

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
08 Jan	Hanneh Issa Daoud Hakim Family/1-yr Memorial for Arcadius Hakim	Hakim Family/1-yr Memorial for Arcadius Hakim
15 Jan	Tony & Emelie Sayegh	Mitody Tilev
22 Jan	open	Asma Trey
29 Jan	Tony Gabro/40-Day Memorial for Selwa Gabro	Tony Gabro/Mercy Meal for 40-Day Memorial for Selwa Gabro
05 Feb	open	Falafal Luncheon (Men's Club)

**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

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

SUNDAY JANUARY 8, 2017

tone 4/EOTHINON 7

SUNDAY AFTER THE THEOPHANY OF CHRIST

RIGHTEOUS MOTHER DOMNICA OF CONSTANTINOPLE AND HER COMPANIONS;

VENERABLE GEORGE THE CHOZEBITE

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 4)

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

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 form of a dove confirmed the truth of His word. O Christ our God, Who hath appeared and enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

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 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.

Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Council

Congratulations and Prayers of Blessing are offered to the newly elected and appointed officers and members of the Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Council.

Officers:

Chairperson	Suzanne Hermes
Vice Chair	Metody Tilev
Treasurer	Rich Mahan
Secretary	Abe Fannoney

Members: Roy Abdo, John Abraham, Philip Allen, Alex Cox, Paul Debs, Lina Eid, Salim Habayeb, Bassem Haddad, Samer Kokor, Tony Moussa, George Zaki.

May God Bless all the members of the Council in their service to the Holy Church.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

"John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins" (Mark 1:4).

John the Baptist plays a crucial role in the history of salvation. Chosen before his birth to be the herald and forerunner of the Messiah (Luke 1:13-17), he knew his Lord from the beginning. Luke writes of the miraculous conception of John (Luke 1:24). He then records that when the Virgin Mary visited Elizabeth, who was then six months pregnant with John the Baptist, the baby in Elizabeth's womb leaped at the sound of Mary's voice (Luke 1:41).

Jesus taught that John fulfilled the prophecy of the return of Elijah (Matt. 11:14), who was to precede the Messiah as "the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the LORD" (Matt. 3:3; Mark 1:3; Luke 3:4; John 1:23).

Shortly before Jesus began His public ministry, John went out to the wilderness of Jordan to prepare the way for the Messiah. He carried out his prophetic role with a brotherhood of disciples characterized by: (1) repentance in expectation of the Kingdom, (2) baptism for forgiveness of sins, (3) bearing the fruit of righteousness, and (4) spiritual discipline. John himself lived by an ascetic rule of poverty and fasting; in fact, he may have been a lifelong Nazirite (see Luke 1:15; Num. 6). His eyes were set not on the body and its desires but upon Christ the Lord, and this influence was widespread (see Mark 11:32; Luke 7:29; Acts 18:25; 19:1-7).

John prophesied that the Messiah was coming. One immeasurably greater than himself, "whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose" (Mark 1:7). This One would baptize not only with water but with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:8). When Jesus appeared before him to be baptized, John was humbled, realizing he himself was in need of being baptized by the Messiah, Jesus (Matt. 3:14). But Jesus knew what was fitting "to fulfill all righteousness" (Matt. 3:15), and John obeyed. Thus came the event so familiar in Orthodox icons: Christ in the Jordan, being baptized by John, the Holy Spirit descending on Him in the form of a dove. The Father's voice from heaven declares, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17).

John's work was crucial to Jesus' ministry. Jesus considered John's testimony important — not because Jesus, the Son of God, needed to be validated by any human witness but because the people's acceptance of John as a godly man prepared them to accept Jesus as well (John 5:33-35). Jesus' first disciples came from John's brotherhood (John 1:35-39), and the vacancy in the apostolic college was filled by one who had been John's follower (Acts 1:21, 22),

John the Baptist died a martyr for Christ (Mark 6:24-29). The Orthodox Church commemorates him in special hymns every Tuesday, as well as on designated feast days throughout the year.

Ss. Peter & Paul Church Library & Learning Center

Work has begun on setting up the new Parish Library and Learning Center in the lower level of the Church. Donations are still needed to support this important educational and informational resource center for the Parish. Please send all donations to St. Peter & 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.

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have classes for children 3 years old through 12th grade and meet following Communion. Registrations are handled online at <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>. We are in need of snacks & drinks for the kids. Individually wrapped snacks, juice pouches, flavored water pouches in the 4oz-6oz & small 8oz bottles for water. We ask each family to contribute throughout the year. **We are looking for one more teacher for this school year. Please contact peterpaulsundayschool@gmail.com.**

TEEN SOYO

Jan 8

*Teen SOYO monthly mtg./12:30p LL Conf. Rm.

Jan TBD

*Annual Snow Tubing event. Exact date TBD. Stay tuned.

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

All young adults in the parish (20-40 years of age) are encouraged to participate in this important ministry of the church. The fellowship is planning a number of activities for the new year including resumption of its study group meetings, potluck dinners, and Orthodoxy-on-Tap get togethers. For more information contact Jad Ibrahim Jr. at jad.ibrahim.jr@gmail.com, Lizzy Cassar or Dn. Christian Manasseh at dchristian@peterpaulpotomac.org.

MEN'S CLUB

Feb 05, 2017

Falafal Lunch

Feb 11, 2017

Dinner Dance (see flyer in Narthex)

Jun 07, 2017

Golf Tournament

Jun 25, 2017

Ss. Peter & Paul Picnic/Bretton Woods Rec Ctr (more details to follow)

ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE NEWS

Winter Camp: Winter Camp will be February 17-20, 2017. Please go to www.avcamp.org for more information and to sign up.

Summer Camp: It may be cold outside but registration is now open for Summer Camp 2017! The website is avcamp.org.

Feel free to contact the website or Samia Zolnerowich at samicz25@gmail.com if you have any questions. These sessions fill up fast every year and are already over half full. (Please note: if your family is in financial hardship, please see Father Isaac about assistance to pay for camp)

"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, January 12, 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 Niewenhous at handmaidens20854@gmail.com for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME..

SS. PETER & PAUL OUTREACH VISITATION MINISTRY

Our Parish is starting a new outreach ministry 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 (georgezaki@gmail.com or ajmzaki@gmail.com), Alex Cox (alexcoxells@gmail.com) or Fr. Isaac (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

2017

Jan 08	*The Sunday after Theophany *Blessing of the Parish Council *Churching of Talia Michelle Mitchell *Blessing of the Icon of Christ the High Priest *Teen SOYO Mtg.
Jan 10	*Parish Council Mtg./7p
Jan 12	*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p (see above for more details) *Issa Saleh Baptism/1:30p
Jan 15	*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p
Jan 26	*Divine Liturgy/Feast Of The Presentation Of The Lord/7:00p
Feb 01	*Falafal Lunch (in lieu of Coffee hour)
Feb 05	*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p
Feb 09	*Dinner Dance (Valentine Day Party)
Feb 11	*Ladies Aux Mtg/1p
Feb 12	*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p
Feb 23	*Parish Council Mtg./7p
Feb 14	

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday after Theophany of Christ)

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. (4:7-13)

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is He who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And His gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday after Theophany of Christ)

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (4:12-17)

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulon and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulon and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

People who have the same goal and who strive towards the one thing needful have oneness of soul, and they never feel the distance of separation. And no matter how great the distance is, it can never be the cause of hindrance to that spiritual closeness uniting these people in oneness of soul.

St. John Maximovich

THE HOLY THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

"Epiphany" means appearance. "Theophany" means the appearance of God. After Pascha and Pentecost, Theophany is considered the third greatest feast of the Orthodox Church, greater than Christmas. It commemorates Jesus' Baptism in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist. St. Cyril states that the beginning of the world was water; the beginning of the Gospel was the Jordan, when the Holy Trinity was revealed to the senses. The Father spoke, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased." The Holy Spirit was seen in the form of a dove hovering over the waters, and St. John the Baptist bore witness, saying, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Jesus took on the sin of the world and symbolically died by being immersed in the Jordan, then rose again out of the Jordan.

SUNDAY 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

Men's 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.
Lizzy Cassar

Adornment

Shams Akkawi
Jamil Hermes

Facility Management

Sam Berberian
Nick Nahas
Bob Simon

Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

Finance

Gary Farha

Stewardship

Lina Eid

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
Margaret Ashley
Helen White
Holly Dubois
Edmond & Sophie Neam
George & Joan Abraham
Barbara Abraham
Everett Alvarez

Brian Briggs
Isabel Threddeh
Thelma Badwey
Tesia Yonkers
Lulu Brown
Mary Smith
George Brown

LIVING

Leena Haddad
Dr. Eyad Hamarnah
Mary Shahid
Mazen Saah
Lorna Malooley
Mary Bazargan
Nabil Emad & Family
Bud Requa
Hakim Family
The El-Hage Family

Debbie Brown
Janice
Joyce Kogok
Tony Moussa
Leila Khoury
Barbara Abraham
Sue Fannoney
Terry, Michelle, & Talia Michelle Mitchell
Hanneh Issa Daoud & Family
The Bolus Family

DEPARTED

Rt. Rev. Paul Doyle
Hanna Saba
William Dora, Sr.
Madelyn Nader
Gabriel Kerjolarian
Salwa Gabro
George Aed
Bill Efdimas
Arcadius Hanna Hakim
Barbara Tadros Hakim
Ivon Hakim
Younguy Hakim
Genevieve Hakim Hamarnah
Julian John El-Hage
Shawky El-Hage

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 Creed ~ p. 110
The Lord's Prayer ~ p. 118
The Communion Prayer ~ p. 121-122
The Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 125

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

Hanneh Issa Daoud

Hakim Family/1-yr Memorial for Arcadius Hanna Hakim

HOLY WHEAT OFFERED BY:

Hakim Family/1-yr Memorial for Arcadius Hanna Hakim

TRADITIONAL FRIED DOUGH (Zalabia) OFFERED BY:

Sam & Margo Ghanem for the Feast of the Theophany/Good Health of Barbara Abraham & Nabil Emad

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

Hakim Family/1-yr Memorial for Arcadius Hanna Hakim

2017 Mission Team Opportunities - Albania (Youth) and Guatemala (Healthcare)

The Orthodox Christian Mission Center has just released 2017 short-term mission team opportunities! There is a team heading to Albania March 10 – 20 which will work with Albanian Orthodox youth leaders, including OCMC Missionary Dn. Stephanos Ritsi, to host a youth and young adult conference. The conference will focus on strengthening the faith of young Orthodox Christians throughout Albania. It will also seek to raise awareness of youth ministries available through the Albanian Orthodox Church. If you have a passion for youth ministry or desire to contribute to the awareness of Orthodoxy around the world, please prayerfully consider applying!

There will be a healthcare team going to Guatemala March 17 – 26 which will provide medical services to patients at the Fr. Andres Giron Clinic in Aguacate. This is a fantastic way to use your skills as a healthcare professional for the Orthodox Church. Not only will you provide medical care, but you will also help educate the community about healthcare. Pediatricians, dentists, midwives, nurses, and other medical technicians are needed. Healthcare professionals can give the gift of hope and healing by volunteering; please consider this opportunity!

For the Albania youth team, click the following link:

https://www.ocmc.org/about/view_team.aspx?TeamId=1186

For the Guatemala healthcare team, click the following link:

https://www.ocmc.org/about/view_team.aspx?TeamId=1187

To view other available teams in 2017, click the following link:

https://www.ocmc.org/about/open_teams.aspx