

	<b>Bread of Holy Oblation</b>	<b>Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>05 Jan</b>	Gail Bailey/IMO Sami Khalil Jabbour Hier Family	Heir Family
<b>12 Jan</b>	Mitody Tilev/IMO Atanas & Ivanka	Mitody Tilev/IMO Atanas & Ivanka
<b>19 Jan</b>	George & Grace Malouf	Michael & Nadia El-Hage & Denise Bölus
<b>26 Jan</b>	Everett & Tammy Alvarez	Open
<b>02 Feb</b>	Donna Gavin	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 Kogok Hall.

**SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-3400 • [www.peterpaulpotomac.org](http://www.peterpaulpotomac.org)

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

**PRIESTS**

Very Reverend  
Fr. Isaac Crow  
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org  
(301) 765-3400 #1 office  
(401) 300-8238 cell  
(240) 489-3494 home

Reverend  
Fr. Luke Toumi  
frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org  
(301) 765-3400 #2 office  
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**DEACON**

Dn. Christian Manasseh  
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

**COUNCIL**

**Chairperson**  
Jumana Misleh  
**Vice Chairperson**  
Ken Bailey  
**Treasurer**  
Michael El-Hage  
**Secretary**  
Samer Korkor  
**Members**  
Jerry Audi  
Rana Callas  
Elias El-Hage  
Nabil Emad  
Michele Forzley  
Serene Jweied  
Sam Khalil  
Carol Laham  
Janet Metz  
Alganesh Piechocinski  
A.J. Wood

**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

**CHOIR DIRECTOR**  
Kristopher Reese  
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

**ASSISTANT CHOIR DIRECTORS**  
Marie Hyder  
Mark Buchko

**CHANTERS**  
Amjad Khalil  
Zeina Manasseh  
Rezanne Toumi  
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 ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
*Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America*  
*H.E. Metropolitan JOSEPH*

*Archbishop Primate*  
*All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes*

**Matins:** Sundays 9:30am  
**Divine Liturgy:** Sundays 10:30am

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020**  
**FESTAL DIVINE LITURGY THE THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD,**  
**GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

**\*\*DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT\*\***

**APOLYTIKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST (Tone 1)**

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, worship of the Trinity wast made manifest; for the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, calling Thee His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the likeness of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

**KONTAKION OF THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST (Tone 4)**

*(\*\*The original melody\*\*)*

On this day Thou hast appeared \* unto the whole world, \* and Thy light, O Sovereign Lord, \* is signed on us who sing Thy praise \* and chant with knowledge: Thou hast now come, \* Thou hast appeared, O Thou Light unapproachable.

Thousands of times we sin and Christ forgives us, as long as we repent sincerely...

*Elder Paisios of Mount Athos,*  
*Spiritual Counsels Vol. II Spiritual Awakening 393*

**TODAY, SALVATION COMES TO OUR HOUSE**

Orthodox Christians encounter God today. The God we encounter revealed Himself as a babe in the Feast of the Nativity and as a man and God in this feast of Theophany. We meet this God who comes to us who have already read The Book, or at least the Cliff Notes. We encounter Him, knowing already the whole story of salvation. This God, born in a cavern, who lay in a manger, and now, in this feast, is experienced as a man beginning His ministry on earth, meets us in our time and place. When we meet Him, we choose how to respond to His coming to us. Do we make room for Him in our lives, accept Him as King and God, follow Him as disciples, suffer with Him in our flesh, and die with Him as faithful servants? Alternatively, do we carry on as if He has not yet come to us? This God allows us to choose how we shall respond. This God loves us and waits to hear from us.

When we celebrate each of the feasts, we meet Christ today as He came to us in history. Today He comes to us, His creation as a babe; vulnerable and weak. Will we make room in the caverns of our soul for Him? Today He comes to us as Man and God, who is revealed in the waters of the Jordan, witnessed by John the Baptist and his disciples. Will we join ourselves to Christ and His Father and the Holy Spirit? Today He comes to us as the teacher. Will we learn Truth? Today He comes to us in miracles? Will we follow Him? Today He sends us out into His world to share His good news. Will we be His apostles? Today He is rejected by the elite and many other people. Will we stand by Him and accept their scorn? Today He is crucified. Will we die with Him? Today He Ascends, sits at the right Hand of the Father, comes in glory and judges the world. Will we stand steadfast?

Today we are called to be born anew. Again and again and again, the Church calls us to confess our sins, change our directions and accept our newness. The Church does this because she is the bride of Christ who is Her source. She is enlivened and guided by the Holy Spirit, who works in each of us. In the Church we encounter God, not just in heaven at the liturgies, not just in feeding us in our Sunday School classes, not just in meeting Him in our outreach to those in prison, the naked, the hungry, or the afflicted, but also in every encounter with Church members as we call upon God's name. She is Holy, She is God's, She is for us mother, and She is our source of Life in Christ.

We meet Him again today, and in every feast day. Let us receive Him, His Life, and whatever He has for us, in our worship, our learning, and our life together. And today, too, may the world "be lighted by the light of the Lord."

***Bishop JOHN***

# Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

## CHURCH SCHOOL 2019-2020

We encourage all of our students to attend liturgy on Sundays. Please use the following link to register your children for the 2019-2020 Church School Year : <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>. For Newsletter <https://tinyurl.com/y48hecxe>

**Jan 05** \*Church School  
**Jan 12** \*No Church School

## TEEN SOYO

Ss. Peter & Paul Teen Youth Ministry Group (Teen SOYO) is open to all teens of the Parish (13—19 years). The teens meet regularly for social, spiritual, and community outreach events.

**Jan 05** \*Teen SOYO Antiochian Village-Style Liturgy  
 \*Teen SOYO mtg following Liturgy  
**Jan 11** \*Hosting Christmas Hafli/invites have gone out to St. George, St. Mary, Holy Cross

Lav Advisors: see list on page 2

## YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul YAF welcomes all young people over 21 years of age to join in its social, educational, and outreach activities. Please contact Amal Michael at [amal17m@yahoo.com](mailto:amal17m@yahoo.com) for more information.

## ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

\*Please pay your annual dues of \$25 to help support our outreach and charitable projects. **All women are members and are welcome.** Checks can be given to Janet Metz.

\*For future notices and any questions, please provide your email address to Donna Gavin at [crazygavins@verizon.net](mailto:crazygavins@verizon.net)

**2020**  
**Jan 12** \*Christmas Luncheon/1:00p/Wildfire @Tysons Corner (see Lorna Malooley for more information)  
**Jan 19** \*Book Club Meeting/following Liturgy (*Our Thoughts Determine our Lives: The Life & Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica*)  
**March** \*Antiochian Women's Month  
**Mar 07** \*Tea with Ladies of St. George (more info to follow)  
**Spring** \*Bakeless Bake Sale/AOCWNA/Helen Khalil

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul is to serve the church through charitable outreach, educational and service projects which strengthen and deepen the faith of its members and develop a fellowship of Orthodox Christian servants. Contact Sam Khalil at [sk1943@aol.com](mailto:sk1943@aol.com) or Fred Zacharia at [fredzach@verizon.net](mailto:fredzach@verizon.net) for more information.

## "EXPLORING OUR FAITH": ON WHEELS

Will be back on the road again soon. If you are interested in hosting one of these every-other-week week-night meetings, please send Fr Luke an email ([frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org)). He will check in with you on the dates the work best for you.

We are looking forward to moving these bi-weekly meetings around so its closer to your home at some point. Our goal is to drive no more than 15 minutes to get there.

**If you are willing to host one of these meetings in the future**, here is the deal: Number of attendees can be limited to fit in your space. You can host as few as 5 people if that is all you can seat (on-floor seats are premium). Only hot drinks are served. No food involved. Meeting time can be: 7:00-8:30 or 7:30-9:00 pm.

## THE SS. PETER & PAUL PARISH LIBRARY & MEDIA CENTER

houses the Parish Library, audio visual materials, and Christian educational resources. Donations of books or materials related to the history, tradition and teaching of the Church and the Orthodox Faith are welcome. All are welcome to use the center. Please contact the Church office for more details.

## 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 to visit, and to reach out to our elderly brethren. All those willing to help please contact the Church office.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**Jan 05** \*Epiphany of Our Lord and the Blessing of the Waters  
 \*Teen SOYO Antiochian Village-Style Liturgy.  
 \*Church School resumes  
**Jan 11** \*Teen SOYO Meeting to follow Church School  
 \*Hosting Christmas Hafli/invites have gone out to St. George, St. Mary, Holy Cross  
**Jan 11-12** \*Pastoral Visit by His Eminence Metropolitan +JOSEPH  
**Jan 12** \*Antiochian Women/Christmas Luncheon/1:00p/Wildfire @Tysons Corner  
**Jan 19** \*Book Club Meeting/following Liturgy (*Our Thoughts Determine our Lives: The Life & Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica*)  
**March** \*Antiochian Women's Month  
**Mar 07** \*Tea with Ladies of St. George (more info to follow)  
**Mar 08** \*Sunday of Orthodoxy

## 2020 BUDGET INFORMATION SERIES

### **Installment 2: Maintenance & repairs**

At our last general assembly, several questions were asked about our maintenance & repairs budget, and rightfully so. It's not cheap to maintain a facility such as our church. The fixed contracts portion of our annual maintenance & repairs expenses includes:

-Elevator maintenance: \$4,283.66  
 -HVAC: \$16,449.00  
 -Lawn and Grounds: \$14,470.00  
 -Pest Control: \$1,063.23

-Fire suppression: \$7,115.45  
 -Janitorial: \$33,000.00  
 -Alarm System: \$1,275.19

We also budget \$40,000 for general maintenance and repairs, and \$8,000 in maintenance & repair supplies.

Please do your part in helping us maintain our beautiful church and contribute regularly and faithfully.

## THE EPISTLE

*Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.  
 O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever.*  
**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus. (2:11-14; 3:4-7)**

My son Titus, the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world; awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for Himself a people of His own who are zealous for good deeds. When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of deeds done by us in righteousness, but in virtue of His own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal in the Holy Spirit, which He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

## THE GOSPEL

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

At that time, Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by Thee, and Thou dost come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, He went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on Him; and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, with Whom I am well pleased."

## SS. PETER AND PAUL PARISH COUNCIL 2020

Prayers and congratulations on the election of the new 2019 officers of the Parish Council:

**Chairperson:** Jumana Misleh  
**Treasurer:** Michael El-Hage

**Vice Chairperson:** Ken Bailey  
**Secretary:** Samer Kokor

May God Bless them together with all the new and serving members in their ministry to the Holy Church.

## OCMC News

— Did you know OCMC sent mission teams for the first time to Jamaica and Columbia, trained missionaries to work with Project Mexico for the first time, partnered with Orthodox Youth Mission Teams (OYMT), and prepared the first missionaries to Sweden?

—Do talk with Mike Bosworth and Sam Khalil about their upcoming medical mission to Guatemala. They are excited, and thank you for your prayers this new year as their March mission gets closer!

## **CHURCH SCHOOL**

### **Directors**

Samia Zolnerowich  
 Jennifer Buchko

### **Teachers**

Jumana Misleh  
 Susan Kozlov  
 SaraAyoub  
 Michelle Zook  
 Beth Davis  
 Alma Jean Zaki  
 Jennifer Montgomery  
 Kinda Callas  
 Dara Potter  
 Stephen Zolnerowich  
 Caroline Jarboe  
 Elizabeth El-Hage  
 Jaren Sams  
 Philip Allen  
 Nathaniel Guinn

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Sam Khalil

## **ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN**

Donna Gavin

## **TEEN SOYO**

### **Lav Advisors**

Stephen Zolnerowich  
 Riham Saah  
 Ken Bailey  
 Juliana Natour  
 Maya Saah  
 Kinda Callas  
 Sanaa Natour  
**Officers**  
 Tia Saah  
 Nick Shahin  
 Tala Natour  
 Rylee Isaac

## **YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP**

Amal Michael

## **FACILITY MANAGEMENT**

Sam Berberian  
 Alex Cox

## **RENTAL COORDINATOR**

Barbara Abraham  
 George Rados

## **CHARITIES & ST. IGNATIUS**

Sam Khalil

## **FINANCE**

Salim Habayeb

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Zeina Manasseh

## **GIFT SHOP**

Alma Jean Zaki  
 Gail Bailey  
 Meghan Zoto  
 George Zoto

# Commemorations

**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.

**SERVICE BOOK HELP ~FIND**  
 The Service starts on p. 91  
 The Creed ~ p. 110  
 The Lord's Prayer ~ p. 118  
 The Communion Prayer ~ p. 121-122  
 The Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 125

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.

**Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually**

Rt. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar	Rt. Rev. Daniel Griffith
Kh. Rebecca Alford	Kh. Ann Anderson
Ann Marie Moses	Kevin Pinkstaff
Isabel Thredch	Nabecha Ayoub
Joyce Hamaty	Barbara Mullin
Holly Dubois	Suad Shammas
Sophie Neam	Miriam Yazge
George & Joan Abraham	Lulu Brown
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Edward Rizkallah
Leila Khoury	Shoke George
Bob & Shirley Neri	Douglas Kalesh
Brian Briggs	

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**

Fr. George Rados  
 Kh. Jacqui Rados  
 Evelyn Kogok Hier  
 Harry Hier  
 Frances & Charlie Cox  
 Ann Kallil  
 Ann, Anthony, Albert, Jack & Evelyn,  
 Fred & Kay, Edward, Joseph, George,  
 Katie, and Philip Kogok  
 Sally Zakaib Ruffin  
 Rose Salamy  
 Sami Khalil Jabbour

**LIVING**

Archpriest Isaac & Kh. Dolly	Fred & Sherrie Zacharia	George Ellis
Ramona Dora	Anastacia Lampathakis	Ibrahim Mazen Saah
Yeorgos Lampathakis	Geffen Franus	Halim & Hayat Barakat
Sami Korbac	Vilma Bellone	Ricky M. Ayoub
Audree Yacoub	Tabitha Zolnerowich	Michael Piechocinski
Paul Misleh	Sarah Abdow & Baby William	Lorna Malooley & Family
Amir & Sarah Abu-El-Hawa	Bill Myhre	Ron & Missy Hier
Tom Hier	James & Nora Ayoub	Ken & Gail Bailey & Family
Alex & Thomascena Cox		
Edward, Ritamarie, Emilia & Viviana Saa		
Lidia, Ghassan, Adeeb, Farah & Hiba & families		
Taso, Michele & Timothy Markatos		

**REMOVAL OF CROWNS**  
 James & Nora Ayoub

**HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:**  
 Gail Bailey/IMO Sami Khalil Jabbour  
 Hier Family

**FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:**  
 Hier Family

**ZALABYA OFFERED BY:**  
 Sam & Margo Ghanem

For the Health of Fr. Isaac, Kh. Dolly & Barbara Abraham  
 IMO/Fr. George & Kh. Jacqui

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you for making our first Cookie Walk a successful event. In just a few hours the cookies were all gone and there were lots of smiles in Kogok Hall.

**THANK YOU BAKERS!** Your cookies were not only beautiful but delicious as well. Over 40 different cookies were presented for the taking. A complete sell out is testament to your fine culinary skills. God bless your hands and hearts.

**THANK YOU ST. IGNATIUS!** Many thanks for graciously allowing us to share your day and space. God bless you for all you do.

**THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!** Thank you is so little for the time and effort you put into making the Cookie Walk a success. From putting boxes together, to arranging cookies for display, setting up tables, setting up electronics, making countless trips between rooms and floors pushing carts full of goodies and supplies, cashiering, and helping along the line, your willingness to help did not go unnoticed. Because the Hall was rented for the weekend, all of the above was miraculously accomplished in a very short timeframe. God bless your hands and hearts.

**THANK YOU COOKIE WALKERS!** Parishioners, guests, and friends – thank you for taking the walk and filling your boxes with our wonderful pastry. We hope you enjoyed every bite!

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year,  
 Sherrie Zacharia Bette Adam John Abraham