his rage the king had her tortured to death with Gaiana and the fifty other virgins. Saint Nino, however, was being prepared for a different, greater task, and she succeeded in escaping King Tiridates' persecutions by hiding among some rose bushes.

When she finally arrived in Georgia, Saint Nino was greeted by a group of Mtskheta shepherds near Lake Paravani, and she received a blessing from God to preach to the pagans of this region.

With the help of her acquaintances Saint Nino soon reached the city of Urnisi. She remained there a month, then traveled to Mtskheta with a group of Georgians who were making a pilgrimage to venerate the pagan idol Armazi. There she watched with great sadness as the Georgian people trembled before the idols. She was exceedingly sorrowful and prayed to the Lord, "O Lord, send down Thy mercy upon this nation... that all nations may glorify Thee alone, the One True God, through Thy Son, Jesus Christ."

Suddenly a violent wind began to blow and hail fell from the sky, shattering the pagan statues. The terrified worshipers fled, scattering across the city.

Saint Nino made her home beneath a bramble bush in the garden of the king, with the family of the royal gardener. The gardener and his wife were childless, but through Saint Nino's prayers God granted them a child. The couple rejoiced exceedingly, declared Christ to be the True God, and became disciples of Saint Nino. Wherever Saint Nino went, those who heard her preach converted to the Christian Faith in great numbers.

Saint Nino even healed the terminally ill Queen Nana after she declared Christ to be the True God.

King Mirian, a pagan, was not at all pleased with the great impression Saint Nino's preaching had made on the Georgian nation. One day while he was out hunting, he resolved to kill all those who followed Christ.

According to his wicked scheme, even his wife, Queen Nana, would face death for failing to renounce the Christian Faith. But in the midst of the hunt, it suddenly became very dark. All alone, King Mirian became greatly afraid and prayed in vain for the help of the pagan gods. When his prayers went unanswered, he finally lost hope and, miraculously, he turned to Christ: "God of Nino, illumine this night for me and guide my footsteps, and I will declare Thy Holy Name. I will erect a cross and venerate it and I will construct for Thee a temple. I vow to be obedient to Nino and to the Faith of the Roman people!"

Suddenly the night was transfigured, the sun shone radiantly, and King Mirian gave great thanks to the Creator. When he returned to the city, he immediately informed Saint Nino of his decision. As a result of the unceasing labors of Equal-to-the-Apostles Nino, Georgia was established as a nation solidly rooted in the Christian Faith.

Saint Nino reposed in the village of Bodbe in eastern Georgia and, according to her will, she was buried in the place where she took her last breath. King Mirian later erected a church in honor of Saint George over her grave.

Events & Announcements

Bible Study

Wednesdays at 9:30^{am}

Fr. Gabriel will continue the study of St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. If you would like to get caught up with the study, you can listen to Father's podcast "Alive in Christ" by visiting our website at www.stspeterandpaulboulder.org podcast.



The Saint Constantine School

Today!

Join us as we will welcome the new Head of School for TSCS, Dr. Cara Aspesi, and Director of School Development, Christina Howe, following Divine Liturgy. They will share about the new Orthodox school expected to open in Fall 2025, including the vision and education of TSCS, and answer any questions that you might have regarding the school. If you would like to contact Dr. Aspesi or Mrs. Howe, you can reach them at caspesi@saintconstantine.org or chowe@saintconstantine.org.



Mom's Night Out

Tuesday, January 14th

Calling all mothers! Join us for a Mom's Night Out at Avanti F&B beginning at 6:30pm! The address is 1401 Pearl St. Boulder, CO. Please contact Sarah Troicky with any questions at stroicky@gmail.com. Hope to see you then!



House Blessings

House blessing season is here! We invite you to schedule a time to have Fr. Gabriel come and bless your home. To request a time, please visit our website at stspeterandpaulboulder.org and submit a form. Shanyyn will contact you shortly after to reserve a time.



2025 Stewardship & Calendars

Due by Sunday, January 26th

Every year we ask our members to complete a new stewardship card for the upcoming year. This card reflects not only your financial support to the church, but it also gives you a chance to consider where you would like to participate in the life of the parish. It is most helpful if every person (or family) completes a card every year. Paper copies are available in the narthex, or you can complete one online by clicking the button below. Please submit your card by Sunday, January 26. Also be sure to pick up your 2025 calendar from the narthex. If you have any questions, contact Nicole Tsiouvaras at 303-489-4491. Thank you!



Fellowship 2025

Coming together after Liturgy to share a meal is one of the wonderful parts of our community. We have been blessed for many years with generous fellowship hosts. As our parish grows, many have expressed an interest in changing the way we handle fellowship, to reduce the strain on hosts and to involve more people. The fellowship committee is happy to announce the first change. Beginning Jan 5, the fellowship responsibilities will be split into "hosting" and "clean-up." Hosts will bring food, serve, and clean up the leftovers. The clean-up team will take care of the rest (dishes, trash, floors, etc.). Hosts will still sign-up via the church website. The clean-up teams will have their own schedule. If you're interested in hosting, cleaning or just have questions, please contact Nicole Tsiouvaras, tsiouvaras@msn.com or 303-489-4491.



Consecration Registry

The Consecration of Sts. Peter and Paul is a once-in-a-lifetime event in our church, much like our own baptism. Following the ancient Christian tradition, the relics of martyrs will be permanently sealed into the altar table. To make this special weekend as glorious as possible, we are raising funds to purchase new liturgical items, make improvements to the church building, and offer hospitality to our guests. Please grab a flyer in the Narthex to learn more about our needs for Consecration.

If you would like to make a gift towards our Consecration, please visit our website at stspeterandpaulboulder.org/consecration.



Philoptochos

Monthly Service Project

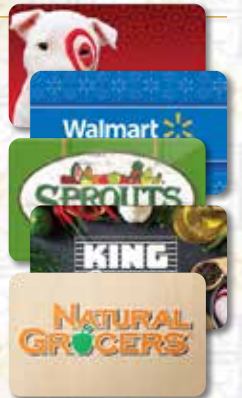
This month our Philoptochos will be offering two opportunities for service! All are invited to join us on Saturday, January 25 from 1-3pm as we come together at the fellowship hall and prep food for our homebound parishioners, or those in need of a meal. Also mark your calendar for Monday, January 27 from 10am-12pm to volunteer at There with Care. We will be assembling care packages for sick children in need with the items that we purchased in December. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Dzilvelis at 303-884-7088 or ashleydz1@hotmail.com!

Grocery Cards

Philoptochos sells gift cards to Walmart, Target, Safeway, Albertsons, Natural Grocers Vitamin Cottage, and Sprouts. See Julie Powers at the Philoptochos table in the Hall to make your purchase.

King Soopers Shoppers:

Create an account with your loyalty card at kingsoopers.com. Then link your account 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 your Philoptochos will receive a portion of your purchase.



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2025



About Our Parish

We welcome visitors worshiping with us today. Our diverse church family encompasses Greek, Arab, Romanian, Serbian and Russian Orthodox Christians as well as many converts to the Orthodox Christian Faith.

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.

Holy Communion

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.

*If you are new to our Parish or just visiting,
please join us for our fellowship hour following this morning's service.*

Priest

Fr Gabriel McHugh

Church Office

Shanyn Bateh, Manager

Choir Director

Presbytera Kedrann Dotson

Petranews

Rick Leonidas & Shanyn Bateh

Parish Council

- Steven Dzilvelis, President
- Michael Bateh, Vice-President
- Jim Azar, Treasurer
- David Dinsmore, Secretary
- Andriy Andreyev
- Gabriel Chiriac
- Nick Karis
- Michelle Mann
- Nicole Tsiouvaras

Philoptochos

- Dana Gall & Lis Troicky, Presidents
- Julie Powers, Treasurer
- Olga Coleman, Secretary & Bookstore
- Photini Westover, Corresponding Secretary

Recurring Services

Sunday Divine Liturgy - 9:30am (Orthros - 8:30am) • Saturday Vespers - 5pm
Visit our website for a complete calendar of upcoming services and events.



1973 Sts PETER & PAUL

Greek Orthodox Church

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