

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
17 Sept	Joyce Kogok— IMO Richard & son Richard Kogok	Parish Council hosting the Fellowship Hour for Fr. George
24 Sept	Abraham & Susan Fannoney	BAZAAR
01 Oct	Rana Callas	The Alvarez and Badwey Families
08 Oct	OPEN	OPEN
15 Oct	OPEN	OPEN

FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION

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.

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-3400 • www.peterpaulpotomac.org

Kindly keep all cell phones turned off or muted while in Church. Thank you.

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

.DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

tone 5 / EOTHINON 3

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

AFTER-FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKO

MARTYRS MENODORA, METRODORA AND NYMPHODORA OF BITHYNIA; EMPRESS PULCHERIA; PETER, BISHOP OF NICAEA

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

O Lord, remember David and all his meekness. Lo, we heard of it at Ephrata; we found it in the fields of the wood. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her, and that right early.

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not turn from it. Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne. There will I make the horn of David to bud; I have ordained a lamp for mine anointed. For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation.

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Here will I dwell, for I have desired it. The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle. Holy is Thy temple, and wonderful in righteousness.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY SUNDAYS

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 5)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF SAINTS PETER AND 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 OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS (Tone 4)

Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death, O immaculate one, by thy holy Nativity, which thy people, redeemed from the guilt of offenses, celebrate by crying to thee: The barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.

In Honor of Fr. George Rados

On Sunday, **September 17**, the Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Council is hosting a Fellowship Hour in honor and appreciation of our Pastor Emeritus The V. Rev. Fr. George. Also on that day, a special plaque will be dedicated in the Narthex (entrance hall) of the Church in honor and gratitude of Fr. George's service and dedication to our Parish. Please plan on attending this event and coming to the fellowship Hour in the Church Hall.

The Joy Of Our Witness

We who participate in the Divine Liturgy know of its power to transform. Many have had the experience of inviting a friend or family member who may not be Orthodox to attend the Divine Liturgy. We know how people sense upon entering an Orthodox Church that this is a different and special space - the "heaven on earth" experienced in Constantinople in A.D. 93 by the ambassadors of Vladimir, the Prince of Kiev, in his search for a faith for his people. Yet, have we used this missionary gift to its fullest potential?

Often the liturgy is celebrated in a language that is not understood by all. And even when the language may not be an impediment, the indifferent manner in which the liturgy is sometime celebrated serves to distance rather than draw us near to God. We must not make Orthodoxy exotic. It should be approachable and accessible. The liturgy is the action of the people; people should be drawn into this action. The liturgy is the action of the Body of Christ; it should build the holy community that is the Church. In the Divine Liturgy, there are no spectators, only active participants. When celebrated carefully, with faith and with love, God's transforming power can be felt by all.

This transfiguring power of the Liturgy also requires us to act. Recently some have begun to speak of the "Liturgy after the Liturgy." This means that the spiritual work of the Divine Liturgy must continue even as we leave the Church. As we are changed, so must we work for that change within the society around us. As we are sanctified, so we are charged with bringing this sanctification-into the world.

From the very foundation of Christianity the Church always concerned herself with the well-being of the most vulnerable. The Greek word "philanthropos" - from which we take the English words "philanthropist" and "philanthropic" - originally was a title attributed only to God, because He alone is the one who truly loves humanity. Gradually, those people who reflected God's loving compassion for us, for the weakest among us, also came to be known as "philanthropists." To be philanthropic is more than to give money to a charity; although it is that, too. It is to become loving and compassionate, especially to the least among us, in the same way God is loving and compassionate to us.

Through our words and through our actions, we must show the world the liturgy that brings heaven to earth, so that earth can be brought to heaven.

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"You are the salt of the earth." The word is entrusted to you, Christ says, not for your life, but for the whole world. Nor am I sending you to two cities, or ten or twenty, nor to one people, as I once sent the prophets, but over land and sea, to the whole world, a world in very evil condition. For when he said, "you are the salt of the earth," he showed that all human nature was rendered unsavory and corrupt by sin. Therefore, he looks for those virtues in them principally which are the more necessary and useful for taking care of the many. The person who is gentle, modest, merciful, and just does not shut up his good works in himself, but is concerned that those fair springs should flow for the benefit of others. Again, the one who is pure of heart, and a peacemaker, who feels the urge for truth - such a person orders his life for the benefit of all.

*St. John Chrysostom
Homily on the Gospel of Matthew, 15, 6*

**From a Pastoral Letter for the Third Millennium
Part 4of 4**

PRIEST

Very Reverend
Fr. Isaac Crow
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org
(401) 300-8238 cell
(240) 489-3494 home

DEACON

Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChris-
tian@peterpaulpotomac.org

PRIEST EMERITUS

Very Reverend
Fr. George Rados
frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL

Chairperson

Suzanne Hermes

Vice Chairman

Metody Tilev

Treasurer

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Secretary

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Alex Cox

Paul Debs

Lina Eid

Salim Habayeb

Bassem Haddad

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George Tannous

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Jerry Audi

Michael El Araj

Abraham Fannoney

Sam Khalil

ALTAR

Manager

Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS

Captains -

Rashid Haddad

Thomas Zook

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2017-2018

It is time to register for our Children's Church School Program. Registration is online and now open. Please go to: <https://goo.gl/forms/GQ6uQSnltimwJW2> All new and returning students should register each year to provide us with the most current information. Our first day of Church School begins September 10th. Students will line up for communion first and proceed to the downstairs area for a snack and class. We ask families to donate snacks and drinks throughout the year. Donations can be dropped off in the Church School office on Sundays. What can you donate? Small water bottles, juice boxes, small juice boxes, and individually packaged snacks. Please make sure all snacks are NUT AND PEANUT FREE. Please contact us at peterpaulsundaysschool@gmail.com with any questions.

SS. PETER & PAUL OUTREACH VISITATION MINISTRY

The outreach ministry seeks to visit and to assist the elderly, the sick, and those who are housebound, shut-in, or living in nursing homes. Volunteers are needed who are willing to call and to visit and to reach out to our elderly brethren. All those willing to help please contact the coordinators of the group: George & Alma Jean Zaki at (georgezaki@gmail.com or ajmzaki@gmail.com), Alex Cox at (alexcoxells@gmail.com) or Fr. Isaac at (frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org). Our Parish is grateful for this ministry remembering that when we visit the sick and the infirm we visit Christ himself.

The Antiochian Women "Angel Fund"

The Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church "Angel Fund", an outreach of the Antiochian Women, provides support to parishioners in need. Our Pastor designates recipients who would benefit from the Angel Fund., which provides grocery gift cards to parishioners in need to help them with some of their food needs. Financial contributions to this fund are welcomed, and checks should be made out to: Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Women and earmarked "Angel Fund." For more information contact Fr. Isaac at: frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org.

"EXPLORING OUR FAITH" THE SS. PETER AND PAUL ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORUM

"Exploring Our Faith" will meet every other Thursday evening from 7:15pm to 8:30pm in the lower level conference room. The next meeting is Thursday, September 28, 2017. Fr. Isaac facilitates the meetings using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a wide range of topics concerning our Faith. Please contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org or Kate Niewenhaus at handmaidens20854@gmail.com for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME..

SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH LEARNING & MEDIA CENTER

Donations are welcomed in support of the establishment of the new Church Learning and Media Center. Please send all donations to Ss. Peter and Paul Church earmarked "Library Fund". In addition, donation of books on topics related to the Orthodox Faith, Doctrine, Church History, Liturgy, and Scripture will be gratefully accepted. Please contact Fr. Isaac, Dn. Christian, or Kate Niewenhaus for more information.

CHURCH CALENDAR

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| Sep 12 | *Parish Council Mtg/7p |
| Sep 13 | *Evening Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Elevation of the Cross |
| Sep 17 | *Procession of the Cross
*Joyce Kogok In Memory of Richard & son Richard Kogok/Memorial Wheat & Bread
*Fellowship in honor of Fr. George Rados |
| Sep 22-24 | *Teen SOYO/12:30p/LL Conf. Room |
| Sep 28 | *Ss. Peter & Paul Church Bazaar |
| Sep 28 | *Exploring our Faith/7:15p/LL Conf. Rm. |
| Sep 30 | *Summer Tomlin/Baptism/11:00a
*Rafeedie/Erazo Wedding/4p |
| Oct 01 | *Andrew Hinton Hartman Baptism/1:30 |
| Oct 10 | *Parish Council Mtg/7p |
| Oct 14 | *Bahou/Alhabib Wedding/3p |
| Oct 21 | *Nicholas/Mufarrij Wedding/2p |
| Oct 28 | *Sebastian Constantine Baptism/10a |
| Nov 4 | *Nessim/Garadah Wedding/2p |

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Helping a person in need is good in itself. But the degree of goodness is hugely affected by the attitude with which it is done. If you show resentment because you are helping the person out of a reluctant sense of duty, then the person may receive your help, but may feel awkward and embarrassed. This is because he will feel beholden to you. If, on the other hand, you help the person in a spirit of joy, then the help will be received joyfully. The person will feel neither demeaned nor humiliated by your help, but rather will feel glad to have caused you pleasure by receiving your help. And joy is the appropriate attitude with which to help others, because acts of generosity are a source of blessing to the giver as well as the receiver.

St. John Chrysostom

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook
Christine Morin
Lizzy Cassar
Caroline Jarboe
Chrissy Mackoul
Anees Mokhiber
Philip Allen
AJ Wood
Jennifer Montgomery
Dina Saah
Stephen Zolnerowich

MENS CLUB

Sam Khalil

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Carol Laham

TEEN SOYO

Advisor

Jamilee Bellone

Officers

Danielle Bellone
Kinda Callas
Maya Saah
Joud Al-Kallas
Juliana Natour

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Jad Ibrahim, Jr.

ADORNMENT

Shams Akkawi
Jamil Hermes

FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Sam Berberian
Nick Nahas
Bob Simon

RENTAL COORDINATOR

Barbara Abraham

CHARITIES

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

FINANCE

Salim Habayeb

STEWARDSHIP

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

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

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Archpriest George Rados	Brian Briggs	Mary Smith
Margaret Ashley	Isabel Threddeh	George Brown
Helen White	Thelma Badwey	Everett Alvarez
Holly Dubois	Grace Malouf	Barbara Abraham
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Lulu Brown	Tania Mufarrrij
George & Joan Abraham	Mary Bazargan	
Suad Shammass		

LIVING

Leena Haddad	Yasmin Courtright
Mariam Yazge	Leila Khoury
Deborah Brown	Bob Petrossian
Richard Ayoub	Louise Magelli
Julia Fayad	Derek Gilliam
Andrew Gavin	Sharen Zacharia
Nabil and Nabeela Barbari	John & Dina Saah
Fayeruz, Robert & Hamilton Regan	Fahad and Christine Nazer
Nadia, Gilberto, Laila & Gilberto Pietri	Ss. Peter & Paul Church School
The Barbari Family	Teachers & Children
Youlanda S. Mughanam	
Suad B. Shammass	
Issa Boullata	
Kamal & Lily Boullata	

DEPARTED

Vr. Rev. Archpriest Fr. Louis Mahshie
 V. Rev. Joseph Sakkab
 Kh. Mary Sue Walker
 Sammy Audi
 Elaine Buchko
 Saleem Audi
 Nahida Barbari
 Adib Saah
 Saliba and Akileh Barbari
 Adeeb, Yasmeen and JoAnne Ibrahim
 Yacoub Shammass
 Asine Shammass
 George Shammass
 Nicola Shammass
 Joseph Boullata
 Barbara Boullata
 Renee Boullata
 Andre Boullata
 Jami Boullata

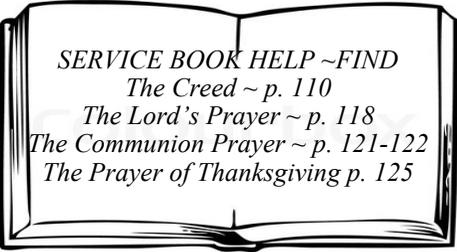
Orthodox Christians
 Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, 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 to 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:
 Saah Family - 1 year Memorial for Adib Saah
 Barbari Family—1 year Memorial for Nahida Barbari
 FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
 Saah Family and Barbari Family

Ss. Peter & Paul Teen SOYO 2017-2018
 Ss Peter & Paul Teen SOYO will hold its first meeting on Sunday, September 17th at 12:00 noon in the Lower Level Conference Hall. All teens (ages 13-19) are invited to participate. May God Bless them at the start of their new year. For information contact Zaid Sharafudin (zaid343@yahoo.com) or Anees Mokhiber (aneesmokhiber@gmail.com)