

The Messenger

November, 2020 Newsletter of St. John's Greek Orthodox Church
1000 Spruce, Pueblo, CO 81004 PO Box 3011, Pueblo, CO 81005

May God keep everyone well in order to continue to keep St. John the Baptist Church alive and vibrant for future generations to embrace and enjoy.

Schedule of Services and Important Days

****Sundays 8:20 Orthros, 9:30 Divine Liturgy**

NOTE: Daylight Savings on November 1st at 2:00 a.m.

All our clocks "Fall Back" one hour. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep!!

-
Oct 31st – Saturday - Great Vespers 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

1st – 5th Sunday of Luke

1 Corinthians 12:27-31; 13:1-8 Luke 16:19-31

7th – Saturday - Great Vespers 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

8th – 7th Sunday of Luke (Synaxis of the Archangels)

Hebrews 2:2-10 Luke 8:41-56

13th – Friday – St. John Chrysostom

8:20 Orthros, 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2 John 10:9-16

14th – Saturday Great Vespers 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

15th – 8th Sunday of Luke (Nativity Fast Begins)

Ephesians 2:4-10 Luke 10:25-37

21st – Saturday – Entrance of the Theotokos (No Vespers this evening)

8:20 Orthros, 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Hebrews 9:1-7 Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

22nd – 9th Sunday of Luke

Ephesians 2:14-22 Luke 12:16-21

25th – Wednesday – The Great Martyr Katherine

8:20 Orthros, 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-5 Mark 5:24-34

26th – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

28th – Saturday Great Vespers 5:00 p.m. on Zoom

29th –13th Sunday of Luke

Ephesians 4:1-7 Luke 18:18-27

Prosfora

November 1 – Penny

November 8 - Chad

November 13 – Pam

November 15 - Doc

November 21 - Debi

November 22 - Fran

November 25 – Pres. Ashley

November 29 - Kathy

The new parish directory IS coming! **Janet Garoutte** has been busy calling everyone to make sure we have the latest information on everyone to print. If she hasn't talked to you yet – she will! She is also checking for email addresses and saint's days. Most of us have received random calls selling things but when you see Jant's name come up, be sure to answer. It's for St. John's!

Angie Daskas (Mrs. Chris) has recently started a new career as a real estate associate. She is associated with Remax Associates at 1310 Hwy 50 (next to Vectra Bank) in Pueblo and is specializing in Residential and Commercial properties. The best number to reach her is her cell phone (719) 571-0005. Angie's comment is that "It will be her honor and pleasure to offer her services to her fellow parishioners"

One More Church Member! **Annie Hadjizacharia**, daughter of **Pantelis and Aphrodite**, was baptized into the Orthodox faith on October 17. Her baptismal name is Anna and her sponsors are her sister, **Elena, and Pamela Jacobsen**. It turned out that Annie loved the water which brought many happy faces. Sorry to say she wasn't as thrilled with communion which does happen with the little ones. It was a great day and we are all blessed to have her here.

A mother was concerned about her kindergarten son walking to school. He didn't want his mother to walk with him. She wanted to give him the feeling that he had some independence but yet know that he was safe. So she had an idea of how to handle it. She asked a neighbor if she would please follow him to school in the mornings, staying at a distance, so he probably wouldn't notice her. She said that since she was up early

with her toddler anyway, it would be a good way for them to get some exercise as well, so she agreed.

The next school day, the neighbor and her little girl set out following behind Timmy as he walked to school with another neighbor girl he knew. She did this for the whole week. As the two kids walked and chatted, kicking stones and twigs, Timmy's little friend noticed the same lady was following them as she seemed to do every day all week. Finally she said to Timmy, 'Have you noticed that lady following us to school all week? Do you know her?'

Timmy nonchalantly replied, 'Yeah, I know who she is.'

The little girl said, 'Well, who is she?'

'That's just Shirley Goodnest, 'Timmy replied, 'and her daughter Marcy.'

'Shirley Goodnest? Who is she and why is she following us?'

'Well,' Timmy explained, 'every night my Mum makes me say the 23rd Psalm with my prayers, 'cuz she worries about me so much. And in the Psalm, it says, ' Shirley Goodnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life', so I guess I'll just have to get used to it.'

May Shirley Goodnest and Marcy be with you today and always.

* * * * *



THE PERSECUTION OF

CHRISTIANS

Christianpersecution.com is an initiative of the Archons to call attention to the disturbing increase in the persecution of Christians in the broad area of the Holy Lands and the Middle East, and elsewhere as well. The principal focus of this site is to provide ongoing news updates about the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in its relationship with host Turkish government.

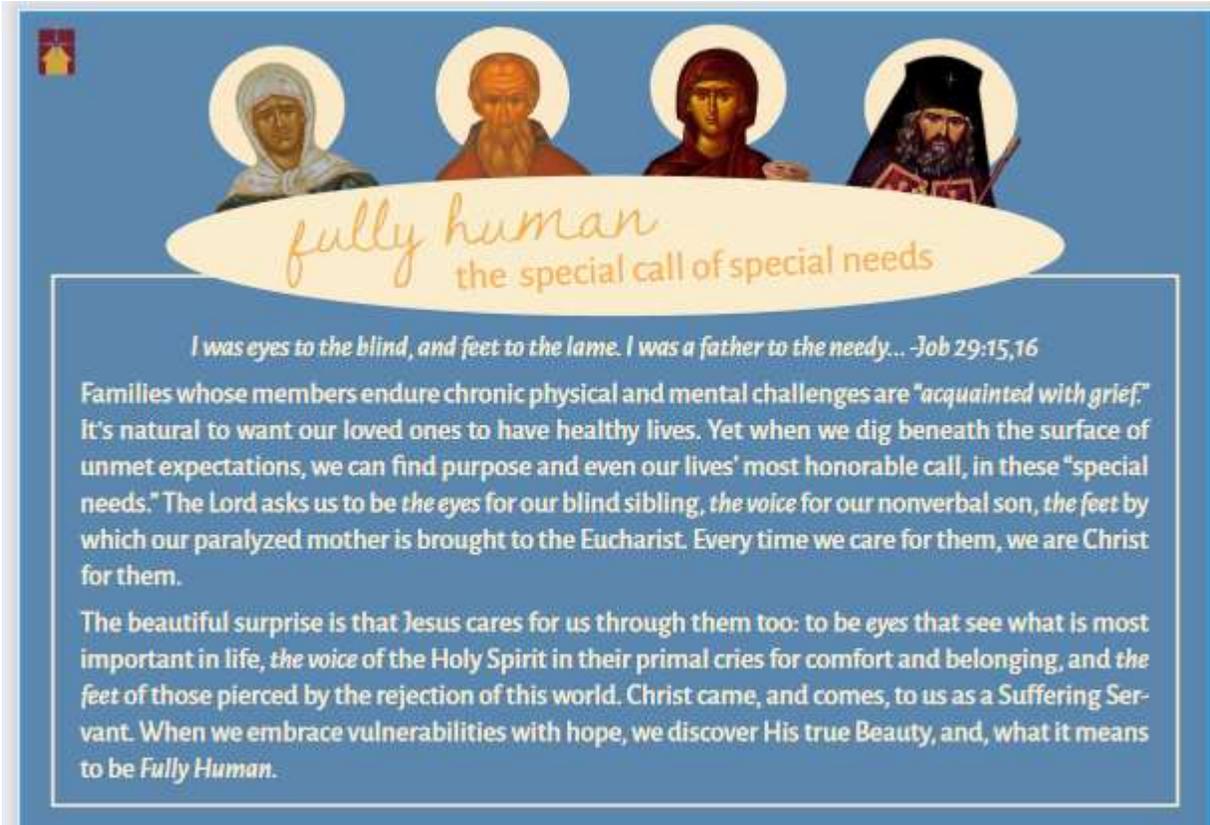
This site also provides regular news of the persecution of Christians throughout the broader geographic region and around the world. As Orthodox Christians and Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, our concern for our fellow Christians is truly ecumenical; we stand in solidarity and raise our voices in fervent prayer for all of those around the world who are suffering for bearing the name of Jesus Christ.

* * * * *

Fully Human

The Center for Family Care's newest ministry, "Fully Human," is designed to lift up the unique gifts of individuals and families with special needs. Our graphic features four well-known saints of the Orthodox Church who faced physical and intellectual challenges in their lives, including:

St. Matrona of Moscow the Wonderworker who was blind from birth, St. Sergius of Radonezh who had difficulty learning to read as a child, St. Paraskevi who was blinded in persecution and is known for healing sight-related ailments, St. John Maximovitch the Wonderworker of San Francisco who had a severe speech impediment his entire life.



I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame. I was a father to the needy... -Job 29:15,16

Families whose members endure chronic physical and mental challenges are "*acquainted with grief*." It's natural to want our loved ones to have healthy lives. Yet when we dig beneath the surface of unmet expectations, we can find purpose and even our lives' most honorable call, in these "special needs." The Lord asks us to be *the eyes* for our blind sibling, *the voice* for our nonverbal son, *the feet* by which our paralyzed mother is brought to the Eucharist. Every time we care for them, we are Christ for them.

The beautiful surprise is that Jesus cares for us through them too: to be *eyes* that see what is most important in life, *the voice* of the Holy Spirit in their primal cries for comfort and belonging, and *the feet* of those pierced by the rejection of this world. Christ came, and comes, to us as a Suffering Servant. When we embrace vulnerabilities with hope, we discover His true Beauty, and, what it means to be *Fully Human*.

By lifting up the various sayings and life examples of these and many other Saints, and drawing upon the teachings of Holy Scripture and wisdom related to true personhood in Christ, "Fully Human" will seek to edify, encourage, and equip persons with special needs and their caregivers to realize and energize their special calling in the Lord. Jesus Christ's "power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, when faced with physiological challenges persons can take heart that the Lord seeks to work His special power through the very things the world misunderstands as weaknesses.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF DENVER

October 7, 2020

Protocol 20-17

The Reverend Clergy, the Monastics,
and the Faithful Parishioners of
the Holy Metropolis of Denver

Beloved in the Lord,

At this time, I am extremely pleased to inform you that I have appointed the Reverend Louis Christopulos as the new Chancellor of the Metropolis of Denver. Many of you know Fr. Lou, who is a native son and a long-time priest of our Metropolis. Bringing to this office a wealth of administrative and pastoral parish service, he is well suited to take on this ministry.

As well, I am assigning the Reverend Theodore Dorrance as proistamenos of the Saint Catherine community in Greenwood Village, Colorado, upon Fr. Christopulos' departure from the parish. In addition to his parish responsibilities, Fr. Dorrance will continue to direct the Metropolis Parish Health and Church Growth efforts, together with clergy and lay resources from throughout our region.

Please join me in congratulating Fr. Christopulos and Fr. Dorrance as they embark on their new ministries. I have every confidence that they will not only fulfill expectations, but excel as they serve Christ and His faithful people in this blessed Metropolis.

May our loving and merciful God bless them, and may He continue to bless all of the clergy, monastics, and laity of this Metropolis.

With paternal blessings,

+ Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver

+Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver

ZOOM If you haven't been joining us for Saturday vespers on zoom, you've been missing out on a real blessing! Father Stephen gives us the link to the service and a link to the gathering and people come on computers and their cell phones. Fr. Stephen has also been having a conversation with us about a question of the week he gave us. Attendance varies so why not give it a try. Let Fr. Stephen know so he can send the links to you. See you there - Saturday from 5pm to about 6.

Another Opportunity St. John's has a prayer group that works to give more prayers for various needs. We receive periodic emails telling us of needs or "no more" needs. While this is handled as an individual, information is sent to the group. If you have an interest in this group, contact Fran Marsh.

* * * * *

The old lady handed her bank card to a bank teller and said, "I would like to withdraw \$10.

The teller told her, "For withdrawals less than \$100 please use the ATM."

The old lady wanted to know why . The teller returned her bank card and irritably told her, "These are the rules. Please leave if there is no other matter. There is a line of customers behind you."

The old lady remained silent for a few seconds, then handed the card back to the teller and said, "Please help me withdraw all the money I have."

The teller was astonished when she checked the account balance. She nodded her head, leaned down and respectfully told her, "You have \$300,000 in your account and the bank doesn't have that much cash currently. Could you make an appointment and come again tomorrow?"

The old lady then asked how much she could withdraw immediately. The teller told her any amount up to \$3000. "Well, please let me have \$3000 now", she told the teller. The teller then handed it very friendly and respectfully to her. The old lady put \$10 in her purse and asked the teller to deposit \$2990 back into her account.

The moral of this taleDon't be difficult with old people, they spent a lifetime learning the skills.