

MARCH 16, 2014



# SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes*

## **Priests**

Very Reverend  
Fr. George Rados  
lrgorge@peterpaulpotomac.org  
Very Reverend  
Fr. Isaac Crow  
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org

## **Deacon**

Dn. Christian Manasseh  
DnChrissan@peterpaulpotomac.org

## **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

## **Church Secretary**

Janet Tate  
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

## **Choir Director**

John Slanta  
slanta@verizon.net

## **Chanters**

Wayne Parr  
George Tannous

## **Ushers**

Jerry Audi  
Michael El Araj  
Abraham Fannoney  
Sam Khalil

## **ALTAR**

### **Manager**

Peter Aburdeineh

### **Servers**

Captains -  
Robert Bridenhagen  
Nicholas Zolnerowich

**Matins:** Sundays 9:30am

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

**Confessions:** call to schedule

**Sunday, March 16, 2014**

Second Sunday of Great Lent

**Tone 5**

**Eothinon: 5**

**Commemoration** of Gregory Palamas, archbishop of Thessalonica  
Martyr Sabinos of Egypt; Venerable Christodoulos the wonderworker  
of Patmos

**\*\*Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great\*\***

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 5)**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

**APOLYTIKION for St. Gregory Palamas (Tone 8)**

O Star of Orthodoxy, support of the Church and its teacher, O comeliness of ascetics, and incontestable champion of those who speak in theology, Gregory the wonder-worker, the pride of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, implore thou constantly for the salvation of our souls.

**TROPARION of Ss. Peter & 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 the Annunciation (and Great Lent) (Tone 8)**

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me that I may cry unto thee: "Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom."

## THE EPISTLE

*O Lord, Thou wilt preserve us and keep us from this generation.  
Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (1:10-2:3)**

“In the beginning, Thou, O Lord, didst found the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands; they will perish, but Thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle Thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years will never end.” But to what angel has He ever said, “Sit at My right hand, until I make Thine enemies a stool for thy feet”? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message, declared by angels, was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him.

## THE GOSPEL

St. Mark. (2:1-12)

At that time, when Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that He was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and He was preaching the Word to them. And they came, bringing to Jesus a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” Now, some of the scribes were sitting there, reasoning in their hearts, “Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit that they thus reasoned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you reason thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your pallet and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” – He said to the paralytic – “I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.” And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all. So that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

### **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.

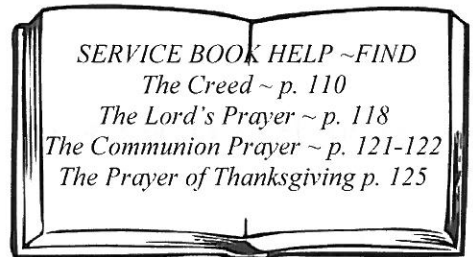
#### **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS**

- 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 Tony & Leah Makhoul, by Marie & Sam Khalil

and by Samer & Christine Korkor for the health of their niece, Zaria Sage Korkor, as well as the Korkor, Daya & Abdul-Karim families

10-day Memorial is offered for Makhoul Makhoul by grandson Tony Makhoul & Leah

10-Year Memorial is offered for Nader Makhoul by son Tony Makhoul & Leah

40-Day Memorial is offered for Lodi Daoud Khoury by daughter Benitta Khoury & Raja

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** Fellowship Hour is offered by Raja & Benitta Khoury in memory of Raja's mother

Lodi Daoud Khoury

# 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  
Abe, Lulu & George Brown  
Issa & Suad Shammas  
Edmond Neam

## LIVING

Richie Kogok  
Nawal Musleh  
Bassem Haddad  
Raja, Benitta, Stephanie & Natalie Khoury  
Zaria Sage Korkor  
Bassel & Diana Korkor  
Daya & Abdul-Karim families  
Samer & Christine Korkor & family  
Tony & Leah Makhoul & families  
Sam & Marie Khalil  
Kera & Chris Tomlin  
Deena & Dean Gakos, Simeon & Adrian  
Shawn Yosi, Dallas & Zoli Khalil  
Evelyn Hier

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

Ralph Farha <sup>Feb 28</sup>  
Ezzat Kazzi <sup>Mar 5</sup>  
JoAnne Ibrahim <sup>Mar 8</sup>  
Fred Ayoub  
Lodi Daoud Khoury  
Sami Khoury  
David Alnabki  
Nader Makhoul  
Makhoul Makhoul  
Selwa & Tawfik Khalil  
Thelma & Raymond Walker  
Jimmy Lowry  
Amahl Smiley  
Albert 'Butch' Moses  
V. Rev. Maximus Moses

## Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

### **FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION**

The Feast of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary falls on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Ss. Peter & Paul Church will celebrate the Feast with an Evening Divine Liturgy on Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. On the Feast Day itself (Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>) fish is allowed, as well as on Palm Sunday (April 13<sup>th</sup>).

### **YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP**

The Fellowship of Saint John the Divine will be making a trip to the Sacred Monastery of Saint Nina in Union Bridge Maryland on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-5:00pm. (fb.som/saintninamonastery) All young adults of the Parish are welcome to attend for a day of fellowship, prayer and service at the monastery. Wear comfortable work clothes and bring a \$10 donation. Contact Leah Makhoul at saadleah@gmail.com, or 610-762-6070 for more information.

### **BYZANTINE MUSIC WORKSHOP**

The next Byzantine Music workshop will be held Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00pm and are open to all. Registration forms are available in the vestibule. Contact Fr. Isaac Crow at frisaac@gmail.com or 301-765-9188.

### **NAACH FLOWER DONATE & DECORATE**

Visit the Ladies Auxiliary table in Kogok Hall to donate flowers and sign up to decorate the Naach on Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. All women of the parish are invited. Bring a dish to share for lunch and bring your pruning shears. Forms and donations will be collected by Marie Khalil, Leila Ayoub and Ann Marie Moses. Contact Ann Marie at amoses00@verizon.net for more information.

### **ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN FASHION SHOW**

Mark your calendars for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies Fashion Show Luncheon held at the Congressional Country Club on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am. More information to follow.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

*In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35*  
From the Stewardship Committee

### **LENTEN ENCYCLICAL OF PATRIARCH JOHN X OF ANTIOCH AND ALL THE EAST**

The Great Lent: When Mercy Dries Up,  
Fasting Suffers Drought  
By God's mercy John X,  
Patriarch of Antioch and all the East  
Brethren, Pastors of the Holy Church of Antioch;  
Beloved children in all dioceses in this apostolic see  
Brethren and dearest spiritual children, whose strength and anticipation in God, strengthen ours;  
Entering this redemptive period which leads us to the Cross (of Christ) and the dawn of His and thus our resurrection, these days bring to us the anticipation to Jesus and His divine consolation for His beloved humans; for whom He descended from His highest, incarnated in the Virgin, submitting Himself to the human law, willingly walking the path of the Cross, in order to rise from the dead, becoming the first fruit for our resurrection from our earthly misery and tribulation. Jesus chose the path of the Cross, and drank from the chalice of death to simply tell us that the tribulation of our times will not overshadow our hope for light, and that hardship cannot eclipse the brightness of resurrection. Entering this redemptive period of the Great Lent, we have bid farewell to brothers, fathers and mothers, who were taken away by sudden or forced death, but we anticipate to meet them in Christ's light. We receive these days while our brothers and sisters, amongst whom are bishops, priests, monks, nuns and beloved children, are abducted and suffer the cruelty of this world. "We shall not celebrate without them. We did and shall spare no endeavor to ensure their safe return." Brethren! Despite their severity, these times reinforce the spirit of consolation, growing our sense of empathy. Lent is based on love, reinforced by almsgiving and completed with the leaven of purity and chastity. Fasting and

## Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

almsgiving are inseparable. Fasting, mercy, almsgiving, purity and care for the neighbors and the needy are paths to the doorway to the Godly mercy and thus acquiring God as a friend. A Church Father, Peter Chrysologus (the golden-worded) effectively described the pillars of fasting: "Brethren, Fasting does not germinate unless watered by mercy. When mercy dries up, fasting suffers drought, for mercy is to fasting what spring is to earth; as the smooth breeze that help buds flourish into flowers, mercy grows the seeds of fasting to become blossoming flowers. Love is to fasting what oil is to a lantern; oil feeds the lantern; similarly, love feeds fasting and enkindles it.

Almsgiving is to fasting what the sun is to the day. The sunshine illumines the day, scattering darkness.

This is how almsgiving sanctifies the sanctuary of fasting with the light of love". We all are called upon to consolidate the unity in our Orthodox Antiochian Church. In the Church of Antioch, we are entrusted to the name "Christians" by both word and deeds. Jesus's disciples were first called "Christians" in our land, but we, in our Orthodox Antiochian Church are called upon, by loving each other and unifying our hearts, to testify for Jesus Christ in this contemporary world which is corroded by mere interests. "For look ye! How these Christians seem to love each other" (Tertullian, Apology 39:7).

Tertullian found no better expression in his apology to defend the Christian values and those who follow them. This means that by loving each other, and refusing defamation, we give witness of Lord Jesus in our world. "The Church of Christ is alien to parties, divisions or disputes; it only acknowledges the zeal for God, a zeal that enflames our hearts.

The Church of Christ do not fill the social networking sites and the Media with a barrage of threats, defamation nor disdain." Brethren! We are called upon, by embracing love and living by the teachings of the Gospel, to overcome all the impediments to our progress, cleanse our inner selves and scrutinize our conscience rather than preaching others. O merciful God! Who for our sake dwelled in the womb of the Virgin, was born in a manger, patiently endured human suffering, willingly suffered His Passion and who, by His

burial, buried the sin that overwhelmed our nature, look upon us in our journey during this Lent, crowning it with the light that shines from Your life-giving tomb. Let us realize that despite its heaviness, the stone of the tomb could not stop the light of resurrection, teaching the world that the bell towers of the Churches in this land have been erected for many centuries even through harsh times and that they will keep ringing echoing Christ's love for all people, endorsing the fact that Christ's children are deeply rooted in this land and announcing their openness to all people despite hardships through the centuries.

O God bestow upon us the spirit of Your peace, alleviate by Your Passion the passions of those who love You, visit our countries casting upon us the beauty of Your presence. Accompany the abducted and the displaced, journey with those who travel and bless our children in the diaspora. Stand, O God, by those in need; strengthen us to console the hearts of our children with Your words and the acts of philanthropy. Bring the departed closer to you, and crown our fasting journey to witness the Holy Resurrection, hallowed be Your name for now and ever, Amen.

### **LOOKING AHEAD** *Upcoming events...*

- Mar 16 - Baptism of Isabella Rabie @11am
- Mar 19 - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @7pm
- Mar 21 - Akathist Service @7pm followed by Eucharistic Preparation Lecture/Supper
- Mar 24 - Feast of the Annunciation Liturgy @7pm
- Mar 25 - Men's Club Meeting @7:30pm
- Mar 26 - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @7pm
- Mar 28 - Akathist Service @7pm followed by Military Chaplain Ministry Lecture/Supper
- Mar 29 - Baptism of Angelina Robinson @1pm
- Mar 30 - Baptism of Ava Audi @1pm
- Apr 5 - Byzantine Music Workshop @1-4pm followed by Arabic Liturgy @5pm
- Apr 6 - Sunday School Workshop @12pm
- Apr 8 - Parish Council Meeting @7pm
- Apr 9 - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @7pm

## THE MYSTICAL SUPPER



**W**hen mention is made of the Last Supper which Our Lord had with His Apostles before He died, we in the West think of that famous painting by Leonardo da Vinci. But in the East, there are icons even older which depict different scenes of that Holy Supper.

The icon of our bulletin is patterned after a 16th century work that was located, as is traditional, above the Royal Doors of an Iconostas. The Apostles are gathered around an oval table, with Christ off to the left. The Beloved Apostle, St. John, leans his body toward Jesus. The scene, which depicts the apostolic group in somewhat of bewilderment, refers to the passage of the Gospels in which the Apostles respond to the words of the Lord that one of them will betray Him. **“Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom He spoke . . .”** says the Gospel according to St. John.

The background serves as a fitting setting of the Supper, indicating the upper room that was prepared for the meal. Leaning over the table, reaching for the cup, is said to be Judas. Thomas is said to be at the bottom right. All seem to be occupied with conversation after the bewildering statement of the Lord.

The term **“Mystical Supper”** is more in keeping with the traditional vocabulary of the Church. Surely that Supper, the Eucharist, is a mystery, that is beyond comprehension and analysis. **“This is My Body,”** Jesus said. **“This is My Blood.”** Let us accept this in faith and unite ourselves with Him.

*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
23	James & Roxanne Bennett	James & Roxanne Bennett
30	George & Joan Abraham & family	George & Joan Abraham & family
Apr 6	Nahla George	Nahla George
13		Mary Misleh
20		~Paschal Agape Breakfast~
27	Fellowship of St. John the Divine	Fellowship of St. John the Divine
May 4		
11		

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.