

FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
21 Jan	Hakim Family 1-year Memorial Georges Hakim	Hakim Family 1-year Memorial Georges Hakim
28 Jan	Jweied Family	Jweied Family
04 Feb	El Kari Family/40 Day Memorial Service for Rabieh Al Kari	El Kari Family/40 Day Memorial Service for Rabieh Al Kari
11 Feb	open	open
18 Feb	Fr. Isaac and Kh. Dolly/1-yr Memorial for Fouad Shwayri	Fr. Isaac and Kh. Dolly/1-yr Memorial for Fouad Shwayri

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.

PRIEST
Very Reverend
Fr. Isaac Crow
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org
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(240) 489-3494 home

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DnChris-
tian@peterpaulpotomac.org

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Vice Chairman
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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

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018

tone 8 / EOTHINON 11

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST &

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

VENERABLE MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR

MARTYR NEOPHYTOS OF NICAEEA; VENERABLE ZOSIMAS, BISHOP OF SYRACUSE IN SICILY; VENERABLE MAXIMOS THE GREEK OF RUSSIA

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR (Tone 8)

Thou hast shown thyself, O God-inspired Maximos, as a guide to the Orthodox Faith, a teacher of true worship and purity; O star of the universe and companion of the bishops, O wise one. Through thy light thou hast enlightened all, O harp of the spirit. Therefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

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 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.

The Lord does not show himself to a proud soul. The proud soul, no matter how many books it reads, will never know God, since by its pride it does not give place for the grace of the Holy Spirit, while God is known only by the humble soul.

St. Silouan the Athonite

The Holy Trinity and Same-Sex Marriage

By Bradley Nassif

Anyone watching the news today is aware that we are living in an age where secular forms of diversity and pluralism are valued over and above biblical truth. This applies especially to issues of gender and sexuality. Activists in the so-called LGBTQ movement have successfully challenged traditional Christian understandings of marriage and family in nearly every forum of American public life, including school curricula, the media, and the courts. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Supreme Court recognition of gay marriage.

At times, Orthodox responses have been knee-jerk in their opposition to same-sex marriage and the LGBTQ agenda. But a blunt rejection is woefully inadequate. A rebuke is no reply. If Christians have any hope of defending the sacred institution of marriage then they need to articulate the reasons that the Christian theological vision requires marriage to constitute a union of man and woman. Perhaps one of the most profound, yet often unrecognized, explanations for this lies in Christian teaching of the Trinity itself.

The Holy Trinity and Human Sexuality

Orthodox Christian ethics maintains that marriage and sex are sacred mysteries that point beyond themselves to the mystery of Christianity's three-personed God and to His redemptive self-giving in the Incarnation, which is actualized in the life of the Church.

The inner life of the Holy Trinity offers a model understanding marital relationships. The Nicene Creed, coupled with the "in" language of the New Testament to describe the intimate relations between the three Persons of the Trinity (John 14:1; 17:21 *et al.*), is what some Church Fathers have described as "perichoresis"—meaning "to co-inhere, inhabit, inter-dwell, or to live within." In other words, each Person of the Trinity eternally dwells within the other two in a perfect unity-in-distinction.

The mystery of God's own Trinitarian character is extended to human existence and reflected in the Genesis account where God says, "Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness Male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:26-7). Thus, the sexual intimacy that Adam and Eve experience as they become "one flesh" can be said to reflect the eternal union-in-distinction between the Father, Son and Spirit and their mutual indwelling.

In Genesis 2:18 we read, "The Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.'" This "not good" is the only negative assessment given in the entire creation narrative. Only a woman that was fashioned from Adam's own side could complete him. Male alone could not properly reflect the "image of God," nor could female by herself. Alone, Adam would have been a distorted, "not good" image of God. Once Eve was present, humanity was able to reflect the personal and relational intimacy that God is. Eve's presence meant that humanity could experience life-giving, interpersonal union—an earthly echo of God's own inter-personal, perichoretic life. Together, their unity reflects the union-in-distinction that exists within the Trinity. Personal union (both human and divine) is the ground of all human existence.

Incarnation, the Church and Human Sexuality

A further divine mystery that models the integrity of male/female relationship is the union of Christ with His bride, the Church. Marital intimacy between a man and a woman is a sacramental image of the saving intimacy that now exists between Christ and His people. The female imagery of the Church's bridal relation to Christ, the male bridegroom, is used in Ephesians 5 to manifest the mystery of salvation when Paul quotes the Genesis text, "the two shall become one flesh." "This mystery is profound," he continues, "and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the Church" (Ephesians 5:29-32). There is thus a soteriological, iconic dimension to marriage and human sexuality that are to be understood in light of God's self-revelation in Christ (the male bridegroom) and His relation to the Church (His female bride).

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/GQ6uQSnltimwgvJW2>. 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).

Mar 18 *2018 Pascha Prep Workshop

TEEN SOYO

The Lay Advisors are:

Zaid Sharafudin/zaid343@yahoo.com
Anees Mokhiber / aneesmokhiber@gmail.com

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Mar 17 *Tea Party w/St. George ladies/2p-4p/@Ss. Peter & Paul

May 12 *Antiochian Women Fashion Show/
Congressional Country Club/11:30a

MEN'S CLUB

Jan 28 *Men's Club Mtg./12:30p/LL Hall

OCMC MISSION TEAMS

What are you doing for your vacation this year? Consider an Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) Mission Team in 2018! Empower the Church by working, witnessing, worshipping and making disciples. Minister to needs of Orthodox communities by sharing your love, unity and support; share your God-given talents to strengthen communities; see the world while sharing your faith; teach the Orthodox Faith and provide labor to communities worldwide. Current OCMC Mission Team opportunities are available to Albania (outreach, teaching and youth work), Ghana (Youth Work), Guatemala (Youth work and Healthcare Education), Indonesia (Teaching), Kenya (Teaching and Youth Work), Mexico (Construction and Teaching) and Alaska (annual wilderness Youth Camp). To apply for a mission teams, go to https://www.ocmc.org/about/open_teams.aspx or call 1-877-463-6784.

2017 Stewardship Pledges

With the coming of the new year, the Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Council kindly reminds all the faithful of the Parish that stewardship pledges for 2017 are still due. Please make sure to mail in all donations and payments as soon as possible.

"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, January 25, 2018**. 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 handmaidens20854@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 (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 PARISH GIFT SHOP

The Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Gift Shop is newly stocked with books, bibles, Icons, CDs and all kinds of hand-made religious items with many items for children. The Gift Shop will open every Sunday following Liturgy. For information contact Alma Jean Zaki at (703) 283-9338 or ajmzaki@gmail.com

CHURCH CALENDAR

Jan 21 *Georges Hakim Memorial Service
*Arcadius Hakim Memorial Service
Jan 25 *Adult Education Forum/"Exploring our Faith"/
7p-8:30p/LL Conf. Rm.
Jan 28 *Men's Club Mtg./12:30p/LL Hall
*Annual Choir Pot Luck/1:30p/Lorna's home
Feb 01 *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
Matins/6:00p
Liturgy/7:00p
Feb 04 *Rabieh Al-Kari/40-day Memorial
Feb 08 *Adult Education Forum/"Exploring our Faith"/
7p-8:30p/LL Conf. Rm.
Feb 10 *Parish Council Annual Retreat/
11:30a-4p/LL Hall
Feb 11 *Meat Fare
Feb 18 *Cheese Fare
*Fr. Isaac & Kh. Dolly/1-yr Memorial for
Fouad Shwayri
*Luna James/Baptism/1:30p
Feb 19 *Start of Lent
*Presidents' Day/Offices Closed
Feb 24 *Baptism/Elias Peter Horany
Mar 11 *Daylight Savings Time (Spring forward)
Mar 18 *Church School Pascha Prep Workshop
Apr 01 *Palm Sunday
Apr 08 *Pascha

THE EPISTLE

(For the Thirty-Second Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God; ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.
The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (4:9-15)

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, Who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties; devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fifteenth Sunday of Luke—"Zacchaeus Sunday")

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (19:1-10)

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see Who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

HOUSE BLESSINGS FOR EPIPHANY 2018

With the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany and the Great Sanctification of the Water, a new season of the blessing of homes has begun. If you would like to have your home blessed, please contact Fr. Isaac directly or through the Church office to arrange a time for a visit.

May the blessing of the River Jordan sanctify and grant protection to all the faithful of our parish in this new year.

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

Ziad 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

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Margaret Ashley	Brian Briggs	Mary Smith
Helen White	Isabel Threddeh	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	Michael Buchko, Sr.
Edward Rizkallah	Dorothy Marge	

DEPARTED

Rabih AlKari
Susan Shahade
Joseph Boullata
Barbara Boullata
Renee Boullata
Andre Boullata
Jamil Boullata
Yacoub Shammass
Asin Shammass
Issa Shammass
George Shammass
Nicola Shammass
Arcadius Hanna Hakim
Georges Hakim
Joumana Hakim
Arcadius Hanna Hakim

MEMORIALS

Georges Hakim
Arcadius Hakim

LIVING

Leila Khoury	Bob Petrossian
Louise Magelli	Julia Fayad
Mark Buchko	Debbie Brown
Joyce Kogok	Robert & Joyce Najjar
John Dalelio	Betty Adams
Ziad Deeb	Rima Rizkallah & Family
Frank Ellis	Carol AlKari & Family
Ann Marie Moses	Andrew Gavin
Issa Boullata	Kamal & Lilly Boullata
Yolanda Shammass	Fr. John & Matushka Maggie Zabinko
Lorna Malooley	Gabriel, Josephine, Fouad, & Mary Therese, Hakim
John Hakim & Family	

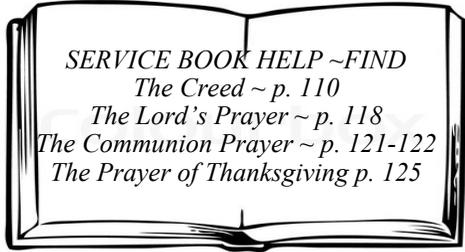
Orthodox Christians
Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin,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

The Hakim Family/1-Year Memorial for Georges Hakim
John Hakim/2-Year Memorial for Arcadius Hanna Hakim

MEMORIAL WHEAT OFFERED BY:

The Hakim Family/1-Year Memorial for Georges Hakim
John Hakim/2-Year Memorial for Arcadius Hanna Hakim

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

The Hakim Family/1-Year Memorial for Georges Hakim

Call for Needs – Antiochian Women's Parish Outreach
Please let us know if you, or a Ss. Peter and Paul parishioner friend or relative has a need where prayers, a meal, phone calls, visit or a card could be of some help. The Antiochian Women have a designated outreach to prepare meals for members of our Ss Peter and Paul parish family in need, for example. (Please call or e-mail Caroline Jarboe, who coordinates a team to prepare meals at caroline_jarboe@yahoo.com; 301.322.4241.) We also have an outreach to offer prayers, cards and phone calls to keep in touch. (Please call or e-mail Barbara Bosworth for this parish family outreach at bybosworth@fcps.edu; or text at 703-278-3161). We want to be proactive, but can only lend our support when we know of the needs, so please let Father Isaac, or Antiochian Women's group coordinators know when we could be a support, as we have a team for these times. ("For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.")
In addition to this support through Antiochian Women, Ss Peter and Paul parish also has an *Angel Fund* (initiated by the Antiochian Women) coordinated by Father Isaac, and an *Outreach Visitation Ministry*. Many of us have read the compelling story in this month's *Word Magazine* (pages 22 and 23) how prayers and grace through anointing heal. Know that you are part of our parish family, God's family, and together we seek to support one another through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.