

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR
AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION**

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
05 Apr	Cancelled until further notice	Cancelled until further notice
12 Apr	Cancelled until further notice	Cancelled until further notice
19Apr	Cancelled until further notice	Cancelled until further notice
26 Apr	Cancelled until further notice	Cancelled until further notice
03 May	Cancelled until further notice	Cancelled until further notice

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 at the hallway door leading into Kogok Hall.

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-3400 • www.peterpaulpotomac.org

Kindly keep all cell phones turned off or muted while in Church. Thank you.

PRIESTS

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SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

H.E. Metropolitan JOSEPH

Archbishop Primate

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

ZONE 1 / EOTHINON 9

FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

COMMEMORATION OF OUR RIGHTEOUS MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT

MARTYRS CLAUDIUS, DIODORE AND THEIR COMPANIONS;

NEW-MARTYR GEORGE OF NEW EPHESUS;

VENERABLE THEODORA AND DIDYMUS OF ALEXANDRIA

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (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 ST. MARY OF EGYPT (Tone 8)

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

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.

ORDINARY KONTAKION (Tone 2)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

“I realized that we all worry about ourselves too much and that only he who leaves everything to the will of God can feel truly joyous, light, and peaceful.”
Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

***MAKING GOD REAL
In the Orthodox Christian Home***

By Anthony M. Coniaris

How to Read the Bible at Home

Example No. 2. A certain lady was facing a serious operation. She was frightened even though she knew she had the best doctors and many friends praying for her. Her pastor did his best to comfort her but she was still too frightened for the operation. Then, lying alone in bed one night in the hospital, she opened the Bible and read the Psalms-all of them. A few days later, following surgery, she said to her pastor, “You know, I read all the Psalms the night before my operation. I don't remember a word I read, but I received the strong conviction that God was real and was with me, and my fear vanished.”

Example No. 3. A young socialite married to a rich contractor felt a deep emptiness in her life. Nothing pleased her. She took to drinking. Her marriage was on the verge of divorce. Musing one day that psychiatrists had been of no help, she impulsively purchased a Bible and began reading it. After reading right through the night, she suddenly felt what she later described as “the most marvelous feeling of peace and release.” Her emptiness was filled by God. She and her husband became changed persons-saved from alcoholism and divorce by the word of God.

Why Its Enduring Power?

Why is it that this Book has had such enduring power through the centuries? The only answer is that it is God’s Book. It speaks, as no other book can, to the heart and needs of man. It answers questions basic to life: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? It speaks with power. The word of God contained in the Bible is not merely an “inspiring thought” or a “good idea”; it is a power which transforms the lives of those who accept it; it is the “power of God unto salvation to everyone who believes,” writes St. Paul.

Moreover, the Bible speaks with ultimate authority. Nothing has so shaken our security these days as the philosophy of relativism, the so-called “New Morality”-the theory that holds ultimate truth to be a mirage; the theory that no values are fixed, that each person decides existentially in each situation what is right and what is wrong. Against this spineless fluidity the Bible says, “Thus saith the Lord.” God has spoken. He has given us goalposts. He has given us stars to steer by. He has given us principles that are valid not for a few generations but forever. As someone so well said, “God gave us commandments; He did not give us amendments.” “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of God shall stand forever,” says the God’s word.

“Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away,” said Jesus.

In the Bible we find exactly the strength we need for every problem and sorrow of life. For those overcome with grief over the passing of a loved one, who can offer better comfort than Jesus who is the resurrection and the life? For those overcome by the cares and burdens of life, who can offer greater strength than Jesus Who says, “Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest”? For those overcome by guilt, who can offer greater forgiveness, greater peace than Jesus Who said to the adulteress, “Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more”? For those who cannot stand the emptiness of life, who can fill it with more meaning than Jesus who said, “I am the bread of life, he who comes to me shall never hunger and he who believes in me shall never thirst”?

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2019-2020

We encourage all of our students to attend liturgy on Sundays. Please use the following link to register your children for the 2019-2020 Church School Year : <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>. For Newsletter <https://tinyurl.com/y48hecx>

CHURCH SCHOOL CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

- Apr 05** ***CANCELLED:** Church School Pascha Prep Workshop
- Apr 12** *Palm Sunday/**live stream only**
- Apr 19** *Pascha/**live stream only**
- May 17** *High School Senior Recognition Day
- May 24** *Memorial Day Weekend/no Church school
- May 31** *Sunday School Celebration

"EXPLORING OUR FAITH": ON WHEELS

Will be back on the road again soon. If you are interested in hosting one of these every-other-week week-night meetings, please send Fr Luke an email (frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org). He will check in with you on the dates the work best for you.

We are looking forward to moving these bi-weekly meetings around so its closer to your home at some point. Our goal is to drive no more than 15 minutes to get there.

If you are willing to host one of these meetings in the future, here is the deal: Number of attendees can be limited to fit in your space. You can host as few as 5 people if that is all you can seat (on-floor seats are premium). Only hot drinks are served. No food involved. Meeting time can be: 7:00-8:30 or 7:30-9:00 pm.

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 to visit, and to reach out to our elderly brethren. All those willing to help please contact the Church office.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- Apr 03-05** ***CANCELLED:** Eastern Dioceses Annual Lenten Pilgrimage & Spring Retreat
- Apr 05** ***CANCELLED:** Church School Pascha Prep Workshop
- Apr 12** *Palm Sunday/**live stream only**
- Apr 19** *Great & Holy Pascha/**live stream only**
- May 03** ***CANCELLED:** OCMC Annual Dinner/see Barbara Bosworth
- May 9** ***CANCELLED:** Antiochian Women's Fashion Show/Westwood County Club.
- May 17** *High School Senior Recognition
- May 22-25** ***CANCELLED:** Family Camp at the Antiochian Village/
- Jun 24-28** ***CANCELLED:** 2020 Parish Life Conference/Antiochian Village CANCELLED: Teen SOYO Bible Bowl on 6/27

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul YAF welcomes all young people over 21 years of age to join in its social, educational, and outreach activities. Please contact Amal Michael at amal17m@yahoo.com for more information.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

*Please pay your annual dues of \$25 to help support our outreach and charitable projects. **All women are members and are welcome.** Checks can be given to Janet Metz.

*For future notices and any questions, please provide your email address to Donna Gavin at crazygavins@verizon.net

- Spring** ***CANCELLED:** Easter Naach Collections
- May 02** ***CANCELLED:** Good Friday decorating
- May 02** ***CANCELLED:** Bakeless Bake Sale/AOCWNA/Helen Khalil
- May 02** ***CANCELLED:** The St. George Ladies Myrrh Bearing one-day retreat at St. George.
- May 9** ***CANCELLED:** Fashion Show/Westwood Country

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul is to serve the church through charitable outreach, educational and service projects which strengthen and deepen the faith of its members and develop a fellowship of Orthodox Christian servants. Contact Sam Khalil sk1943@aol.com or Fred Zacharia at fredzach@verizon.net for more information.

THE EPISTLE

*Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them.
God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:11-14)

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

CANCELLED: 2020 PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

The annual Eastern Diocese Parish Life Conference will take place at the **Antiochian Village on June 24-28, 2020**. In addition to the visit and service at the grave site of Saint Raphael, events include liturgical services, speakers, social events, the annual Bible Bowl and oratorical contest. Everyone is welcome to part or all of the Conference. Please mark your calendar and let's see that Ss Peter and Paul is well represented this year.

POSTPONED

ANNUAL LENTEN COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT PACKING MEALS FOR AREA FAMILIES IN NEED

We have decided to postpone the meal packing event. We will confirm the new date as soon as we can. In the meantime, thank you to all who have contributed to the service project, so far. And thank you to everyone who had signed up to volunteer.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
SaraAyoub
Michelle Zook
Beth Davis
Alma Jean Zaki
Jennifer Montgomery
Kinda Callas
Dara Potter
Stephen Zolnerowich
Caroline Jarboe
Elizabeth El-Hage
Jaren Sams
Philip Allen
Nathaniel Guinn

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Sam Khalil

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Donna Gavin

TEEN SOYO

Lay Advisors

Stephen Zolnerowich
Riham Saah
Ken Bailey
Juliana Natour
Maya Saah
Kinda Callas
Sanaa Natour
Officers
Tia Saah
Nick Shahin
Tala Natour
Rylee Isaac

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Amal Michael

FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Sam Berberian
Abe Fannoney

RENTAL COORDINATOR

Barbara Abraham
George Rados

CHARITIES & ST. IGNATIUS

Sam Khalil

FINANCE

Frank Abdow

STEWARDSHIP

Zeina Manasseh

GIFT SHOP

Gail Bailey
Meghan Zoto
George Zoto

Commemorations

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 Service starts on p. 91
 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:

Postponed until Further Notice

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

Postponed until Further Notice

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.

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Rt. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar	Rt. Rev. Daniel Griffith
Kh. Rebecca Alford	Kh. Ann Anderson
Kevin Pinkstaff	Nijmeh Zayed
Isabel Thredch	Nabeeha Ayoub
Joyce Hamaty	Shoke George
Holly Dubois	Suad Shammass
Sophie Neam	Miriam Yazge
George & Joan Abraham	Lulu Brown
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Edward Rizkallah
Leila Khoury	Bob & Shirley Neri
Assad & Patricia Khoury	
	Brian Briggs
	Allison Ayoub Egge
	George & Chris Brown
	Robert & Thelma Badwey
	Barbara Abraham
	Ibtisam Toubaji
	Dorothy Marge

DEPARTED

Fr. Isaac Crow
 Fr. George Rados
 Ted Milkovich
 Daoud Khairallah
 Mable Moses

LIVING

Kh. Dolly, Basil and the Family of Fr. Isaac		
Ramona Dora	Fred & Sherrie Zacharia	Michael Piechocinski
Ibrahim Mazen Saah	Halim & Hayat Barakat	Asma Hamameh-Trey
Sami Korban	Geffen Franus	Sam Hamameh
Audree Yacoub	Vilma Bellone	Adam Farah
Patrick Farah	Lily Farhoud	Nawal Musleh
John & Betty Slanta		
Edward, Ritamarie, Emilia & Viviana Saa		

OCCM News:

At this unprecedented time, it is more important than ever to pray for our long-term missionaries. A list of names and countries can be found at <http://www.ocmc.org>

- Here is a wonderful prayer given for these times by Father Martin Ritsi, who is director of OCCM:
 - O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your goodness look down on Your people. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart.
 - O Lord who loves humanity, deliver us from the growing threats of the coronavirus. Send Your angels to watch over us and protect us. We ask that you slow the spread of the virus and help us do what we can to slow its spread.
 - Grant health, recovery, protection, and encouragement to those suffering from its effects: whether physically, emotionally, financially, or in any other way.
 - Guide the hands of the physicians, healthcare workers, and all those who continue to serve Your people in the face of this threat.
 - And preserve us all, O Lord, that we may continue to serve You in peace and glorify Your most honorable and majestic Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forevermore. Amen.