

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
27 Mar	Marie & Sam Khalil Family of Abraham 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
24 Apr	Mary Misleh	Mary Misleh

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 27, 2016 **TONE 2/ EOTHINON 10** **SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT**

COMMEMORATION OF GREGORY PALAMAS, ARCHBISHOP OF THESSALONICA
MARTYR MATRONA OF THESSALONICA; MARTYRS PHILETOS THE SENATOR, HIS
WIFE LYDIA OF ROME AND THOSE WITH THEM; PAUL, BISHOP OF CORINTH

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

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.

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.

All who know God, will know (the Mother of God) as the one who holds Him, Whom nothing can contain; and all who sing God's praises, will hymn her after God. She is the cause of what preceded her, the protectress of what comes after her, and she procures eternity. She is the Prophets' theme, the Apostles' starting point, the martyrs' mainstay, and the teachers' foundation.

ST. GREGORY PALAMAS

Dating of Pascha In The Orthodox Church

Dr. Lewis J. Patsavos,
Professor of Canon Law, Holy Cross School of Theology

One of the most frequent questions asked by and to Orthodox Christians is "Why does the Orthodox Church celebrate Easter on a different day than other Christians?" This difference has a long history related to Christianity itself, the complex nature of calendars, and the use of astronomical data.

Almost from the very beginning of the existence of the Christian Church, the issue regarding the date of our Lord's death and resurrection presented variations. Although the New Testament relates these events to the Jewish Passover, the details of this relationship are not clear. On the one hand, the tradition of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke identifies the Lord's Last Supper with His disciples as a Passover meal. This would place the death of our Lord on the day *after* Passover. On the other hand, the tradition of the Gospel of John situates the death of our Lord at the very hour the paschal lambs were sacrificed on the day of Passover itself. This variation in the interpretation of the Scriptures led to two different practices. The one observed Pascha on the day of Passover, regardless of the day of the week, that is a fixed date. The other observed it on the Sunday following Passover. By the fourth century, the latter practice prevailed throughout the Church universally; nevertheless, differences continued to exist.

In response to this ongoing problem, the First Ecumenical Council, convened at Nicaea in 325 A.D., took up the issue. It determined that Pascha should be celebrated on the Sunday that follows the first full moon after the vernal equinox — the actual beginning of spring. If the full moon happens to fall on a Sunday, Pascha is observed the following Sunday. The day taken to be the invariable date of the vernal equinox is March 21. Hence, the determination of the date of Pascha is governed by a process dependent on the vernal equinox and the phase of the moon.

Another factor that figures prominently in determining the date of Pascha is the date of the Jewish Passover. Originally, Passover was celebrated on the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Christians, therefore, celebrated Pascha according to the same calculation - that is, on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox. The correlation between the date of Pascha and the date of Passover is clear. Our Lord's death and resurrection coincided with Passover, thereby assuring a secure point of reference in time. This assurance lasted, however, only for a short time.

Events in Jewish history contributing to the dispersion of the Jews had, as a consequence, a departure from the way Passover was reckoned at the time of our Lord's death and resurrection. This caused the Passover to precede the vernal equinox in some years. It was, in fact, this anomaly that led to the condemnation reflected in Canon 1 of Antioch (ca. 330 A.D.) and Canon 7 of the Holy Apostles (late 4th century) of those who celebrate Pascha "with the Jews." The purpose of this condemnation was to prevent Christians from taking into account the calculation of Passover in determining the date of Pascha.

Most Christians eventually ceased to regulate the observance of Pascha by the Jewish Passover. Their purpose, of course, was to preserve the original practice of celebrating Pascha following the vernal equinox. Thus, the Council of Nicaea sought to link the principles for determining the date of Pascha to the norms for calculating Passover during our Lord's lifetime.

Part 1 of 2

SPRING DELEGATES MEETING **DIOCESE OF NEW YORK, WDC, and OAKLAND**

Next Friday, Saturday, and Sunday April 1st, 2nd, & 3rd our Parish will host the Diocese of New York, WDC and Oakland for the Spring Delegates Meeting. We welcome our brethren from our sister churches, and the members of Teen SOYO, The Fellowship of St. John, the Antiochian Women, and their Graces Bishop NICHOLAS and Bishop THOMAS. For schedule of events see flyer on round table in Narthex or go to the website www.peterpaulpotomac.org.

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

2016 BAZAAR UPDATE

*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!*

*Ss. PETER & PAUL BAZAAR — SAVE THE DATE

Ss. Peter & Paul 33rd Annual Bazaar September 23-25, 2016. Please contact us with your thoughts and interest in volunteering! Contact wayne.parr@gmail.com 571-294-0197 or Barbara Abraham bmwabraham@gmail.com 301-949-1056

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 campoffice@antiochianvillage.org if you have questions about the waitlists.

*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.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

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

"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.

TRADITIONS COOKBOOK

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

We are planning the next publication of our recipe book revised to reflect our Feast Days and the different traditions within our parish. This edition focuses on traditional recipes representative of all our backgrounds and culinary traditions. Please submit a recipe (and photo if you have one) for consideration by emailing it to Michele Forzley at mforzley@comcast.net please. Our goal is to have the book ready for the Festival. 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.

Upcoming events...

- Mar 27 Men's Club Mtg./12:30pm/LL Conf. Rm (following Liturgy)
Mar 30 Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00pm
Apr 01 *Service of the First Akathist Hymn @7:00pm
*Great Lent Potluck to follow services
Apr 1-3 Dioceses Spring Delegates' Mtg.
Apr 04 Service of the Great Compline @7:00pm
Apr 06 Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00pm
Apr 08 *Service of the First Akathist Hymn @7:00pm
*Great Lent Potluck to follow services
Apr 09 *Arabic Language Class/10a-12:30p/LL Conf. Rm
Apr 11 Service of the Great Compline @7:00pm
Apr 12 Parish Council Mtg/LL Conf. Rm.@7:00p
Apr 13 Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00pm
Apr 15 *Service of the First Akathist Hymn @7:00pm
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 18 Service of the Great Compline @7:00pm
Apr 20 Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts @7:00pm
Apr 24 *Palm Sunday-Divine Liturgy & Procession of the Palms at 10:30a
*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

*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

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to 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!"

Stewardship Corner

Theology of Giving Series – Week 13 – March 27, 2016

St. John Chrysostom, Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Volume XIII, First Series, page 69 ...
"For what did not they of old do? They gave tithes, and tithes again upon tithes for orphans, widows, and strangers; whereas someone was saying to me in astonishment of another person, 'Why, such a one gives tithes!' What a load of disgrace does this imply, since what was not a matter of wonder with the Jews has come to be so in the case of the Christians? If there was a danger then in omitting tithes, think how great it must be now!"

"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>

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 Niewenhous

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
 Isabel Thredeh Holly Dubois
 Edmond & Sophie Neam

Fr. Joseph Allen
 Josephine Lofgren John Wizeman
 Richie Ayoub Adib Saah
 Tony Moussa Elias Bitar
 Mufid Ayoub Nicholas & Helen White
 Kathy Habib Caroline Jarboe
 Jeanette Haller James Bennett
 Lulu Brown
 Deborah Brown
 Sam, Donna, Sarah, Sammy, Lexi Brown
 Mickey, Johnny, Annie, Georgia Sines
 Steve, Jennifer, Helena, Catherine, Stephen, Giselle Brown
 George, Chris, Jenna, Anna, Georgi, Laila, Bryleigh Brown
 Sam & Marie Khalil
 Shawn Khalil & Family
 Kera & Chris Tomlin
 Deena, Dean, Simeon, Adrian, Ephram Gakos
 Alexandra, Andrew, Matthew Gavin & Leslie Courtright

DEPARTED

Irene Yazge
 Louise Kiatta
 Joeseeph Charley
 Abraham S. Brown
 Adieb E. Brown
 Sam & Mary Brown
 John & Sadie Nassif
 Ernest & Sadie Nassif, Sr.
 Albert Nassif
 Helen & Albert Haje
 Ernestine & Sam McLoota
 John Nassif, Jr.
 Terry Smith
 Sabrina Edmiston
 Selwa & Tawfik Kahlil
 Mufid Kahlil
 Thelma & Raymond Walker

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.

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 OFFERING
 Marie & Sam Kahlil

2-Year Memorial Service Prepared by George Brown & Offered by the Family of Abraham Brown in his memory

FELLOWSHIP HOUR OFFERING
 Marie & Sam Kahlil

The Falling Asleep of Louise Kiatta
 Louise Kiatta a lifelong member of the Antiochian Orthodox community in Washington DC, passed away on Sunday, March 20. Her Funeral was held at Ss. Peter & Paul Church on March 22. Louise was a member of St. George until moving to Bethesda and became a member of Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church. She is survived by her nephews Gregory and Christian, niece Jackie, and cousin Elaine. Memorial contributions may be made to Ss. Peter and Paul Church. The family would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy. May be memory be eternal.