SAVE THE DATE

- Men’s Retreat at the Denver Metropolis Retreat Center-August 18-21st.
- St. Catherine's 40th Anniversary, October 5 - 6, 2024!

Mom’s Group
"Hello fellow moms. We warmly invite you to join us for the Saint Catherine’s Mom’s group Thursday's at 10:30 am - 11:30 am starting July 11th. This group is for moms to walk alongside one another as we continue diving deep and learning more about our sacred calling as mothers and how we can have Christ-centered homes. We will be going through books together, bible studies and have occasional guest speakers on topics of motherhood, home, children, and becoming more Christ-like."

Contribute to Coffee Hour - Where the Body of Christ Connects!
Select a Sunday on the SignUp Genius, then choose one or two of the listed items to bring. When everyone takes a turn, the work and expense remain manageable for all. Remember that set up and clean up are necessary and inexpensive ways you can contribute.

Questions? Text or call Suzanne Magerko 719-337-2113

SAINT CATHERINE STEWARDSHIP UPDATE
For 2024, as of May 22nd we have 354 stewards pledging $975,601 and we have received $452,819. If you did not receive a stewardship packet at home, you may pick one up in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall. Contact Jenée Horan at: Jenee@stcatherinechurch.org.

ST. CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
5555 South Yosemite Street, Greenwood Village, CO, 80111
303-773-3411 ● www.stcatherinechurch.org ● stcatherinechurch.onechurchsoftware.com
Clergy: Father Theodore Dorrance, Protospyritov ● Father Dino Sinos, Economos
Deacon Konstantinos Bardossas
Staff: Jenée Horan, Office/Facilities Manager ● Valerie LeVier, Executive Assistant to Father Theodore/Communications Coordinator ● Mary-Ellaine Friddy, Accountant ● Presvytera Stacey Dorrance, Lead Chanter
Maja Buck, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Director ● James Tavlarides, IT Support
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Deacon Konstantinos Bardossas
Stephen Woodruff, Facility Assistant
Parish Council: Alex Buck (President), Judy Jones (1st VP of Fellowship), Elena Paich (2nd VP of Stewardship), Mike Hillier (Treasurer), John Holder (Secretary), Kris Bates, Dr. Nicholas Gagner, Dr. Andrew Gaines, Dr. Leon Greos, Todd Hallberg, Douglas Kasten, Pete Papilion, Jamie Payne, Niko Poulos, Evan Stathopulos.

WELCOME TO SAINT CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
“There are no strangers here; only friends you have not met!”
SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC-MAY 26, 2024
Sts. Carpos & Alpheaus, Apostles of the Seventy
The Gift of Freedom
Freedom, according to our Orthodox Church’s teaching, is one of the most important aspects of our humanity. It is central to our being made in God’s image, and that, which enables us to become like God. Without freedom, love is impossible. Freedom is a requisite to character, to virtue, to healthy personal transformation: freedom is necessary to be truly and authentically human. Freedom, however, can be a double-edged sword. On the one hand, most people are willing to fight for the right to make their own decisions. At the same time, with freedom comes responsibility, which isn’t always easy or sometimes, even desirable. Wrongly, many people think that freedom means doing whatever they want, even if what they do is unhealthy, illegal, or destructive. Certainly, people are “free” to make bad decisions and to do evil, but this is not why God made us free, bestowing on us this precious gift. The purpose of our freedom is to do the right thing, which is God-like. Sometimes, actually many times in our fallen world, this means NOT doing what we might want to do or feel like doing, using self-control and exercising self-denial, in order to follow God and our conscience and do what is needful, correct according to God, and healthy for all.

In today’s Gospel, we see Jesus ask a man who lay by the edge of a miraculous pool for 38 years if he wanted to get well. To most readers, this seems like a ridiculous question. “Do you want to be healed?!” Jesus is not trying to be rhetorical; He is serious. Jesus is not just addressing a physically paralyzed human being, but the totality of this man’s person: his soul, his mind, his body, his will, and his faith. Jesus is speaking directly to this person’s free will. Jesus is asking this man to put his faith in Him as the Son of God, not just to heal his twisted body, but to save his soul and change his life forever. For this, Jesus doesn’t need a miraculous pool; He simply needs every person He encounters—like this paralytic—to use their freedom to say “yes” to Him.

Discussion Questions:
1. Do I have the correct understanding of freedom—doing what is right by God, even if it means denying my own wants and desires?
2. In what ways am I accountable to others to keep me on the right path to properly be a steward of my free will?
3. What do I need to change in my life to more consistently say “yes” to God?
### WEEK AT A GLANCE

#### SUNDAY, MAY 26
- **SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC** Orthros 8:15am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am
- Coffee Hour provided by the parish and the Coffee Hour Ministry
- Memorial Weekend Cemetery Visits: Please bring the names of your loved ones.
- **Olinger Chapel Hill**: Sunday at 1:30pm at the Greek Orthodox Monument If it is raining meet in the Chapel. (Fr. Dino Sinos)

#### MONDAY, MAY 27
- Church Office Closed in observance of Memorial Day
- **Fairmount Cemetery**: Monday at 8:45am Fr. Jordan will begin Memorial Prayers at Block 58, 9:00am at Block 52 then proceed East to Block 66 and finally proceed South. Coffee & Cookies will be served. (Fr. Jordan Brown)
- **Olinger Chapel Hill**: Monday at 9:00am at the Greek Orthodox Monument. If it is raining meet in the Chapel. (Fr. Dino Sinos)

#### TUESDAY, MAY 28
- Men's Spiritual Discussion 7am-(Hybrid)-In person or on Zoom link at: stcatherinechurch.org/calendar
- Bible Study 10am-(Hybrid)-In person or on Zoom link at: stcatherinechurch.org/calendar

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 29
- **MID-PENTECOST** Orthros 8:00am, Divine Liturgy 9:00am
- Choir Practice 7:00pm

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 1
- **GREAT VESPERS** 5:00pm

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 2
- **SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN** Orthros 8:15 am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am
HYMNS AND READINGS FOR THE SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

APOLYTIKION MODE PL. 1: Christ is Risen from the dead trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION MODE 3: Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death, and first born of the dead has He become. From the womb of Hades He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

APOLYTIKION FOR ST. CATHERINE - 5TH TONE: We sing praises in memory of the bride of Christ, Catherine the Holy Protectress of Holy Mount Sinai, of her who is our helper and our comforter, silencing the impious ones with her brilliance. All by the power of the Spirit! And she pleads for us all great mercy, since she has been crowned a martyr of the Lord.

KONTAKION OF PASCHA MODE PL 4: Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out “Rejoice” to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

THE EPISTLE READING IS FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 9:32-42: In those days, as Peter went here and there among them all, he came down also to the saints that lived at Lydda. There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years and was paralyzed. And Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; rise and make your bed.” And immediately he rose. And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord. Now there was at Joppa a disciple named Tabitha, who means Dorcas. She was full of good works and acts of charity. In those days she fell sick and died; and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, hearing that Peter was there, sent two men to him entreating him, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter rose and went with them. And when he had come, they took him to the upper room. All the widows stood beside him weeping, and showing tunics and other garments which Dorcas made while she was with them. But Peter put them all outside and knelt down and prayed; then turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, rise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. And he gave her his hand and lifted her up. Then calling the saints and widows he presented her alive. And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

THE GOSPEL READING IS FROM JOHN 5:1-15: At that time, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Hebrew called Bethesda which has five porticoes. In these lay a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water; for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool, and troubled the water; whoever stepped in first after the troubling of the water was healed of whatever disease he had. One man was there, who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is troubled, and while I am going another steps down before me.” Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your pallet, and walk.” And at once the man was healed, and he took up his pallet and walked. Now that day was the sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who was cured, “It is the sabbath, it is not lawful for you to carry your pallet.” But he answered them, “The man who healed me said to me, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk.’” They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your pallet, and walk’?” Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. Afterward, Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse befal you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.
SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Sts. Carpos and Alphaeus, Apostles of the Seventy—Today, May 26th:
Jesus called twelve disciples to the office of Apostle. These twelve formed His inner circle of followers. In addition to these twelve, Jesus also called seventy more to the lesser office of apostles who were also sent out with His authority to preach and teach. Among these Seventy were Sts. Carpos and Alphaeus. St. Carpos was sent forth to preach by Christ (Luke 10:1). He also ministered to the Apostle Paul after Pentecost, journeying with him and delivering his epistles to those to whom they were written. He ultimately became bishop of Beroea in Thrace, where he endured great tribulations, brought many to the Church, and finally suffered martyrdom. St. Alphaeus came from the Galilean city of Capernaum and was the father of the Apostles James and Matthew. He reposed in peace.

Mid-Pentecost—Wednesday, May 29th:
This celebration is the midpoint of the fifty days between the Feasts of Pascha and Pentecost. St. John tells us (John 7:14) that “in the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the Temple, and taught.” The Feast in question is the Feast of Tabernacles (celebrated in September), not Pentecost. The Church has appointed John 7:14-30 to be read for the Midfeast, thereby linking Pascha and Pentecost. In Chapter 8 of Saint John’s Gospel, the Lord came to the Temple again and taught the people who came to Him. After leaving the Temple, he encounters the man born blind. We will hear about him on the Sunday of the Blind Man. The Troparion of the Midfeast (“In the middle of the Feast, O Savior, fill my thirsting soul with the waters of godliness, as You cried to all: If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink [John 7:37]. O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to You!”) hints at the encounter of Christ and the Samaritan Woman in just a few days.

JOIN US AT OUR PHILOPTOCHOS GENERAL MEETING FOR
BBQ & BUNCO!
JUNE 3RD
STARTING AT 6:00PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

ACTIVITIES
COMPLIMENTARY DINNER
A BRIEF MEETING
AN EVENING OF SOCIALIZING AND BUNCO PLAYING!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT BY MAY 30TH!