

JUNE 29, 2014



## SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

What a remarkable and effective combination these two men made in the early history of the Christian Church! We marvel at their great contributions to the Christian cause in the first century. The Church has always honored them together as the two leading figures of Apostolic Christianity.

The EPISTLE lesson for this feast-day is centered around the person and work of **ST. PAUL**. He tells of his imprisonment, of the whippings, hunger, shipwreck, stoning and a variety of perils - all borne without complaint for Christ's sake. He mentions an illness he had, and even this he willingly suffers and glories in, because through it the power of Christ is revealed. Surely St. Paul summed up his life best when he said: "For me, to live, is Christ." Once he was converted, his whole life was wrapped in Christ. Nothing else mattered; Christ was his all.

# SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes*

## Priests

Very Reverend

Fr. George Rados

frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org

Very Reverend

Fr. Isaac Crow

frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org

## Deacon

Dn. Christian Manasseh

DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

## COUNCIL

### Chairman

David Jackson

### Vice Chairman

George Salem

### Secretary

Caroline Emad

### Treasurer

Abdallah Daoud

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Dr. Bassem Haddad

Maha Jweied

Lorna Malooley

Wayne Parr

Steve Simon

Metody Tilev

## Church Secretary

Janet Tate

office@peterpaulpotomac.org

## Choir Director

John Slanta

slanta@verizon.net

## Chanters

Wayne Parr

George Tannous

## Ushers

Jerry Audi

Michael El Araj

Abraham Fannoney

Sam Khalil

## ALTAR

### Manager

Peter Aburdeineh

### Servers

Captains -

Robert Bridenhagen

Nicholas Zolnerowich

**Matins:** Sundays 9:30am

**Divine Liturgy:** Sundays 10:30am

**Confessions:** call to schedule

**Sunday, June 29, 2014**

**Tone 2**

Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Eothinon 3**

**Today we Commemorate:**

**THE HOLY, GLORIOUS APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL**

## RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

## TROPARION of Ss. Peter & Paul (Tone 4)

O foremost in the ranks of Apostles, and teachers of the world, Peter and Paul, intercede with the Master of all to grant safety to the world and to our souls the great mercy.

## KONTAKION for ordinary Sundays (Tone 2)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

## THE EPISTLE

*Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth. The heavens show forth the glory of God.*

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (11:21-12:9)**

Brethren, whatever any one dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He Who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

## THE GOSPEL

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (16:13-19)**

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His Disciples, “Who do men say that the Son of man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father Who is in Heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven.”

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

### **Directors**

Samia Zolnerowich

Jennifer Buchko

### **Teachers**

Nicole Kyriakos

Susan Kozlov

Michelle Zook

Razan Abdallah

Ranya Eid

Leila Taweel

Hala Paskaleva

Saleem Mokhiber

Caroline Jarboe

Anthony Eid

Stephen Zolnerowich

Anees Mokhiber

### **Men's Club**

Bill Zook

### **Ladies Auxiliary**

Ann Marie Moses

### **Teen SOYO**

Robert Bridenhagen

Layla Najjar

Nick Zolnerowich

Sarah Salem

Phillip Allen

Reema Guegel

### **Fellowship of St. John**

Christine & Samer Korkor

Christian & Zeina Manasseh

### **Adornment**

Shams Akkawi

Jamil Hermes

### **Facility Management**

Nick Nahas

Bob Simon

### **Rental Coordinator**

Barbara Abraham

### **Charities**

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

### **Finance**

Gary Farha

### **Stewardship**

Lorna Malooley

### **Orthodox Christians**

Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, have fasted from the night before taking communion, and seek to live in charity and love with their neighbors. Persons conscious of grave sin must first be reconciled with God and the Church through the Sacrament of Penance (Confession and Absolution). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

### **Non-Orthodox**

We welcome to this celebration of the Eucharist those Christians who are not fully united with us. It is a consequence of the sad divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to them a general invitation to receive Communion. Orthodox believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in faith, life, and worship of the community. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness which does not yet exist, and for which we must all pray.

### **Not Receiving Communion**

Those not receiving sacramental communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another by receiving a piece of blessed bread following the dismissal prayers.

### **Welcome to Ss. Peter and Paul**

To encourage our worship in a proper spirit of prayer and devotion, we respectfully ask you enter the sanctuary quietly during the Divine Liturgy.

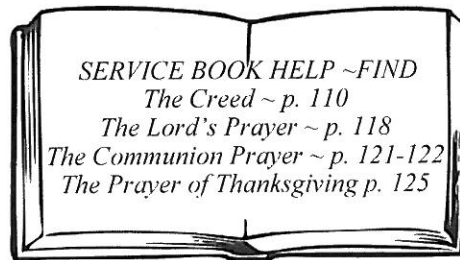
#### **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS**

- the clergy censes the sanctuary
  - the congregation is standing, or
  - during the Little Entrance with the Gospel
  - during the Reading of the Epistle and the Gospel
- Please enter the sanctuary upon the completion of
- the sermon
  - the Great Entrance with the Holy Gifts
  - the Prayers of Consecration p. 112-113
  - the Hymn to the Theotokos "It is Truly Meet"

Please follow the directions of the ushers during Communion and dismissal; refrain from using cell phones in the narthex; and be considerate of those praying and converse in the hall, outside or downstairs.

### **Visitors**

If you are visiting our parish, please let us get to know you. Complete a visitor card you will find in your pew, and drop it in the ushers tray or the collection box.



**HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION:** offered by Victor & Debi Abdow-Addis

**40-Day Memorial** for Rose Yonkers

**1-Year Memorial** for Louis Joseph, father of Janelle Peters

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** A festal picnic offered by Jeff & Catalina Jacob  
in honor of Ss. Peter & Paul

# Commemorations

For the Servants of God that they may have mercy, peace, health, salvation and visitation, pardon and remission of sin; the Lord God remember them in his Kingdom always: now and ever, and unto ages of ages

## LIVING

Parishioners who remain  
in our prayers continually

Margaret Ashley  
Lulu & George Brown  
Issa & Suad Shammass  
Edmond Neam  
Richie Kogok

Eddie Yazge

Victoria Curtin  
Andrew Gavin

Ioanna Sakellion

Phillip Allen

Joy & Jimmy Yonkers

George & Roger Sayegh  
Laure Najjar

For the Servants of God  
departed this life: the Lord God remember  
them in his kingdom always: now and ever,  
and unto ages of ages

## DEPARTED

Rose Ann Yonkers May 10

Theodore Yonkers

Louis Joseph

William Dora

Joseph Charley May 22

Kathryn Haddad May 24

Lillian George June 2

Robert Peter Abdow June 24

Fred Zacharia *Senior*

Rabab Sayegh

Salim Najjar

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

## CHARITY THIS MONTH So Others Might Eat (SOME)

Several of our parishioners join together each month to cook and serve a meal to the homeless and find great joy in serving others. Your assistance is needed, however, as the meal served costs \$600 each month. SOME is a local interfaith, community-based organization for the poor and homeless of Washington, DC that strives to meet immediate needs of food, clothing, and health care. SOME works to break the cycle of homelessness by offering affordable housing, job training, addiction treatment, and counseling, to the poor, elderly and mentally ill. SOME restores hope and dignity one person at a time. You are invited to join the team of parishioners and give of your time as well. To join the SOME listserv, email Steve Zolnerowich at stephenz2@verizon.net.

Thank you for your support of this ministry; please note "Charity" in the memo line of your check or cash envelope. Your donations are tax deductible.

## SS. PETER & PAUL FEAST DAY PICNIC

Everyone is invited to a celebration of the Feast of our Patronal Saints—Apostles Peter & Paul—today in Kogok Hall immediately following Liturgy. A Festal Picnic-Cookout (FREE!) of hamburgers, hotdogs, buns, drinks, chips, and cookies are provided courtesy of new members Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Jacob (Catalina).

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are starting to plan for the 2014-15 school year and are looking for teachers. If you would like to join the Sunday school staff or would like more information please email Samia & Jennifer at peterpaulsundayschool@gmail.com

## FJSD

ADULT Education Forum; *Exploring Our Faith* will not meet in July or August and will resume in September. Stay tuned for more information at the end of August when the date to be resumed will be announced.

## SUMMER READING

Looking for a good book? *A Crown of Life: A Novel of the Great Persecution* is an epic romance spanning ten pivotal years in the history of the world, beginning in 303 [AD - ed.], when churches were closed, books were burned, and Christians were forbidden to assemble and later forced to prove their loyalty to the Empire by offering a sacrifice to the government's gods. Here is the story of three siblings of a wealthy Greek family, the boldest of whom breaks her engagement to a young Roman tribune because she has become a Christian. As the persecution intensifies, all three siblings are forced to leave home, while in the West the heart-broken tribune becomes the siblings' only earthly hope - as an aide to the new Emperor Constantine. *A Crown of Life* is an inspiring tale of Christian Faith in the face of death. You will weep. You will cheer. You will fall in love. You will learn why they believed and why they died. Written by parishioner Alma Jean Zaki's father, Dn. Brian Mitchell, inspiring, informative and based on the stories of actual martyrs, once you start it you won't want to put it down!

## SAINTS PETER & PAUL WHO WE ARE TO BECOME; WHO WE CAN BE

By Archpriest Steven Rogers

There are perhaps no two men more greatly revered yet so seemingly different than Saints Peter and Paul.

Commemorated by the Orthodox Church on June 29, Saints Peter and Paul, "the heads of the Apostles" as described throughout the hymnody of the feast, are especially loved by the Church of Antioch, where Peter served as its first bishop and Paul set forth on his great missionary travels. Peter, who preached on the day of Pentecost when 3,000 were converted to the faith, and Paul, the greatest missionary the world has ever known and author of over half of the New Testament, were two of the most powerful instruments ever raised up by God to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to found This holy Church. Their preaching and the power of God within them literally transformed the world. Both lived completely for Christ and both died a martyr's death in Rome by order of the evil Roman emperor Nero.

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

Their power and end were the same, and yet when we first meet them in scripture, they are so seemingly different. There is Peter, the fisherman, simple and uneducated. There is Paul (then Saul), the Pharisee, brilliant and educated, learned in Jewish, Greek and Roman thought. There is Peter, emotional and impulsive, often speaking and acting hastily but always remorseful. There is Paul, seemingly cold and calculating, a powerful and even ruthless intellect, able to persecute and kill without remorse.

No two men could be more different than Peter and Paul — one driven by fire and emotion, the other by coldness and intellect.

Yes, these men were vastly different. But they had one thing in common — one thing that transcended their differences and made them one. That one thing was a personal encounter with the Son of God.

Peter encountered Christ and was raised up from his humble beginnings to a man of power. Paul encountered Christ and was lowered from his lofty position to a man of godly humility. Both gave up what they were, to become what God desired them to be. And through them the whole world was changed.

Oftentimes, we look at ourselves with our limitations and inadequacies and feel we have nothing to offer to God. We shy away from serving His Church because we feel we have no skills or gifts to offer. We see others with all their gifts, and we back away thinking there is nothing within us that God can use.

Often times, in our pride and arrogance, we feel we are above many of the simple tasks and labors that are so much a part of the ongoing life of God's Church.

Seen together, Saints Peter and Paul teach us a great lesson — that no matter who we are — no matter our backgrounds, our talents, our station in life — if we offer who we are completely to God, He will make us who we are supposed to be. If we offer ourselves completely to God — both our abilities and our limitations — He can and will use us to the glory of His kingdom. If we offer ourselves completely, whether we are a simple fisherman or a towering intellectual, the world will see God within us.

God created us who we are and He came into the world to make us all we can be. Peter continued to be Peter and Paul continued to be Paul, but it was Christ within them that made them into all that God desired them to be.

And so it is with us. If we offer ourselves to God with all our strengths and weaknesses, He will use us to the glory of his Kingdom. As we, the Church of Antioch, gather together to celebrate the feast of our beloved Apostles Peter and Paul, those "luminaries to those in darkness, two rays of the sun," let us commit ourselves to give all that we are to God as they did, so that like them, we may radiate the love of God into a cold and unbelieving world.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

June 2014

V. Rev. Fr. George Alberts

### READINGS FOR JUNE 29-JULY 6

JUN 29	2 CORINTHIANS 11:21-12:9 MATTHEW 16:13-19
JUN 30	ROMANS 9:18-33 MATTHEW 11:2-15
JUL 1	ROMANS 10:11-11:2 MATTHEW 11:16-20
JUL 2	ROMANS 11:2-12 MATTHEW 11:20-26 (FAST)
JUL 3	ROMANS 11:13-24 MATTHEW 11:27-30
JUL 4	ROMANS 11:25-36 MATTHEW 12:1-8 (FAST)
JUL 5	ROMANS 6:11-17 MATTHEW 8:14-23
JUL 6	ROMANS 6:18-23 MATTHEW 8:5-13

### LOOKING AHEAD *Upcoming events...*

- June 29 - Festal Picnic @ 1pm
- July 2-5 - Parish Life Conference @ the Village
- July 5 - Arabic Liturgy @ 5pm
- July 6 - Baptism Danielle Dib @ 1pm
- July 8 - Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm
- July 12 - Baptism of Faraj Tawil @ 12:30pm
- July 13 - 1-Yr Memorial Kh. Jacqui Rados 12pm
- July 13 - Baptism of Luke Montgomery @ 1pm
- July 14 - 18 Clergy Symposium @ the Village
- July 20 - Baptism of Baby Bergin-Sanford
- July 26 - Baptism of Eliana Goitom-Jones @ 2pm
- July 29 - Men's Club Meeting @ 7:30pm

The GOSPEL portion for the feast is centered about an important event in the life of **ST. PETER**. It tells of the time that Jesus Christ came to His Apostles and asked: "Whom do men say that the Son of man is?" The disciples answered that some people considered Jesus to be John the Baptist, others thought He was Elias and still others Jeremiah or one of the great prophets.

Then Jesus asked them the all-important question: "But whom do you say that I am?" We are all asked that question sooner or later, in one form or another. And we all must answer it. Perhaps we don't answer so much with words as with deeds. The way we live provides the answer.

It was St. Peter who stepped forward and answered for them all: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God." This was the answer Jesus was waiting for, and He so rejoiced in this clear concept of His person and His mission that He said to Peter: "Blessed are you, Simon . . . and I say to you: you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My Church . . ."

Our Lord confers on Peter his **NEW NAME**, since the acknowledgement of Christ as God and the acceptance of this doctrine do indeed change a person. Our Lord then compares this statement of belief to a rock, and says that He would build His Church on this solid foundation. Truly the Christian Church stands on the basis of this confession: Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God! Once the Church ceases to believe and confess Jesus to be the Son of God, it ceases to be Christian.

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.*

### FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
Jul 6	Donna Gavin	
13	Family of Fr. George Rados	Family of Fr. George Rados
20	Friends of Joe Charley	Friends of Joe Charley
27	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem
Aug 3	Qustandi & Naheda Kaibni	Qustandi & Naheda Kaibni
10		
17		
24		

Baking or ordering the Holy Bread of Oblation or providing and serving the refreshments for Fellowship Hour following the Liturgy on Sundays is a great way to practice Christian fellowship among our fellow parishioners. Notice the openings to the left and consider contributing to this vital ministry. Sign-up in the vestibule.