#### **Confessions:**

Fr. Stephen is available for confessions on Saturday evenings after Vespers or by appointment. Please make an effort to go at least once every 3-6 months.

## **Upcoming Events:**

Annual Parish Meeting: TBA in January

**Pan Orthodox Blessing of Waters:** On Monday, January 21st we will be joining with our sister churches atop Monarch Pass on the Continental Divide at 11 am for the annual blessing of waters. Please join us for this and more info coming soon.

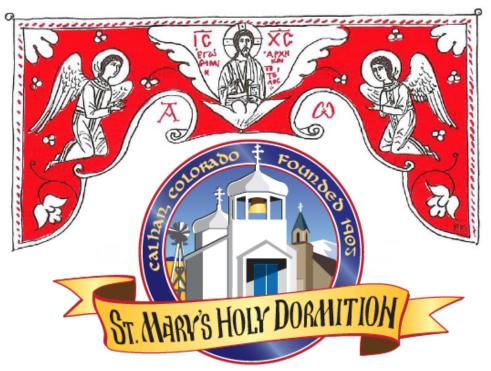
#### **Quotes from the Fathers**

A certain monk told me that when he was very sick, his mother said to his father, "How our little boy is suffering. I would gladly give myself to be cut up into pieces if that would ease his suffering." Such is the love of God for people. He pitied people so much that he wanted to suffer for them, like their own mother, and even more. But no one can understand this great love without the grace of the Holy Spirit.

+ St. Silouan the Athonite



31st Sunday after Pentecost



**ORTHODOX CHURCH** 

Calhan, Colorado

Father's Cell: 702-52I-6988

e-mail: frsteve@holydormition.net

www.holydormition.net

Rector: Priest Stephen Osburn





# **Scripture Readings:**

# Galatians 1:11-19 (Epistle)

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

# Matthew 2:13-23 (Gospel)

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

# Birthdays/Anniversaries - December

Dec 1 - Robert Boyd
Dec 2 - Pete Pyatt
Dec 20 - Lexi Ann Guy

Dec 2 - Marah Robinson Dec 27 - Larry Don and Lori Meier

Dec 6 - Jeanie Mikita Dec 31 - Natalie Hlatki

Dec 11 - Anya (Boyd) Gazii

### This Week at St. Mary's

Great Vespers with Blessing of the Waters (Saturday 5:30 PM December 22nd) Divine Liturgy with Blessing of the Waters (Sunday 9:30 AM December 23rd)

#### **Announcements:**

### **Pledge Forms for 2019:**

In the Narthax are new pledge forms for 2019. Please note that this years forms include some additional information to help every one of us in our committment to the Church. Please *prayerfully* consider your pledge, then sign and return your form to Fr. Stephen or Lori by **January 6th, 2019**.

## **House Blessings:**

House blessings will begin on January 7th. A sign up list is in the Narthex. If you would like Fr. Stephen to bless your home and/or farm, please sign up, indicating time of day that is normally best for you. If you have a special request, please note that and Father will contact you to arrange his visit.

### March for Life - Denver (January 12th)

We will be organizing a caravan to participate in the 2019 Celebrate Life March at the Colorado State Capital. This is an important witness of our Orthodox faith and it is highly encouraged that if you can go or you can send your children, to please attend this event. We will be meeting up at the hall at 9:00 AM on the 12th and driving to Fr. David Thatcher's parish (Holy Transfiguration of Christ Cathedral), where we will be having a Molieben for Life, lunch, and then departing to the rally. Vespers at our parish will be cancelled that evening as we will be serving Vespers with Fr. David at his parish. If you can go and/or offer transportation, please let Fr. Stephen know.