

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
05 Feb	Marian Erickson/2 yr Memorial for Gloria Thabit Swydan Tagreed Azar-1yr Memorial for Samia Suha Tannous	Falafal Luncheon (Men's Club)
12 Feb	The Family of Tagreed Tawil	The Family of Tagreed Tawil
19 Feb	The Kheirbek Family	Sam & Margo Ghanem in Memory of Madeline
26 Feb	Mary Misleh	Tagreed Azar-1yr Memorial for Samia Suha Tannous
05 Mar	Visit of Bishop NICHOLAS	Visit of Bishop NICHOLAS

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 5, 2017

TONE 8/EOTHINON 11

SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND PUBLICAN

AFTER-FAST OF PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF CHRIST

MARTYR AGATHA OF SICILY; POLYEUKTOS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE;
NEW-MARTYR ANTHONY OF ATHENS; VENERABLE THEODOSIOS OF SCOPELOS;
REPOSE OF THEODOSIOS, ARCHBISHOP OF CHERNIGOV

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (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 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 old man, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

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.

☩ Father, light up the small duties of this day's life: May they shine with the beauty of th Thy countenance. May we believe that glory can dwell in the most common task of every day.

-St. Augustine

WORSHIP AND EVERY-DAY LIFE:

An Eastern Orthodox View

Very Reverend George Florovsky

4. Sacraments and Devotion

Christian devotion is possible only on the basis, and in the context, of the crucial mystery of Redemption, or, in other words, only in the Church, which is both the Body of Christ and His *pleroma*. One may quote St. Augustine at this point: Christ is not only in Himself but also in His Body — *totus Christus, caput et corpus*. This is both the ground and the actuality of Church's sacramental life, which is the essential framework of Christian worship. The basic mystery of the 'Whole Christ' — *tous Christus* — is, as it were, continued and continuously present and represented in the 'mysteries', or sacraments, of the Church. There is, as it were, a continuous *Epiphany* of the Lord in the sacramental life of the Church. Christian Worship is essentially rooted in, and centered around, the great Dominical Sacraments of Eucharist and Baptism. Christians always worship, and only date to do so, as 'members of Christ', baptized and communicants, that is — as those who are 'in Christ', in an ineffable but real manner — and consequently, as worshippers they are never 'outside' of Him, as much as they may be, and actually are, estranged and alienated from Him by their failures, as long as they are committed to Him in faith and by faith.

It is significant that the greatest mystery of Lord's Presence has been from early Christian times denoted as *Eucharist*, that is — Thanksgiving. Indeed, the major prayer in the rite is precisely a more or less elaborate *anamnesis* of the Magnalia Dei, up to the Last Supper and Christ's injunction 'to do this in his remembrance'. An *anamnesis* in the form of thanksgiving...

The Communion service is eminently an act of corporate worship. All prayers are composed in plural, including the *anaphora*, or the prayer of consecration. And this impressive 'liturgical plural' — the 'liturgical we' — emphasizes the corporate character of Christian existence. And yet every one has 'to pray his Mass', to celebrate personally in the corporate act of worship, and not only 'to pray at the Mass', as an outsider, attending the rite, but not involved in it intrinsically. Here again the double character of Christian existence is brought to the fore: intrinsic membership in the Community and personal engagement.

5. The Dedication

Worship is the norm of Christian existence. It is more than a series of particular and occasional acts of devotion. It is not enough for a Christian to worship from time to time, or at regular times and hours. Worship must be continuous, a *habitus* more than an *actus*. Indeed, to worship God means to dwell and to walk continuously in His presence, 'before Him', in His sight. And this is the measure of Christian stature. Never outside the Divine Presence... A Christian must be a worshipper in the totality of his existence, in all walks and situations of his life. For he is, by the virtue of his baptismal oath and promise, and by the power of the baptismal grace, 'in Christ', and not only 'before' Him. Accordingly, the Church herself is ultimately 'real' precisely as a worshipping community, a community or congregation of worshipping members - persons. She grows to her fulness in the process of worship. The process begins in the act of initial dedication, in the act of gratitude and faith, and continues in the sphere of sanctification, that is - the acquisition of the Spirit. The process is essentially bifocal: it implies both a transformation of persons ('sanctification') and the growth of the Body in its comprehensiveness and unity.

6. The Daily Life

What is the function of worship in the 'daily life' of believers, or rather of the living members of Christ's Body? The real problem is not about 'daily life' as such, that is - as a complex of various 'objective' situations or occurrences, in which persons are involved. The real problem is that of persons themselves. Christians, united in the fellowship with each other in Christ, in 'His Body, are called to live day by day in all these manifold and changing situations, and to witness and service in this 'daily life'. Their understanding and interpretation of this life, in the variety and confusion of its actual course, depends upon their basic orientation, or even more than that - upon their 'being in Christ'. Conduct and behaviour, service and action, are conditioned by 'being' Christians, that is, once again, by being 'in Christ'.

The true purpose and goal of Worship is to form a Christian man. Christian man, being 'in Christ', will find his Christian way in the perplexity of daily tasks, of daily temptation. Because he is not alone: he is 'in Christ'.

Part 4 of 4

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 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 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. Juice 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 peterpaulsundaysschool@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 His Grace. Please make every effort to bring your children to spend valuable spiritual time with our Bishop..

March 5

*There will not be class on Sunday the March 5.

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

Feb 05

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

Feb 17-20

Winter Camp/Antiochian Village

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 25

Visit to a Soup Kitchen

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.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Feb 12

Ladies Auxiliary Mtg/1p/following Fellowship

March 2017 Antiochian Orthodox Women's Month

Let's make a strong showing, representing our Christian Orthodox sisterhood from March 12 through 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

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)

"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, February 9, 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 Niewenhaus 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 ajmzaki@gmail.com), Alex Cox (alexcoxseals@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

Feb 05 *Falafal Lunch (in lieu of Coffee hour)
 *Teen SOYO Mtg/12:30p/LL Conf. Rm.
 Feb 09 *Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p
 Feb 11 *Dinner Dance (Valentine Day Party)
 Feb 12 *Ladies Aux Mtg/1p
 Feb 23 *Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p
 Feb 14 *Parish Council Mtg./7p
 Feb 17-20 *Winter Camp/Antiochian Village
 Mar *Antiochian Orthodox Women's Month (see above for more info)
 Mar 3-5 *Visit of H.G. Bishop NICHOLAS to Ss. Peter & Paul
 Mar 04 *Church School Retreat w/Bishop NICHOLAS @10a-noon
 *Teen SOYO Retreat w/Bishop NICHOLAS & sister churches St. George & St. Mary/1p-4p
 *Great Vespers w/teens @4:30p
 *Young Adult Fellowship Mtg. w/Bishop NICHOLAS @6:00p
 Mar 05 *Orthros, Divine Liturgy & Fellowship w/Bishop NICHOLAS
 *Pan Orthodox Great Vespers @5:00p w/Bishop NICHOLAS
 *Lenten Fellowship in the Hall @6p
 Mar 12 *Teen SOYO Mtg/LL Conf. Rm./12:30p
 Mar 19 *Creative Arts Festival (see above for more info)
 Mar 25 *Teen SOYO visit to a Soup Kitchen
 Apr 02 *Annual Pascha Prep Workshop (see above for more info)
 May 13 *Antiochian Women/Luncheon & Fashion Show @Congressional CC/more details to follow

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday of the Pharisee and Publican)

Make vows to the Lord thy God, and perform them.

In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

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)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to 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."

OUR SACRED TEXTS-AN INTERFATH INITIATIVE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 @7:00p

Ss. Peter and Paul will participate in a local interfaith panel discussion entitled: "Our Sacred Texts; Informing our Creed, Culture, and Code". This is part of an effort by local Potomac Area Faith Communities to meet and get to know one another. The first meeting on Sunday, February 12 at 7:00pm will be held at Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. The second meeting will be held on Sunday, May 2 at 7:30pm at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 1513 Dunster Road, Rockville, MD. All are welcome.

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

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

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:
The Swydan & Erickson for the 2-Year Memorial of Gloria Thabit Swydan
T agreed Azar/1-Year Memorial for Samia Suha Tannous
FELLOWSHIP/MERCY MEAL OFFERED BY:
Falafal Luncheon provided by the Men's Club

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 Threddeh
Thelma Badwey
Tesia Yonkers
Lulu Brown
Mary Smith
George Brown
Everett Alvarez
Barbara Abraham

LIVING

Leena Haddad
Janice
Mazen Saah
Leila Khoury
Mary Bazargan
Nawal Tannous
Khader Tannous
Andrew Erickson
Debbie Brown
Jazel Haddad
Tony Moussa
Sue Fannoney
Fahed Tannous
Salem Tannous
Miriam Swydan Erickson
Caroline Erickson

DEPARTED

Salwa Gabro
Georges Hakim
Gabriel Basharian
Amin Youssef
Eli Mitri Habib
Evelyn Zacharia
Tommy Gavin
Samia Suha Tannous
Nihad George Azar
Andrei Azar
Maher Azar
Samira Tannous
Gloria Thabit Swydan
Nymry (Ruby) Abdow

The Charities Committee wants your input.
The parish of Saints Peter & Paul has a robust charity program, assisting our local, national, and international community with charity donations. We have made a difference in the lives of literally thousands of people with your kind generosity. Last year alone, our Outreach program was a huge success bringing so many people of our parish together to support those in need in our local community. Our goal each year is to find three worthy local charities, three worthy national charities, and three worthy international charities for our support. (And we also do collections at the direction of the Archdiocese when asked.) When the charities have an orthodox connection, it is an added bonus, but not a requirement since we are not an insular church as so eloquently spoken by His Beatitude, Patriarch John.
Thus, we very much want the input from parishioners as to charities they think we should contribute to in 2017. Please note that there are so many charities to choose from that we try not to repeat from one year to the next.
Please provide the name of the organization you wish considered for the monthly collection to the any of the following committee members: Ann Marie Moses, Carol Laham, and Sam Sahouri Ghanem.
Our 2016 Charities Included:
The Children's Relief Fund
IOCC
St. George Hospital
Archdiocese/WV Flood Victims
The Hospital for Sick Children
Orthodox Christian Mission Center
St. Jude's Children's Research
Friends of the Hogar Rafael Ayau
Outreach
Water.org