

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
03 Dec	Fr. George 40-Day Memorial Lorna Malooley, Alganesh Piechocinski, Chris Malaska, Asma Trey. Memorial Wheat provided by the Choir	Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Council Fr. George 40-Day Memorial
10 Dec	Kheirbek Family	Open
17 Dec	Dolly Browning	St. Ignatius Christmas Luncheon
24 Dec	Kheirbek Family	Open
31 Dec	Kheirbek Family	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, DECEMBER 3, 2017

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 4

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

THE HOLY PROPHET ZEPHANIAH; MARTYRS AGAPIOS, SELEUKOS AND MAMAS; VENERABLE THEODOULOS, EPARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE; HIEROMARTYR GABRIEL, BISHOP OF GANOS AND PRUSA; NEW-MARTYR ANGELIS OF CHIOS; VENERABLE COSMAS OF ST. ANNE SKETE ON ATHOS

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

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 PREPARATION OF CHRIST'S NATIVITY (Tone 3)

*(**The original melody**)*

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a newborn babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

To be a Christian is to affirm God as Creator of the universe; and when a Christian looks at the beauty and glory of what God has made, praise and thanksgiving pour from the lips.

St. John Chrysostom

The Twelve Days of Christmas

On Saturday, December 9th, at 6:30 pm, Ss. Peter & Paul Church will host a Concert of Orthodox Byzantine Nativity Hymns in English performed by the Boston Byzantine Choir under the direction of Charles Marge. Following the concert, a reception will be held in the Church hall. All are welcome

WHY GO TO CHURCH?

THE CENTER OF WORSHIP: THE EUCHARIST (con't)

Now, lest we be tempted to think eating and drinking Christ's Body and Blood is only meant to be a metaphor, it may be helpful to know that early Christians took this very seriously—so seriously that one of the common accusations from the surrounding pagan culture was that Christians were cannibals!

Likewise, in John 6, Jesus says, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him” (John 6:53-56). Some of Christ's followers heard that and turned away from Him. He didn't call them back, reassuring them it was just a metaphor (John 6:66). He was serious.

Why was He serious? It's because He knew and was teaching us what makes the claims of the nature-loving “spiritual but not religious” worshiper moot. There's nothing wrong with loving nature (indeed, it can teach us to love God), but taking a walk in the woods doesn't get you access to the Eucharist. God did not become incarnate as a tree or as underbrush, so while even though the heavens and the earth and all created things do indeed declare the glory of God, they do not give us access to commune with Him in true worship. He became incarnate as a human man, and thus the only complete, fulfilled way to commune with Him is through the flesh and blood He makes available to us as the Eucharist.

WHAT DOES ALL THIS MEAN?

The reason to go to church is worship. While it is possible to think about God, to love God, to learn about God, and even to praise God outside of a church—and there can be a worshipful aspect to those activities—the fullness of worship is only to be found in the eucharistic community, whose worship includes not only those moments when the Eucharist is received but also the whole liturgical tradition. Even when Holy Communion is not received, the services of the Orthodox Church presuppose their center on the Eucharist, and their inherent physicality, their involvement of the body, puts us into contact with the God who became incarnate, taking on a body.

Real worship requires community, and because the community is led in its worship by an ordained sacramental priesthood, the *fullness* of worship just isn't available outside the community. It would be like a child out on his own insisting that he is a family. He can't become a family when he grows up, either, as long as he's by himself. Just as family life requires a family, worship always involves a community. And just as a family needs parents, the church needs its priesthood. All these elements work together to bring us into communion with Christ, and through Him and in Him, with His Father and the Holy Spirit.

*Fr. Andrew S. Damick
(Part 6 of 6)*

CHRIST IS BORN GLORIFY HIM

As part of our spiritual preparation for the coming of the Nativity of our Lord, Ss. Peter and Paul Church will participate at a Christian Ecumenical Recital on Saturday, December 16 at 6:00pm to be held at St. Aphraim Syriac Orthodox Church, 6200 Indian Run Pkwy, Alexandria, VA. Fr. Isaac and a group of our Byzantine chanters will be singing a selection of hymns from the Katavasia of the Nativity Canon.

All are welcome to attend.

PRIEST

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

DEACON

Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL

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Salim Habayeb
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Tony Moussa
George Zaki

CHURCH SECRETARY

office@peterpaulpotomac.org

CHOIR DIRECTOR

John Slanta
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

CHANTERS

Wayne Parr
Zeina Manasseh
George Tannous

USHERS

Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
Sam Khalil

ALTAR

Manager
Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS

Captains -
Andrew Erickson
Rashid Haddad
Thomas Zook

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2017-2018

Registration for Church School is ongoing using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/GQ6uQSnltimwgwJW2>. Also, please make sure to register with the church, including your email as most Church school announcements go out to the entire parish. School calendars are now available. We are also in need of snacks/drinks for the children--small and reg. juice boxes, juice pouches, small waters, individually wrapped snacks (PEANUT & TREE NUT FREE).

- Dec 3** *Saint Nicholas Workshop
Dec 17 *Church School Christmas Play
Mar 18 *2018 Pascha Prep Workshop

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY

The Church School Christmas Play and St. Ignatius luncheon will be held after Church on Sunday, December 17. Once again, Carol Pappas will provide her beautiful costumes for our children. You can get a form for reserving a costume for your child from your child's teacher. Forms plus \$5.00 are due by November 26. We will be fitting the children with their costumes on December 3. Please contact Linda Shaheen at lshaheen47@gmail.com with any questions.

TEEN SOYO

Events and outreach projects:
Jan 05 *Overnight Retreat

The Lay Advisors are:
 Zaid Sharafudin/zaid343@yahoo.com and
 Anees Mokhiber / aneesmokhiber@gmail.com

THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Starting Today, the Antiochian Woman will be collecting funds and will be available in the Hall to accept your donations for the following Activities:

Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas

- Dec 03** **Putting Together.....**
 *Gift Bags for our Shut-Ins over the holidays
 *Back Packs full of toiletries and sundries for those in need at Bethesda Cares
- Dec 09** *Antiochian Women's Christmas luncheon/
 11:30am at Wildfire, Tysons Corner.

Please note that we are accepting dues payments from those ladies willing to help underwrite our costs during the year.

MEN'S CLUB

Jan 06, 2018 Take down Christmas decorations/9:00a

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

"Exploring Our Faith" meets every other Thursday evening **7:00p to 8:30p** in the lower level conference room. The next meeting is **Thursday, December 14, 2017**. Fr. Isaac facilitates the meetings using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a variety of topics concerning our faith. ALL ARE WELCOME. Please contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org or Kate Niewenhaus at hand-maidens20854@gmail.com.

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 (alexcxsells@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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- Dec 03 *V.R. Fr. George M. Rados/40-day Memorial
 *Church School St. Nicholas Workshop/LL Hall
 *Antiochian Women putting together gift Bags and back packs/Kogok Hall
- Dec 09 *Antiochian Women Christmas Luncheon
 11:30am/Wildfire, Tysons Corner
 *Vespers @5:30pm
 *Boston Byzantine Choir/6:30p
 Reception to follow recital in the Hall
- Dec 12 *Parish Council Meeting/7p/LL Conf. Rm.
 Dec 17 * Church School Christmas Play to follow the Liturgy
 *St. Ignatius Luncheon to follow
- Dec 24 *10:30a/Liturgy for Sunday before Nativity
 *9:00p/Matins for the Feast of the Nativity
 *10:00p/Liturgy for the Nativity
- Dec 25 *Office Closed
- Dec 28 *Aron Nabil Choueiry Baptism/12p
 Dec 29 *Malooley/Partridge Wedding/
 Dec 31 *Petro/Azar Wedding/4p
 Jan 01 *Offices Closed
 Jan 05 *Feast of the Theophany/Great Blessing of the Waters/Vespers 6:00p/Divine Liturgy 7p
 *Teen SOYO/Overnight Retreat
- Jan 06 *Take down Christmas Decorations/9a

THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (5:8-19)

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true—and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it is said, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light." Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:35-43)

At that time, when Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Memory Eternal – The Archbishop George Rados

Today, December 3rd, the forty (40) day Memorial Service will be held for the repose of the soul of our beloved Pastor Emeritus Fr. George. Following the Service a Memorial Fellowship hour will be offered by the Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Council for all the Parish. Please plan on attending this important remembrance of our founding Pastor, as our Parish offers gratitude in prayer for the blessing of his ministry. May his Memory be Eternal.

Antiochian Women

It's time to sign up for our annual Christmas party!
 When: December 9, 2017 from 11:30am-2:00pm
 Where: Wildfire at Tyson's Galleria
 Cost: \$45.00 pp. Cash Bar
 Bring a wrapped gift in the \$12-\$15 range for our grab
ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED TO 50 PERSONS and secured by payment.
 Collecting fee on Sundays through December 3.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
 Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
 Susan Kozlov
 Rose Ansara
 Chrissy Mackoul
 Michelle Zook
 Dina Saah
 Dara Potter
 Claudia Rabie
 Christine Morin
 Jennifer Montgomery
 Caroline Jarboe
 Stephen Zolnerowich
 Anees Mokhiber
 AJ Wood
 Philip Allen

MENS CLUB

Sam Khalil

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Carol Laham

TEEN SOYO

Lay Advisors

Zaid Sharafudin
 Anees Mokhiber

Officers

Kinda Callas
 Julia Allen
 Joud Al-Kallas
 Josian Azar
 Tia Saah

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Wayne Parr

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

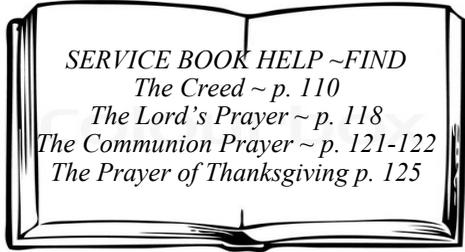
Orthodox Christians
Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, 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.



Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Margaret Ashley	Brian Briggs	Mary Smith
Helen White	Isabel Thredeth	George Brown
Everett Alvarez	Holly Dubois	Robert & Thelma Badwey
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Miriam Yazge	Barbara Abraham
George & Joan Abraham	Lulu Brown	Martin Pinkstaff
Suad Shammass	Mary Bazargan	Marie Kennedy

DEPARTED
Archpriest George Rados
Jacqui Rados
Christopher Rados
Issa Michael
Alice Haje
Walter Trey
Betty Stribling
Laila George

LIVING

Leila Khoury	Bob Petrossian
Louise Magelli	Julia Fayad
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Mark Buchko
George & Hanada Rados & Family	David Rados
Mark & Dana Rados & family	Paul Rados
Sherrie Zacharia	Danielle Bellone
Amanda Ayvaz	Anastasia Lampathakis
Youstina Mikharel	Barbara Abraham
Lorna Malooley	Chris Malaska
Asma Trey	Michael & Alganesh Piechocinski
Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem	Ss. Peter & Paul Choir
Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Council	Susan Fannoney
Scott Buckman	Petro Family
Bob Cohen	Johnny Petro
John Dalelio	Tedla & Piechocinski Families
Amir & Sarah P. Abu el Hawa	

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:
Lorna Malooley, Chris Malaska, Asma Trey, & Alganesh Piechocinski
In Memory of Fr. George

MEMORIAL WHEAT OFFERED BY:
Ss. Peter & Paul Liturgical Choir in Memory of Fr. George
Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem for St. Barbara Day for the Good Health of Barbara Abraham
& In Memory of Fr. George

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
Ss. Peter & Paul & Paul Parish Council

Ss. Peter and Paul Christmas Card
Each year, Teen SOYO produces the parish Christmas Card on behalf of all the families. The donations raised from this effort has typically been \$2,500; these funds help the teens attend archdiocese events and meetings, provide much needed financial support to a variety of charities that the teens work with, allow teens to put special programs and activities together, as well as help the teens make meaningful contributions to the operations of Saints Peter and Paul as good stewards of our community. Without your support, these programs and activities would not be possible
We are still taking donations through today, December 3 during Fellowship Hour Your generosity at this time of year is most appreciated. and we will provide you with a receipt for your donation. Thank you for your continued support of Teen SOYO.