

FEBRUARY 9, 2014

HOLY GOD, HOLY MIGHTY, HOLY IMMORTAL, HAVE MERCY UPON US.



OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR  
JESUS CHRIST

# SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes*

## Priests

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

**Matins:** Sundays 9:30am

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

**Confessions:** call to schedule

**Sunday, February 9, 2014**

Sunday of the Pharisee and the Publican & Leave taking of the Presentation (Meeting) of Christ

## COUNCIL

### Chairman

David Jackson

### Vice Chairman

George Salem

### Secretary

Caroline Emad

### Treasurer

Abdullah Daoud

### Members

Frank Abdow

Jerry Audi

Rida Boulos

Anita El-Araj

Gary Farha

Dr. Bassem Haddad

Maha Jweied

Lorna Malooley

Wayne Parr

Steve Simon

Metody Tilev

## THE FIRST ANTIPHON

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. My tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee forever. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... (Refrain)

## THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty One, in Thy comeliness and Thy beauty. Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast borne in the arms of righteous Simeon; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Thine arrows are sharp. O mighty One, in the heart of the king's enemies: whereby the peoples fall under Thee. (Refrain)

A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Thy kingdom. (Refrain)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

## Church Secretary

Jane Tate  
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

## THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance. I shall commemorate thy name in every generation.

## Choir Director

John Slanta  
slanta@verizon.net

## THE EISODIKON (Entrance Hymn)

The Lord hath made known His salvation: He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the Gentiles. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead: who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

## Chanters

Wayne Parr  
George Tannous

## 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.

## Ushers

Jerry Audi  
Michael El Araj  
Abraham Fannoney  
Sam Khalil

## APOLYTIKION of the presentation of Christ (Tone 1)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

## ALTAR

### Manager

Peter Aburdeineh

### Servers

Captains -

Robert Bridenhagen  
Nicholas Zolnerowich

## 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 EPISTLE

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.*

### The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy. (3:10-15)

Timothy my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, and my sufferings; and what befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured; yet from them all, the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

## THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

St. Luke. (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank Thee that I am not like other men, extortionists, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to Heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Directors

Samia Zolnerowich  
Jennifer Buchko

#### Teachers

Nicole Kyriakos  
Susan Kozlov  
Michelle Zook  
Jennifer Montgomery  
Ranya Eid  
Leila Taweel  
Hala Paskaleva  
Razan Abdallah  
Caroline Jarboe  
Anthony Eid  
Stephen Zolnerowich  
Anees Mokhiber

#### Men's Club

Bill Zook

#### Ladies Auxiliary

Ann Marie Moses

#### Teen SOYO

Robert Bridenhagen  
Layla Najjar  
Nick Zolnerowich  
Sarah Salem  
Phillip Allen  
Reema Guegel

#### Fellowship of St. John

Christine & Samer Korkor  
Christian & Zeina Manasseh

#### Adornment

Shams Akkawi

#### Facility Management

Bob Simon,  
George Rados Jr  
Nick Nahas

#### Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

#### Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

#### Cultural

Sami Najjar

#### Finance

Gary Farha  
Stewardship  
Lorna Malooley

### **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.

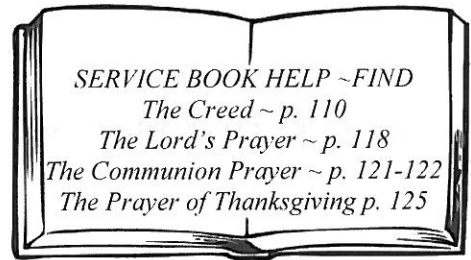
#### **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS**

- 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 IS OFFERED BY:**

Ramona Dora in memory of her husband, William Dora, Sr.,  
and by Leila Ayoub in memory of her brother, Charlie Ayoub

40-Day Memorial for William Dora, Sr.

**JELLOWSHIP HOUR IS OFFERED BY:** Ramona Dora & friends

# 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

Parishioners who remain  
in our prayers continually

Margaret Ashley

Asma Ayoub

Abe, Lulu & George Brown

Issa Shammas

## LIVING

Richie Kogok

Nawal Musleh

Ramona Dora

Linda & George Elkanich & family

Kristen & William Dora, Jr & family

Richard & Joan David

Larry & Doris David

Ted & Pat David & family

William & Carol Barrick & son

Margaret Ayoub & family

Leila Ayoub & family

Siham Ayoub & family

The Ayoub families

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

Badia Sackleh Jan 28

Norma Malahi Jan 15

William Dora, Sr. Dec 26

Ibrahim Issa Saah

Saad Khalil Nasser

Charlie Ayoub

Abdallah & Sandra Ayoub

## Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

### LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING

Today the Ladies Auxiliary meet and enjoy a pot luck luncheon in the Lower Hall, immediately following Liturgy. All ladies are welcome.

### OUTREACH MISSION DINNER

The Metropolitan DC Orthodox Mission and Outreach Committee hosts a dinner this evening at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Falls Church, VA. Fr. Luke Veronis, former missionary to Africa and Albania will speak on "CAPTURING THE SPIRIT OF MISSIONS: Kenya, Albania and the world". Contact Betty Slanta, at [slanta@verizon.net](mailto:slanta@verizon.net) for more information.

### OCMC OFFERING

Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) Agape Canister: Your recent offering brought in \$13.00 to support the mission and programs of the OCMC. OCMC's long-term Missionaries continue to do the hard but fulfilling work of spreading Christ's love around the world. The long-term missionaries in Albania, Guatemala, Mongolia, and Romania need your prayers and support as they continue their missionary service to fulfill Matthew 28 "...Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations..."

### 2013 "POOR BASKET"

Your contribution of \$1270 last year was distributed to the Food for the Hungry Program, SOME (So Others Might Eat), and the IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities). Thank you for your generous donations to help those in need.

### TEEN SOYO

All Teenagers are invited to come to the church at 12:00pm-Noon-on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> for lunch followed by a talk with Bishop Nicholas about stewardship and service to the church. For more information, contact Phillip Allen at [rpallen1@yahoo.com](mailto:rpallen1@yahoo.com).

### BYZANTINE MUSIC WORKSHOP

Held the first Saturday of each month, a series of Byzantine Music workshops begins Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00-4:00pm. Taught by the V. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar, retired pastor of St. George Church, Little Falls, NJ, and former instructor of Byzantine Music at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary, Scarsdale, NY, sessions will introduce you to the art of Byzantine chanting. Fr. Bitar is one of the most esteemed Chanters of the Antiochian Church. Workshops are open to all. To register please contact Fr. Isaac Crow at [frisaac@gmail.com](mailto:frisaac@gmail.com) or 301-765-9188.

### CHRISTIAN ECOLOGY

As part of our Christian "stewardship," Ss. Peter & Paul Church is forming an Environmental Committee whose goal will be to nurture and promote, sound and sustainable environmental stewardship in our parish community. The Orthodox Church embodies a deep and rich teaching in both theory and practice on man's integral vocation as steward of the natural world and our responsibility towards all life. This includes a "Theology of Creation" and the praxis of the right use of resources. All members of the parish are welcome to join the "working group" and a preliminary meeting will be held soon to discuss educational objectives and parish projects. Please contact Fr. Isaac ([frisaac@gmail.com](mailto:frisaac@gmail.com)), Barkett Patti ([pattibarkett@gmail.com](mailto:pattibarkett@gmail.com)) or Alma Zaki ([almajeannm@gmail.com](mailto:almajeannm@gmail.com)) for more information.



# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

## CATECHISM

### HAVING THIS AS AN ANCHOR OF HOPE

Reflections on the Attitude of a Christian

Fr. Isaac Crow

What's in an attitude? In an age of uneasy relativism, attitudes often reflect transient ideas and ideologies characterized by constant change and an ambiguity of the individual. For the Christian, however, an attitude may embody and incarnate the whole of life itself, or at least the potential for a connection with the Source of life. This connection is what defines the Christian life as a mystery, that is, a sacramental Communion with God manifest in the attitudes of faith.

One of the cornerstones of the Christian life is hope.

Indeed, hope is a primary attitude of faith. Hope itself is an elusive word or notion. In everyday language it refers to "an expectation" or a desire for a future occurrence. For the Christian, hope is a much richer expression, full of the reality of man's connectedness to God. As a primary attitude of the Christian life, hope is tied to the mystery of faith and its fruit; love. As an essential theme of St. Paul's teaching, we find these three notions linked and bound together; consecutive and contingent.

"So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." ~1 Cor. 13:13

Abiding and orienting himself in the constant work of faith, the Christian seeks through a steadfastness of hope, the greatest grace of all: participation in the source of love. The work of a Christian thus involves a great task. The Christian is called back to the kingdom of God, through a sacrificial journey which must be freely chosen and consciously enacted, day by day and breath by breath. As a created being he is subject to the gravity of this world, and to the burden of his own participation in it, binding him to the reality of his distance from God in sin, suffering, forgetfulness, and death. But man is also created a "Royal Being," bearing within himself the image of God and freely given the potential of his own redemptive return to God in the acquisition of the Divine likeness. It is in this light that the Christian is the inheritor of a great responsibility but also of a great and glorious hope.

The Christian lives and dies as part of a community. This "communal assembly" is the whole body of God's human creation of which the individual is but a component and integral part.

The basic Ecclesial arena of man's life in community forms a foundation of the Christian faith. Man belongs to God, and in the Church he shares in the Living Body of the Lord Himself. In the Church the human, social and historical levels of man's existence are fused and joined to a new life becoming part of the very life of God. At the center of this encounter lies the Cross and the reality of the Incarnation. The Cross itself reflects also the mercy of God who has opened up for man a meeting place wherein everything "on earth" will be "as it is in heaven." The Church lives and moves in this time and place and in response to the event of God's merciful offering. Christ is given, offered and received. The collective life of the Christian is movement of this acceptance, both human and Divine, according to the grace of God through His Son and by the action and presence of the Holy Spirit.

*To be continued...*

## LOOKING AHEAD

### *Upcoming events...*

- Feb 9 - Ladies Auxiliary meeting/lunch @12:15pm
- Feb 14 - Wedding Getahun/Downing @1pm
- Feb 16 - Baptism of May Chalhoub @1pm
- Feb 18 - Metro DC Orthodox Clergy Lunch @12pm
- Feb 18 - Adult Education Forum @7:15pm
- Feb 21-23 - Weekend with Bishop Nicholas and Ordination of Christian Manasseh to the Holy Diaconate
- Feb 25 - Men's Club Meeting @7:30pm
- Mar 1 - Baptism of Grace Sanchez @12pm
- Mar 1 - Byzantine Music Workshop @1-4pm
- Mar 1 - Arabic Liturgy @5pm
- Mar 2 - Sunday School Workshop @12:30pm
- Mar 3 - Lent begins
- Mar 4 - Adult Education Forum @7:15pm
- Mar 5 - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @ 7pm
- Mar 7 - Akathist Service @ 7pm

## THE ONLY JOURNEY THAT REALLY MATTERS

**H**ave you ever heard someone say they wanted to visit some exotic locations before they die? They'll say they want to cross it off their "Bucket List." What is a Bucket List, you ask? It's a wish list of things that the person wants to do before they die. And it becomes important for them to cross off as many things as they can before they "pack their bags" for the final time.

Life is a short journey that doesn't end on our terms, but rather on those set by our Heavenly Father. The Church constantly places this message before us. While it may sound exciting and noble to romanticize about "living life to the fullest," this pleasure packed philosophy is not exactly the acceptable Christian approach to life. In fact, we can bluntly say that for all of us, there is only **ONE THING** - not **ONE HUNDRED** - that we must do before we die: **BE IN COMPLETE COMMUNION WITH OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST.**

Because of our life's potential brevity, it is essential to live it properly each and every day. What constitutes "living our days like we should?" Every day must be one of service to Christ, His Church and our fellow man. Every day must be viewed as an opportunity to practice the Gospel and share it with others. And yes, every day must be lived as if it were our last.

When all is said and done, I hardly think the Lord will ask us on Judgment Day if we ever went to the Grand Canyon or if we visited the Taj Mahal. However, He will want to know if our "Top 100" included ministering to the poor, the needy, the sick and the imprisoned. If we are most concerned about following Christ and living according to His teachings, our ultimate journey will lead us to the Kingdom of Heaven - which should be first on anyone's list of things to do and places to see!

*The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin* . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.

### FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
Feb 16		
23	The Manassehs	The Manassehs
Mar 2	Mary Misleh	
9		
16		
23		
30		
Apr 6		

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.