

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
20 Mar	Zeina Manasseh	Raed & Kristy Hosein
27 Mar	Marie & Sam Khalil Family of Abe Brown	Marie & Sam Khalil
03 Apr	Lorna Malooley	Teen SOYO in honor of Bishop Nicholas & Delegate's Meeting
10 Apr	Laila Elaraj	Open
17 Apr	Donna Gavin	Open

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.

Priests
Very Reverend
Fr. George Rados
frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org
Very Reverend
Fr. Isaac Crow
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org
Deacon
Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL
Chairperson
Suzanne Hermes
Vice Chairman
Gary Farha
Secretary
Steve Simon
Treasurer
Richard Mahan
Members

Alex Cox
Abdallah Daoud
Paul Debs
Lina Eid
Anita El-Araj
Samer Korkor
Justin Misleh
Tony Moussa
Wayne Parr
Metody Tilev
George Zaki

Church Secretary
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

Choir Director
John Slanta
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

Chanters
Wayne Parr
George Tannous

Ushers
Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
Sam Khalil

ALTAR
Manager
Peter Aburdeineh

Servers
Captains -
Rashid Haddad
Christopher Zolnerowich

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, MARCH 20, 2016 **TONE 1 / EOTHINON 9** **FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT** **(SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY)**

THE HOLY FATHERS SLAIN AT THE MONASTERY OF MAR SABBAS; NEW-
MARTYR MYRON OF CRETE

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF FIRST SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (TONE 2)

Thy pure image do we venerate, O good One, asking forgiveness of our sins, O Christ our God; for by Thine own will Thou didst ascend the Cross in Thy body, to save Thy creatures from the bondage of the enemy. Thou hast verily filled all with joy, since Thou didst come, O our Savior, to save the world.

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 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.

SEMINARIAN TRAY

As is the custom in our Antiochian Church, today on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, we will be taking an extra collection tray in support of our Archdiocesan seminarians and in support for Theological education programs. Please be generous as the Church seeks to train our future priests and educators.

THE THEOLOGY OF WORSHIP

Bishop Kallistos Ware

On the purely pragmatic level all the beauty and symbolism in our worship is unnecessary and useless. We can use odor-destroying sprays instead of incense, neon lighting instead of candles. But the human being is not simply a pragmatic and utilitarian animal, and those who look more deeply into human nature will quickly appreciate how much we need this "useless" beauty. As Archpriest Alexander Schmemmann has rightly said:

The liturgy is, before everything else, the joyous gathering of those who are to meet the risen Lord and to enter with Him into the bridal chamber. And it is this joy of expectation and this expectation of joy that are expressed in singing and ritual, in vestments and in censuring, in that whole "beauty" of the liturgy, which has so often been denounced as unnecessary and even sinful.

Unnecessary it is indeed, for we are beyond the categories of the "necessary." Beauty is never "necessary," "functional" or "useful." And when, expecting someone whom we love, we put a beautiful tablecloth on the table and decorate it with candles and flowers, we do all this not out of necessity, but out of love. And the Church is love, expectation and joy. It is heaven on earth, according to our Orthodox tradition; it is the joy of recovered childhood, that free, unconditioned and disinterested joy which alone is capable of transforming the world. In our adult, serious piety we ask for definitions and justifications, and they are rooted in fear. Fear of corruption, deviation, "pagan influences," whatnot. But "he that feareth is not made perfect in love" (1 Jn 4:18). As long as Christians will love the Kingdom of God, and not only discuss it, they will "represent" it and signify it, in art and beauty. And the celebrant of the sacrament of joy will appear in a beautiful chasuble, because he is vested in the glory of the Kingdom, because even in the form of man God appears in glory. In the Eucharist we are standing in the presence of Christ, and like Moses before God, we are to be covered with His glory!

"Beauty will save the world," said Dostoevsky. It is a primary function of worship to render manifest the saving power of this divine beauty. When the envoys of Prince Vladimir of Kiev were won over to the Orthodox faith, what converted them was not words, not logical arguments, but the beauty of the Holy Liturgy which they attended in Constantinople: "we cannot forget that beauty," they said when they returned home. "Wherein does your prayer consist?" St John of the Cross asked one of his penitents; and she replied, "In considering the Beauty of God, and in rejoicing that He has such beauty." Such is the nature of worship. To pray and to worship is to perceive the spiritual beauty of the heavenly Kingdom; to express that beauty alike through words, through poetry and music, through art and symbolic acts, and through our whole lives; and in this way to extend the divine beauty in the world around us, transforming and transfiguring the fallen creation.

Part 2 of 2

MARCH IS ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN'S MONTH

*Please sign up with Donna Gavin to read the Epistle in English and/or Arabic, take the collection, and hand out Bulletins on Sundays during March. EMAIL: CRAZYGAVINS@VERIZON.NET

***Pre-Pascha Arabic Pastry Sweets Bake Sale**— On Palm Sunday, there will be a pre-Pascha Arabic pastry sweets bake sale following the Liturgy during the Fellowship Hour to raise seed money for the Festival. *Let us do the baking for you!*

***Project 2016**— Feeding Hungry Children (see letter from Metropolitan Joseph on round table in the Narthex)
***Naach Flower Donation**—The Ladies Auxiliary will start collecting through **April 17** for the Naach. All women of the Parish are invited to participate on Good Friday, **April 29**.(see flyer on table in the narthex)

***The Antiochian Women of North America Board**— has an Educational Grant for women 26 and older. Go to <http://antiochian.org/march-antiochian-women-month> for applications. See Kate or Donna for questions

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

SUNDAY SCHOOL

***Summer Camp**— Except for a few spots in Chant and Iconography camp, all 4 seasons of AV Summer Camp are now full. There are waitlists for each session if you would like to go ahead and register your child. Please contact the Village directly cam-office@antiochianvillage.org if you have questions about the waitlists.

***Creative Arts Festival information**— Teachers have been teaching this year's theme which is "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord". Please encourage your child to participate in one or more of the following categories: art, photography, creative writing, and poetry. Please contact us if you have questions. The deadline to submit entries to us is Sunday, **March 20th**.

***High School Senior Recognition**— If your child is graduating high school this year, please let us know their name, the high school they are graduating from, and what their post-graduation plans are (if known). Please email us this information by **April 10th**.

TEEN SOYO

Apr 1-3 Spring Delegates' Mtg.
Apr 03 Teens to offer Fellowship Hour along w/other organizations in the Church for the Spring Delegates' Meeting

Apr 10 Teen SOYO Mtg.
Apr 16 Ask Abouna Session/RAP Session (for Lent) with Fr. Isaac and Dn. Christian, w/Potluck Lunch at Church 12p.

Apr 17 Teens to participate in Local Food Bank Charity organized by Ss. Peter & Paul

Apr 29 Good Friday Vigil

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Ss. Peter & Paul Young Adult Fellowship Study Group (FSJD) is on hold during the Great Lenten season which starts on March 14. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in the great services we are blessed to have this year. Lenten Services scheduled Mondays (Great Compline), Wednesdays (Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts), and Fridays (Akathist to the Mother of God). Please see the schedule of services on the round table in the Narthex. The Study Group will resume after Pascha.

TRADITIONS COOKBOOK WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

We are in the process of planning the next publication of our recipe book which is being revised to reflect our Feast Days and the different traditions within our parish. Our church's history is firmly rooted in Antioch and the Middle East but our community here in the US is culturally diverse. This edition focuses on traditional recipes representative of all our backgrounds and culinary traditions. Please submit a recipe for consideration by emailing it to Michele Forzley at mforzley@comcast.net please. Got a photo of your dish? Email it along with your recipe and we'll do our best to include it. Our goal is to have the book ready for the Festival. So the deadline for submissions is **midnight June 30, 2016**. We also plan to prepare a companion video on the techniques to make some of the foods – if you would be willing to be in a video let me know too.

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

The Ss. Peter & Paul Adult Religious Education Forum is on hold during the Great Lenten season. We encourage all to attend Lenten Services scheduled Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Please see the schedule on the round table in the Narthex. The Forum will resume on Thursday, **May 5 at 7:15pm**. All are welcome.

SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH FOOD BANK OUTREACH PROJECT

On Sunday, April 17, Ss. Peter & Paul Church will sponsor a food bank outreach project in support of the needy in our local area. Following Fellowship hour in the Church hall, volunteers are needed to pack food boxes for distribution. Please lend a hand for this good work as our Parish seeks to reach to help those who are hungry. For more information please contact Carol Laham at claham@wileyrein.com.

STEWARDSHIP REMINDER

Remember to fill out and submit your financial contribution forms for this year so that you can partake in the blessings of spiritual giving. You can mail, email, fax, or hand them in to an usher on Sunday. Blessed are those who have already pledged!

NAACH FLOWER DONATION & ADORNMENT

Decorating the Naach will start on Good Friday, **April 29th** at 10am. All are welcome and invited to participate. Don't forget your pruning shears! A dish to share at lunch would be most welcome. Please give your donation to Leila Ayoub, Marie Khalil, or Ann Marie Moses. The donation forms are on the table in the Narthex.

Upcoming events...

Mar 20	Baptism/Jade Michelle Mason@1:00p
Mar 21	Service of the Great Compline @7:00pm
Mar 23	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00pm
Mar 25	*The Feast of the Annunciation w/Divine Liturgy at 10:00am *Service of the First Akathist Hymn @7:00pm *Great Lent Potluck to follow services
Mar 26	No Arabic Language Classes
Mar 29	Men's Club Mtg./7:30pm/LL Conf. Rm
Apr 1-3	Dioceses Spring Delegates' Mtg.
Apr 16	*Holy Bread Baking Class/9:00a/Upstairs Kitchen *Ask Abouna RAP session @12p (see above for more info)
Apr 17	*Pascha Prep Workshop for Sunday School/LL Conf. Rm. *Ss. Peter & Paul Food Bank Outreach Project following Fellowship/Kogok Hall (see above for more info)
Apr 24	Pascha Arabic Pastry Sweets Bake Sale
Apr 24-May 1	Holy Week
Apr 29	Good Friday Vigil
Apr 30	*Arabic Language Class/10a-12:30p/LL Hall

EPISTLE

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our fathers.
For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (11:24-26, 32-40)

Brethren, by faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets; who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:43-51)

At that time, Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found Him of Whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to Jesus, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered Him, "Rabbi, Thou art the Son of God! Thou art the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

What is more precious than anything in the world? Time! What do we waste uselessly and without being sorry? Time! What do we not value and what do we disregard more than anything? Time! When we waste time, we lose ourselves. The Lord will call us to account for having stolen time for our own whims, and for not using it for God and our souls.

St. Sebastian of Optina

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook
Christine Morin
Layla Najjar
Lizzy Cassar
Lara Bellone
Andrew Salem
Caroline Jarboe
Chrissy Mackoul
Anees Mokhiber
Philip Allen

Men's Club

Sam Khalil

Antiochian Women

Kate Niewenhaus

Teen SOYO

Advisor

Jamilee Bellone

Officers

Rashid Haddad
Julia Allen
Danielle Bellone
Kinda Callas
Nick Guegel

Fellowship of St. John

Christine & Samer Korkor
Dn. Christian & Zeina
Manasseh

Adornment

Shams Akkawi
Jamil Hermes

Facility Management

Nick Nahas
Bob Simon

Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

Finance

Gary Farha

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 re-
 member them in his kingdom always:
 now and ever, and unto ages of ages

LIVING

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Margaret Ashley	May Fillah
Richie Kogok	Brian Briggs
Suad Shammas	Lulu & George Brown
Bertha Aed	Isabel Threddeh
Holly Dubois	Thelma & Bob Badwey
Edmond & Sophie Neam	

Fr. Joseph Allen	Salwa Gabro
Josephine Lofgren	Nouha Aramouni
Sally Ruffin	Richie Ayoub
John Wizeman	Tony Moussa
Adib Saah	Mufid Ayoub
Elias Bitar	Kathy Habib
Nicholas & Helen White	Samer & Christine Korkor
Caroline Jarboe	James Bennett
Jeanette Haller	Bolus Family
Louise Kiatta	Michael & Nadia El-Hage & Family
Odetta El-Hage & Family	Victoria Curtin
Angelika Giavis	Elaine Husein
Janette Husein	The Family of Samia Tannous
Deena Marie Gakos	

DEPARTED

H.E. Metropolitan PHILIP
 Fr. Theodore Chelphon
 Samia Tannous
 Irene Yazge
 Julian Johnn El-Hage
 Shawkey El-Hage
 Eid & Amahl Smilie
 John & Catherine Bolus
 Albert Moses
 Monk Maximus Moses

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

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

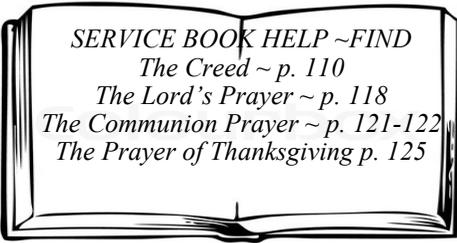
- the clergy censes the sanctuary
- the congregation is standing, or
- during the Little Entrance with the Gospel
- during the Reading of the Epistle and the Gospel

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.



Ss. Peter and Paul sends congratulations to Aunt Bertha Aed, 91 years young, on her birthday March 17. May God grant her many blessings and many more years.

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERING
 Zeina Manasseh
 The Family of Samia (Suha) Tannous for her 40-day Memorial

FELLOWSHIP HOUR OFFERING
 Raed & Kristy Husein

Stewardship Corner
 Theology of Giving Series – Week 12 – March 20, 2016

Matthew 23: 23 ... "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law; justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone."

"What does this message from God require from me, His loyal and obedient servant?" What must I change in my life to be able to follow this teaching in both word and in deed?"
 Select the link to read the entire Theology of Giving series on our website blog: <https://www.peterpaulpotomac.org/stewardship-corner>