

	<b>BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION</b>	<b>FELLOWSHIP HOUR</b>
<b>03 Mar</b>	Lorna Malooley	Saints Peter and Paul and its related organizations in honor of Bishop Nicholas & Delegate's Meeting
<b>10 Apr</b>	Laila Elaraj	Open
<b>17 Apr</b>	Donna Gavin	Open
<b>24 Apr</b>	Mary Misleh Palm Sunday	Mary Misleh
<b>30 Apr 01 May</b>	Pascha	

**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**

10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-3400 • [www.peterpaulpotomac.org](http://www.peterpaulpotomac.org)

## 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, APRIL 3, 2016**

**TONE 3/ EOTHINON 11**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT**

**VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS**

ABBOT NIKITAS THE CONFESSOR OF MEDIKION; VENERABLE JOSEPH THE  
HYMNOGRAPHER;  
NEW-MARTYR PAUL THE RUSSIAN

**\*\*DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT\*\***

### **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 FOR THE HOLY CROSS (TONE 1)**

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

### **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.

*We* have within us deeply rooted weaknesses, passions, and defects. This can not all be cut out with one sharp motion, but patience, persistence, care and attention. The path leading to perfection is long. Pray to God so that he will strengthen you. Patiently accept your falls and having stood up, immediately run to God, not remaining in place where you have fallen. Do not despair if you keep falling into your old sins. Many of them are strong because they have received the force of habit. Only with the passage of time and with fervor will they be conquered. Don't let anything deprive you of hope.

*St. Nectarios of Aegina*

## Dating of Pascha In The Orthodox Church

**Dr. Lewis J. Patsavos,**

**Professor of Canon Law, Holy Cross School of Theology**

Despite the intervention of the Council of Nicaea, certain differences in the technicalities of regulating the date of Pascha remained even thereafter. This resulted occasionally in local variations until, by the sixth century, a more secure mode of calculation based on astronomical data was universally accepted. This was an alternative to calculating Pascha by the Passover and consisted in the creation of so-called "paschal cycles."

Each paschal cycle corresponded to a certain number of years. Depending upon the number of years in the cycle, the full moon occurred on the same day of the year as at the beginning of the cycle with some exceptions. The more accurate the cycle, the less frequent were the exceptions. In the East, a nineteen-year cycle was eventually adopted, whereas in the West an eighty-four-year cycle. The use of two different paschal cycles inevitably gave way to differences between the Eastern and Western Churches regarding the observance of Pascha.

A further cause for these differences was the adoption by the Western Church of the Gregorian Calendar in 1582 to replace the Julian Calendar. This took place in order to adjust the discrepancy, then observed between the paschal cycle approach to calculating Pascha and the available astronomical data. The Orthodox Church continues to base its calculations for the date of Pascha on the Julian Calendar, which was in use at the time of the First Ecumenical Council. As such, it does not take into account the thirteen-day difference between the Julian and Gregorian Calendars.

Practically speaking, this means that Pascha may not be celebrated before April 3, which was March 21, the date of the vernal equinox, at the time of the First Ecumenical Council. In other words, a difference of thirteen days exists between the accepted date for the vernal equinox then and now.

Consequently, it is the combination of these variables that accounts for the different dates of Pascha observed by the Orthodox Church and other Christian Churches. If anything, this review of the complexities surrounding the issue of the date of Pascha underscores the compelling need to revisit it with patience and openness. This topic has long been a concern of ecumenical dialogue. This was the spirit that predominated at a consultation on the matter held in Aleppo, Syria in 1997. One of its conclusions was that the underlying reason for the differences in the date of Pascha was the differences in the calendars and lunar tables (paschal cycles) employed rather than any theological disagreement between Eastern and Western Christians. In view of the fact that today both the Julian and Gregorian modes of calculation diverge from the astronomical data, it behooves all Christians to return to the norms determined by the Council of Nicaea, taking advantage of the most up-to-date astronomical data for the vernal equinox and the phase of the moon.

**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**  
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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  
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**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 Orthodox Church News and Events

## ATTENTION MEN AND WOMEN OF THE PARISH!

If you've been wanting to learn to prepare Holy Bread for our Liturgies, now is the time to learn. The next class will be held on **Saturday, April 16**, in the church kitchen from 9am to 1:30pm. Class size is limited to six but will consider another class if more wish to learn. Your bread will be used for Holy Week and Pascha on May 1 (midnight April 30). Come and learn our Holy Orthodox tradition. You will be so pleased with your results and your beautiful offering. Lorna Malooley - 703-978-6542

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**\*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 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.

## "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.

## 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. Order forms available on the round table in the Narthex. **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

## 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](mailto: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...

- Apr 1-3 Dioceses Spring Delegates' Mtg.
- Apr 1 Service of the Akathist w/Lenten Potluck dinner and short presentation in Church hall.
- Apr 2 The Service of Great Vespers to welcome Bishop Nicholas @5:00pm
- 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 10 Men's Club Mtg/following Liturgy LL Conf. Rm. 12:30p
- 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)
- \*Arabic Language Class/10a-12:30p/LL Conf. Rm
- 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
- \*Pascha Arabic Pastry Sweets Bake Sale
- Hanric Leong Baptism/12p/Sanctuary
- Apr 22
- Apr 23-May 1 Holy Week (see schedule on table in Narthex)
- Apr 24 \*Palm Sunday-Divine Liturgy & Procession of the Palms at 10:30a
- Apr 29 Teen SOYO/Good Friday Vigil
- Apr 30 \*Arabic Language Class/10a-12:30p/LL Hall

## EPISTLE

(For the Third Sunday of Great Lent)

*O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.  
To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (4:14-5:6)**

Brethren, since we have a High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee"; as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Third Sunday of Great Lent)

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)**

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

*Theology of Giving Series* – Week 14 – April 3, 2016

**Luke, 12:27-31 ... "Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith? And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things. But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you."**

"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 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
Isabel Threddeh	Holly Dubois
Edmond & Sophie Neam	

Josephine Lofgren	John Wizeman
Richie Ayoub	Adib Hanna Saah
Tony Moussa	Elias Bitar
Mufid Ayoub	Nicholas & Helen White
Kathy Habib	Caroline Jarboe
Jeanette Haller	James Bennett
Yasmin Courtright	John Stabb & Mina Devadas
Barbara Abraham	Lorna Malooley
Alexandra Malooley	Joyce Abdow Dowd
Sandra Abdow Martelli	Pamela Abdow Braverman
Audrey Haddad DeMichele	Fred Zacharia
Alexandra, Andrew, Matthew Gavin & Leslie Courtright	
Hillery Harvey, & Dustin, Sawyer and Ivy Hays	

## DEPARTED

Louise Kiatta  
Evelyn Hier  
Mabel Moses  
R. Sergei Malooley  
John & Nymry Abdow  
Katter & Mary Malooley  
Philip & Gladys Haddad  
Fuad Akel  
Andrew Swydan

**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**

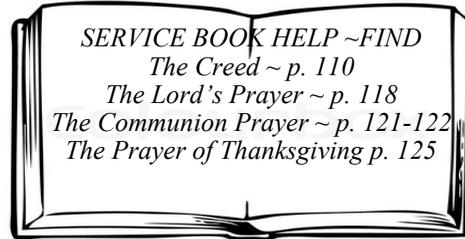
- the clergy censes the sanctuary
- the congregation is standing, or
- during the Little Entrance with the Gospel
- during the Reading of the Epistle and the Gospel

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.



## HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

Lorna Malooley

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR OFFERED BY:

Fellowship Hour sponsored by the parish of Saints Peter and Paul and its related organizations including the Ladies Auxiliary, the Men's Club, the Fellowship of Saint John the Divine, Teen SOYO, the Parish

## 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](mailto:claham@wileyrein.com).