

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
26 Feb	Mary Misleh	Tagreed Azar-1yr Memorial for Samia Suha Tannous
05 Mar	Visit of Bishop NICHOLAS Barbari Family/6-mos Memorial for Nahida Nabil Barbari	Visit of Bishop NICHOLAS Barbari Family/6-mos Memorial for Nahida Nabil Barbari
12 Mar	Open	Open
19 Mar	Open	Teen SOYO Offering & having a Za'atar Sale
26 Mar	Brown Family/4-yr Memorial for Abraham Brown	Brown Family/4-yr Memorial for Abraham Brown

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 FEBRUARY 26, 2017
TONE 3 / EOTHINON 3

SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESE FARE)

PORPHYRIOS, BISHOP OF GAZA; GREAT-MARTYR PHOTINI THE SAMARITAN WOMAN AND THOSE WITH HER; MARTYR THEOKLITOS AND THOSE WITH HIM; NEW MARTYR JOHN OF CONSTANTINOPLE

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

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 FOR FORGIVENESS SUNDAY (Tone 6)

O Thou Who guidest to wisdom, and givest understanding and intelligence, the Instructor of the ignorant, and Helper of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it understanding, O Master. Give me word, O Word of the Father; for behold, I shall not refrain my lips from crying to Thee, O merciful One, have mercy upon me who am fallen.

If our thoughts are peaceful, calm, meek, and kind, then that is what our life is like.

+Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

Great Lent 2017

Today a 1:00pm following Fellowship hour, the Sunday of Forgiveness Vespers Service will be held. This beautiful service enacts our entrance into the season of Great Lent in a spirit of mutual forgiveness and reconciliation to each other. Lenten Services will be celebrated at 7:00pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays for the next five weeks. May the Living God forgive us, strengthen us and guide us in our journey to the Glory of the Resurrection.

Orthodox Christianity

Orthodox Christianity places a heavy emphasis on liturgical worship, and it is in liturgical worship that the true essence of Orthodoxy can be ritually experienced. Orthodox Christians attend the Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings throughout the year as well as on 12 major Feast Days, similar in form to the Roman Catholic "Holy Days of Obligation." Orthodox services are characterized by incense, traditional forms of chant and music, and iconography, or sacred imagery depicting Christ, the Virgin Mary, or the saints. Although the services retain an old, traditional feel, Orthodoxy believes in the usage of the vernacular, or language of the culture. Although some Orthodox, particularly those of Greek descent, retain their ethnic attachment to language, the majority of Orthodox Christians pray in their native, everyday language.

Orthodox religious communities are centered around a church. Orthodoxy believes in one united community of believers, led by clergy such as priests, deacons, and subdeacons. The priests and deacons are part of a diocese led by a bishop, and archdiocese similarly have archbishops. The metropolitan of an area serves as an administrative leader. The different administrative jurisdictions of Orthodoxy, such as Greek Orthodoxy, Russian Orthodoxy, and Antiochian Orthodoxy, fall under their respective patriarchates; however, their theological beliefs are all united and the same. The ecumenical patriarch of Constantinople, titularly the head of the patriarchs, posses no innate sacramental or spiritual superiority over the other patriarchs. In comparison with the Latin papacy, there is no supreme head of Orthodox Christianity.

Orthodox Christianity is tied in closely with its liturgical services, and in these are means of expression through art and architecture. Creatively, the Orthodox Church emphasizes traditional liturgical music, such as Greek and Antiochene Byzantine Chant, Russian Orthodox choral hymnography, and a variety of other original ethnic music. As Orthodoxy has traveled throughout various countries, it has adapted itself to the diverse traditions of the peoples indigenous to those very places. Orthodoxy believes that iconography, or sacred imagery, has a place in one's personal worship. In its growth, a movement called iconoclasm almost inhibited these developments, but Orthodoxy eventually asserted the use of icons as "windows into heaven" and a blessed way to reverence the saint him- or herself, and not the actual wood and paint of the icon. Orthodoxy architecture remains largely Byzantine, reflecting the geographic roots of the Orthodox Church in the Middle East and Constantinople.

Ultimately, the Orthodox Church continues to follow its mission of remaining a living testament to the faith of the Apostles. Its living tradition continues to inspire and guide Christians to the true knowledge of the living God, and will do so, as its services proclaim, "to the ages of ages."

Part 3 of 3

Ss. Peter & Paul Church Learning & Media Center

Donations are welcomed in support of the establishment of the new Church Learning and Media Center. Please send all donations to Ss. Peter and 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 Nierenhous 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 also in need of snacks and juice for the children. Snacks must be **peanut and tree nut free** due to allergies. Individually wrapped snacks such as 100-calorie snacks work best. Juices may be 100% juices or flavored water pouches. We can use both 6-oz as well as 4-oz juice boxes. We are looking for one more teacher for this school year. Please contact peterpaulsun-school@gmail.com.

Feb. 2017

*Food For Hungry People coin boxes will be given out once Lent begins in February.

March 3-5

Visit w/Grace Bishop Nicholas will be visiting our parish the weekend of March 3-5, 2017.

March 4

*Bishop Nicholas is blessing our Church school students with his time for a visit with him on Saturday the 4th from 10:00 am until noon. At noon there will be a Lenten potluck lunch for Church school students as well as Teen SOYO with Hls Grace. Please make every effort to bring your children to spend valuable spiritual time with our Bishop.

March 5

*There will not be Church School classes.

March 19

Creative Arts Festival — must have an entries to us by Sunday March 19th. This year's theme is "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." (Mark 11:17). There will be some time to work on entries during class but children are encouraged to work at home as well. Please let us know if you would like more information.

April 2

Annual Pascha Prep workshop. A sign up for lunch items and volunteers to help with crafts will be coming out sometime in March.

April 9 & 16

No class on the 9th (Palm Sunday) and the 16th (Pascha).

TEEN SOYO

Mar 04 *Retreat w/Bishop NICHOLAS & Teen SOYO of sister churches St. George & St. Mary

Mar 12 *Teen SOYO Mtg/LL Conf. Rm./12:30p

Mar 19 *Teen SOYO Offering Fellowship Hour & Za'atar Sale

Mar 25 *2nd Lenten Retreat w/Bishop NICHOLAS at our sister Church St. George

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul Young Adult Fellowship seeks to gather young adults (20-40 years of age) together in the ministry worship, witness, service, and fellowship. These include study groups, outreach projects, potluck dinners, and other social and charitable gatherings. On Saturday, March 4, the YAF will be meeting with H.G. Bishop NICHOLAS at 5:30p for discussion and dinner. For more information contact Jad Ibrahim Jr. at jad.ibrahim.jr@gmail.com or Dn. Christian Manasseh at dnchristian@peterpaulpotomac.org.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

March 2017 Antiochian Orthodox Women's Month

Let's make a strong showing, representing our Christian Orthodox sisterhood from March 12—March 29. Please contact Donna Gavin at crazygavins@verizon.net to sign up for the following:

Greet and hand out bulletins

Read the Epistle in Arabic and English

Take the collection

We would love to hear from you.

May 13

Luncheon & Fashion Show @ Congressional CC. More details to follow.

MEN'S CLUB

Jun 07, 2017

Golf Tournament

Jun 25, 2017

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

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

"Exploring Our Faith" will meets every other Thursday evening from **7:15pm to 8:30pm** in the lower level conference room. Fr. Isaac facilitates the meetings using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a wide range of topics concerning our Faith. Meetings will resume after Easter. 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

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 (georgezaki@gmail.com or ajmaki@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

Feb 26	*Cheesefare Sunday/Sunday of Forgiveness *Vespers of Forgiveness/1:00p
Feb 27	*Service of the Great Compline @7:00p
March	*Antiochian Orthodox Women's Month (see above for more info)
Mar 01	*Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00p
Mar 3-5	*Visit of H.G. Bishop NICHOLAS to Ss. Peter & Paul
Mar 03	*Service of the Akathist @7:00p/followed by Lenten Potluck & short presentation
Mar 04	*Church School Retreat w/Bishop NICHOLAS @10a-noon *Combined lunch w/Church School & Teen SOYO @noon *Teen SOYO Retreat w/Bishop NICHOLAS & sister churches St. George & St. Mary/1p-4p
Mar 05	*Great Vespers w/teens @4:30p *Young Adult Fellowship Mtg. w/Bishop NICHOLAS @6:00p *Orthros, Divine Liturgy & Fellowship w/Bishop NICHOLAS *No Church School Classes *Pan Orthodox Great Vespers @5:00p w/Bishop NICHOLAS *Lenten Fellowship in the Hall @6p
Mar 06	*Service of the Great Compline @7:00p
Mar 08	*Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00p
Mar 10	*Service of the Akathist @7:00p/followed by Lenten Potluck & short presentation
Mar 12	*Teen SOYO Mtg/LL Conf. Rm./12:30p
Mar 19	*Teen SOYO Za'atar Sale and Offering the Fellowship *Creative Arts Festival (see above for more info) *Annual Pascha Prep Workshop (see above for more info)
Apr 02	*No Church School (Palm Sunday)
Apr 09	*No Church School (Pascha)
Apr 16	*Antiochian Women/Luncheon & Fashion Show @Congressional CC/more details to follow
May 13	

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday of Forgiveness)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

O clap your hands, all ye nations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (13:11-14:4)

Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Master is able to make him stand.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday of Forgiveness)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (6:14-21)

The Lord said to His Disciples: If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father Who is in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret will reward you. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Sunday school children and Teen SOYO members are being honored with time to spend with H. G. Bishop NICHOLAS on Saturday March 4th. He will meet with Sunday school children from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and with Teen SOYO from 1:00-4:00 pm. Children and Teens are invited to have lunch together with Sayidna from 12:00-1:00. Please use this link <http://signup.com/go/gH3Rwq> to sign up to bring food and/or drink items for lunch, dinner, or both

Ss. Peter & Paul is hosting the vesper service on the Sunday of Orthodoxy on

March 5th and providing the coffee hour following the vespers. We expect a good number of attendees/faithful from all the orthodox churches in the area. Kindly click on the link below, review the options for food items you can provide and sign up for a spot or more. <http://signup.com/go/mHDV7X>. Thank you and may God always bless you, Norma Najjar

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

Salim Habayeb

Stewardship

Lina Eid

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.

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.

Non-Orthodox

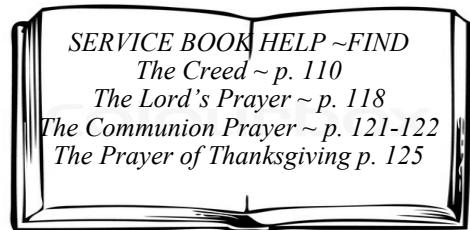
We welcome to this celebration of the Eucharist those Christians who are not fully united with us. It is a consequence of the sad divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend to them a general invitation to receive Communion. Orthodox believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community 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.

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.



HOLYBREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

Mary Misleh

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

Tagreed Azar/the 1-Year Memorial for Samia Suha Tannous

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

Archpriest George Rados

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

Brian Briggs
Isabel Thredeh
Thelma Badwey
Tlesia Yonkers
Lulu Brown

Mary Smith
George Brown
Everett Alvarez
Barbara Abraham

LIVING

Reverend James Dougherty

Leena Haddad
Janice
Mazen Saah
Leila Khoury
Mary Bazargan
Mariam Yazge
Kate Dougherty
Albert and Hindi Mokhiber
Justin, Marc and Buket
Mike and Family
Judy and Family
The Shible Family
The Rafeedie Family
Khader Tannous

Debbie Brown

Jazel Haddad

Tony Moussa

Christopher Zolnerowich

Shible Family

Ann Marie Moses

Gladys, George, Alexi Shwayri

Nancy Shahin Itteilag & Jack Donnelly

Elizabeth, Robert and Catie

Lillian and Family

Paul Misleh

The Misleh Family

Salem Tannous

February Collection for Charity

This month's collection will go to the United Palestinian Appeal (UPA). UPA works to alleviate the suffering of Palestinians and to contribute to the long-term socioeconomic and cultural development of Palestinian society. It is committed to providing social services to impoverished Palestinians residing in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and refugee camps. In this time of uncertainty and unrest, this is a very worthy cause. You can learn more about this organization at <http://helpupa.org/about-upa/>

LENTEN RETREAT His Grace Neofitos, Bishop of the Diocese of Nyeri & Kenya, will give a retreat entitled "**Experience God Through the Services of Holy Week**", Saturday, March 11, 2017. 9:30 am Registration & Coffee; 10:00 am Holy Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday; 12:00 NOON, Lunch; 1:00 pm Holy Thursday & Good Friday; 2:00 pm Holy Pascha; 3:00 pm Depart with Joy, at Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041. Confirm your attendance with your name & email to: Dr. John Demakis, email: demakis9931@gmail.com or Betty Slanta, email: slanta@verizon.net; \$20 Donation.

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

Georges Hakim

Gabriel Basharian

Amin Youssef

Janan Shible

Helen Sheahin

Dr. Roberta Shahin

Alex & Sadie Hier

Janie Cox

Fuad Shwayri

Ellen and Essa Rafeedie

Janan and Oudie Shible

Abla and George Misleh

Samia Suha Tannous