



**The Self-Ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese
OF NORTH AMERICA**

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January, 2015

Brother Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, Esteemed Members of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees and Parish Councils, Department Chairs and Beloved Faithful:

Greetings to you and your families in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray you all enjoyed a blessed feast of Theophany.

2015 is an historic year in the life of our God-protected archdiocese. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the falling-asleep of St. Raphael of Brooklyn as well as the 120th anniversary of our Mother Cathedral of St. Nicholas in Brooklyn and, therefore, our Antiochian presence on these blessed shores.

Our father in Christ, Patriarch JOHN X, inaugurated this jubilee year during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn on December 7th. Throughout 2015, we will mark this anniversary at various places and locations, including, but not limited to, the Antiochian Village, St. Nicholas Cathedral in Brooklyn, NY, the archdiocese convention in Boston and St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. Likewise, the theme of our convention and parish life conferences, as well as the various festivals and contests is centered on, and will reflect on the life of this "good shepherd of the lost sheep in America."

In addition to these archdiocesan events, it is my desire and directive that each pastor and parish incorporate this jubilee year and highlight the life and legacy of St. Raphael in their divine services, sermons, retreats and bulletins, as well as other community and social events like church festivals. There are already a variety of resources available on antiochian.org/straphaelofbrooklyn to help with this including a downloadable version of the official logo and information on ordering the special commemorative banner to publicize this historic year both within the parish and to the public. Please make use of these resources as you celebrate in your parishes.

Praying that St. Raphael of Brooklyn will continue to intercede for us, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

+Metropolitan JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"...the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch." ACTS 11:26

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR	FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION
25		Mokhiber family	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.
1-Feb	Abe & Susan Fannoney	Abe & Susan Fannoney	
8-Feb	Lorna Malooley; Laila Ayoub	Lorna Malooley; Laila Ayoub	
15	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem	

OUR NEWLY CANONIZED SAINT PAISIOS OF THE HOLY MOUNTAIN

Priests
Very Reverend
Fr. George Rados
frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org
Very Reverend
Fr. Isaac Crow
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org

Deacon
Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

Pastoral Assistant & Youth Director
Majd Akkawi
majd@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL Chairman
Gary Farha
Vice Chairman
George Salem
Secretary
Suzanne Hermes
Treasurer
Richard Mahan
Members
Rida Boulos
Abdallah Daoud
Paul Debs
Lina Eid
Anita El-Araj
Dr. Bassam Haddad
David Jackson
Maha Jweied
Wayne Parr
Steve Simon
Tony Moussa

Church Secretary
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

Choir Director
John Slanta
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

Chanters
Majd Akkawi
Wayne Parr
George Tannous

Ushers
Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
Sam Khalil

ALTAR Manager
Peter Aburdeineh

Servers
Captains -
Robert Bridenhagen
Nicholas Zolnerowich

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

TONE 7 SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2015 EOTHINON 10

Athanasius and Cyril, patriarchs of Alexandria
Martyr Theodula of Anazarbus and her companions; Maximos, Serbian ruler

Today we Commemorate: Martyr Theodula of Anazarbus and Her Companions; Maximos, Serbian Ruler

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 7)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF SAINTS ATHANASIUS AND CYRIL (Tone 3)

*(**Thy confession**)*

With work of Orthodoxy, ye shone forth and extinguished wicked opinion, becoming triumphant and clothed with victory. And having enriched all with true worship, and adorned the Church with great adornment, Athanasius and wise Cyril, ye worthily found Christ God, granting to all, through your prayers, the Great Mercy.

TROPARION 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 PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (Tone 1)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

Saint Paisios of the Holy Mountain **Canonized on January 13, 2015** **Feast Day: July 12th**

On January 13, 2015, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople officially entered PAISIOS EZNEPIDIS (1924-1994) among the list of saints whose memory the Orthodox Church celebrates.

Saint Paisios of Mount Athos was born in Cappadocia on July 25, 1924. Almost immediately his family was forced to flee with the general exodus of Greek refugees from Asia Minor. They settled in Eperos in North Western Greece. He first visited Mt. Athos in 1949 after his time in the army. He returned in 1950 and, after a short time in the neighborhood of Karyes, settled in the Monastery of Esphigmenou. In 1954 he was tonsured there as rasophoros monk with the name Averkios. That same year he moved to the Monastery of Philotheou, which at that time was still idiorhythmic. The elder observed in later years that one could even live a more ordered and stricter ascetic life in an idiorhythmic monastery than in a cenobium if one was under close supervision of a good spiritual father. After two years he was tonsured to the small schema in Philotheou and given the name Paisios. In 1958 Fr. Paisios left the Mountain and went to the Stomio Monastery of Konitsas north of Ioaninna. He stayed there for four years and in 1962 went to Mt. Sinai where he lived in the Skete of St. Epistime on Gebel Mugufa. In the two years that he stayed there he gave himself to strict physical asceticism which he later said was the breaking of his health. In 1964 he returned to Mt. Athos and lived in the Cell of the Archangels in Iveron Skete. He was hospitalized in 1966 and while on the mainland became acquainted with the nuns of the Hesy-chastirion of St. John the Theologian, whom he helped greatly in years to come and where he died and was buried. In 1968 he went to Stavronikita Monastery and was tonsured to the great and angelic schema by Papa-Tychon of the Kelli of the Holy Cross. After Papa-Tychon's passing he left the kelli of Geron Paisios and the elder remained there from 1968 to 1979. In 1979 he moved to the kathisma of Koutloumousiou Monastery known as Panagouda near Karyes. At his request the kathisma was made a kelli and the elder was given an omologo/life-lease. Many of his monastic spiritual sons settled nearby in kellia or in kalyvia

of Koutloumousiou Skete, but the elder lived alone. Many, many pilgrims came to visit him there. He finally died and was gathered to the Lord on July 12, 1994.

Saint Paisios' life is distinguished for his excessive asceticism, vigils, fasting, and ceaseless prayer. These did not subside with the multitudes who resorted to him for help, nor with the illnesses which—especially during the last part of his life—unintentionally perfected and completed his earlier intentional asceticism. Of course, his asceticism has become known to us in spite of his deep humility, as it was apparent in the rest of his behavior. For one's behavior is the only firm foundation and seal of sanctity. Saint Paisios' wondrous life, which has been brought to light by Christ's love for His Church, exactly followed the footsteps of the Saints of old in all its manifestations. These are complete obedience and the seizing of one's will at the start of the monastic life in a cenobitic monastery, complete asceticism and silence, the completion of prayer (as much as is humanly possible), the guidance of other souls and the institution of "schools of virtue" (monasteries), the spiritual education of spiritual guides embellished with gifts similar to his, the gift of clairvoyance and discernment, the gift of healing, the zealous defense of Orthodoxy against heresies and blasphemy, God-pleasing prayer for the whole world out of love (both for his earthly nation and every soul), the gift of consoling and of simplicity. In addition, in the general consciousness of the Church, even while he was still alive, he was considered a saint according to the example of the ancient ascetics.

Upcoming events...

Jan 18—Antiochian Women's Luncheon Meeting @ 12pm
Jan 20—Iconography Installation in Sanctuary begins
Jan 22—Adult Ed Forum @ 7:15pm
Jan 27—Men's Club Meeting
Jan 28— FSJD "Evening with the Fathers"
Jan 29—FSJD "Orthodoxy on Tap"
Feb 28—Baptism of Aurora Farmand 12:00pm

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

THE EPISTLE

(For Ss. Athanasius and Cyril)

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.
For Thou are justified in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (13:7-16)

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the Word of God; consider the outcome of their life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. Therefore, let us go forth to Him outside the camp and bear the abuse He endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city, which is to come. Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His Name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Twelfth Sunday of Luke)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (17:12-19)

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, He was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When He saw them He said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving Him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus said, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook
Razan Abdallah
Christine Morin
Roxanne Bennett
Lara Bellone
Amber Bennett
Caroline Jarboe
Saleem Mokhiber
Stephen Zolnerowich
Anees Mokhiber

Men's Club

Sam Khalil

Antiochian Women

Kate Niewenhous

Teen SOYO

Adviser:
Majd Akkawi
Facilitators:
Phillip Allen
Reema Guegel
Stephen Zolnerowich
Samia Zolnerowich
Anees Mokhiber

Fellowship of St. John

Majd Akkawi
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

David Jackson

Stewardship

Lorna Malooley

TEEN SOYO

2015 ICON LITURGICAL CALENDARS

Beautiful iconography made by Kh. Erin Kimmitt, who has handwritten the icons herself. The 2015 liturgical calendars are available at the Teen SOYO in Kogok Hall after Liturgy. Buy one today and support Teen SOYO. Cost is \$15 each, or \$20 for two.

NOT TOO SOON FOR SUMMER CAMP

Time to think summer...summer camp that is! Registration is open at the Village. There are 4 sessions including chant camp (during session 1) and iconography camp (during session 3). This is a wonderful experience for the kids to learn about and strengthen their faith, make friends, and enjoy the outdoors. As sessions fill quickly, go to avcamp.org and register today. Scholarship help is available; speak with Fr. George or Fr. Isaac. Additionally there is a wonderful family camp Memorial Day weekend for the whole family.

Several Ss. Peter and Paul families have participated in family camp and can answer any questions you may have. Email us for more info at SundaySchool@peterpaulpotomac.org.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

The Antiochian Women of Ss. Peter & Paul will meet today immediately following Liturgy in the lower level hall. We meet for fellowship, encouragement and a potluck lunch. All ladies are welcome.

ICONOGRAPHY PROJECT 2015

The project to complete the Iconography (The Adornment project) in our Church will begin on January 19. The project will take approximately four weeks and it will therefore be necessary to hold Divine Liturgy in the main hall (Kogok Hall) on Sundays January 25, February 1, 8 and 15. The faithful are asked to be patient during this period as the Sanctuary will be a "work zone." Please remember that donations for the Iconography are still needed. Each donated Icon will be dedicated in a special "Journal Book of Consecration" upon completion of the Ss. Peter and Paul Adornment project.

STEWARDSHIP MONTH

Our Parish Council is designating January as "Stewardship Month," during which we will make special efforts to bring to parishioners' attention the need to contribute to the financial support of our church and our Archdiocese. Our priests will help us understand what our faith has to say about stewardship. Upon the solid foundation built by those before us, we strive to continue the tradition of Ss Peter and Paul for those who come after us – our children and our children's children. The effort to sustain Ss Peter and Paul spiritually and financially never ends. It is OUR church. All are welcome to become involved, we need you! The doors are always open, thanks to all those who give of their treasure and time and labor here at the church. If you have not already done so, please complete and submit a green pledge form. During Stewardship Month, green pledge forms will be available in the vestibule for your convenience. Yellow envelopes are available for your Archdiocese dues. Each church is assessed based on their annual operating budget, so if you do not pay your share of the Archdiocese Assessment, it must come out of the church's general fund that could be used for other purposes. You may drop your envelope at the candle stand or in the collection basket.

DONATION ENVELOPES

There are 100 sets of donation envelopes available on a first come first served basis for parishioners who prefer using them. Envelopes are on the right counter as you enter Kogok Hall. Each box contains 100 envelopes and are undated and unnumbered. If you prefer including your member number with your donation, feel free to write it on the address line on the front of the envelope.

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.

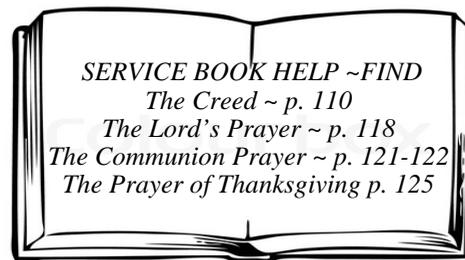
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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 & FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

Offered by Nabil & Caroline Emad & Family;
 May Fillah & Family

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

LIVING

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

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

Barbara Abraham
 The Emad Families
 Haddad Family
 Spurr Family
 Kyriakos Family
 Uncle Phil Rahbany
 Eckhart Family
 May Fillah & Family
 Christopher Gailliott

DEPARTED

Angel Mikhail Najjar
 Gloria Swydan
 Nouha Emad
 Habib Haddad
 Eda Emad
 Abraham Fillah
 Adel Nagle
 Robert Curtin
 Gage Garmo

On Sunday, January 4, a 1-year Memorial Service was offered by Mrs. Ramona Dora and family for the repose of the soul of the servant of God William Dora, Sr. Following the service, fellowship hour was offered by the family in his Memory. May God grant him peace and repose and may his memory be eternal.

Prayers were offered for the following:

Living: Ramona Dora & Family; William Dora, Jr. & Family; Richard & Joanne David; Ted & Pat David & Family; Linda & George Elkanich & Family; William and Carol Barrick
Departed: William Dora, Sr.; Olga David; Zore David; Josephine & George Dora