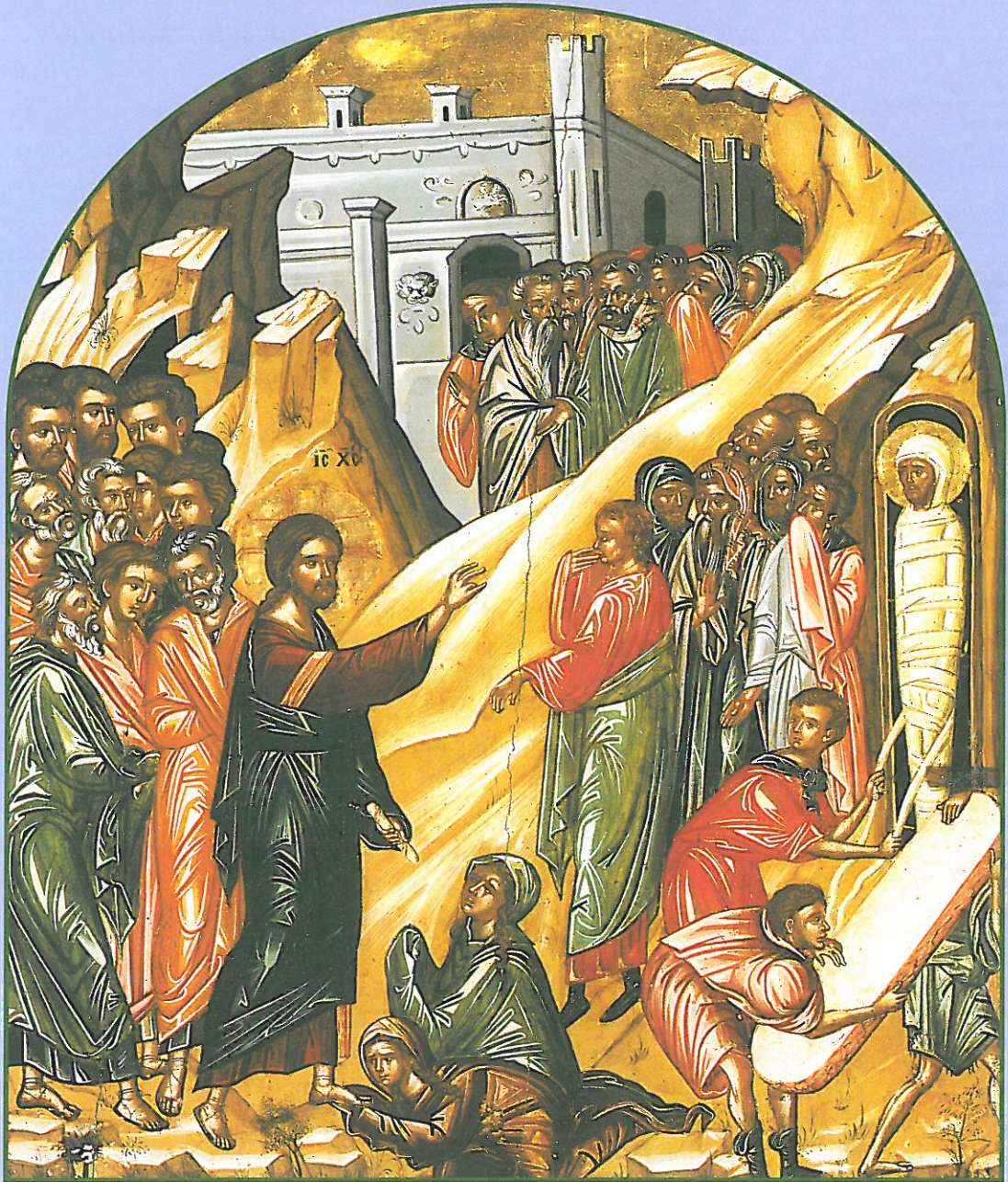


APRIL 6, 2014



Christ raises Lazarus from the dead

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

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

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, April 6, 2014

Tone 8

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

Eothinon: 8

On this day we Commemorate our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt Eutychos, patriarch of Constantinople; Venerable Platonida of Nisibis in Syria; Venerable Gregory Byzantios of the Great Lavra on Athos

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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.

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 Ordinary Sundays (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.

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

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."

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Nicole Kyriakos
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook
Razan Abdallah
Ranya Eid
Leila Taweel
Hala Paskaleva
Saleem Mokhiber
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.

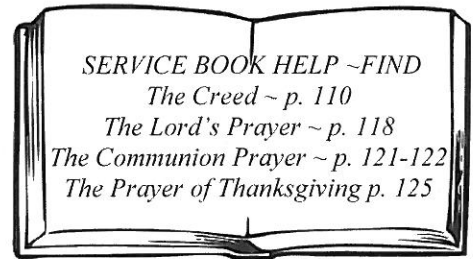
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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: offered by Nahla George, Michael & Nadia El-Hage & family, and Catherine & Denise Bolus & family

1-Yr Memorial for Rey George, husband of Nahla

40-Day Memorial for Amahl El-Hage Smaili, sister of Michael El-Hage & Nadia

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: is offered by Nahla George in memory of her husband Rey

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
Lulu & George Brown
Issa & Suad Shammass
Edmond Neam

LIVING

Child of God Tamara Manasseh
Richie Kogok
Nawal Musleh
Bassem Haddad
Ziad Deeb
Bassem El-Hage
Nahla George
Michele Graham & families
Laura Sloan & families

El-Hage family
Bolus family
Lorna Malooley & family

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

Evelyn Hier Apr 2
Farida Khalil Mansur Mar 31
Abraham Brown Mar 27
HE Metropolitan PHILIP Mar 19
JoAnne Ibrahim Mar 8
Ezzat Kazzi Mar 5
Ralph Farha Feb 28

Amahl El-Hage Smaili
Eid Smaili
Shawky El-Hage
John Bolus
Julian John El-Hage
Serge Malooley

Rey George
Aziz George
Suham George

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

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 18th 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 APRIL 27TH

The Antiochian Women or Ladies Auxiliary of Ss. Peter & Paul will meet Sunday, April 27th immediately after Liturgy in the lower level hall. We meet for fellowship, encouragement and lunch—bring a dish to share! All ladies are welcome. For more information please contact Ann Marie Moses at amoses00@verizon.net.

BYZANTINE MUSIC WORKSHOP

The next Byzantine Music workshop will be held Saturday, May 3rd from 1:00-4:00pm and is open to all. Registration forms are available in the vestibule. Contact Fr. Isaac Crow at frisaac@gmail.com or 301-765-9188.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN FASHION SHOW

Our 11th Annual show and luncheon is Saturday, May 10th at 11:30am at the Congressional Country Club. Tickets are \$50; proceeds to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project. For more information contact Rida Boulos at frita18@aol.com.

THE THOUGHTS OF METROPOLITAN PHILIP ON ECCLESIOLOGY

The central biblical theme regarding our Ecclesiology is taken from the first Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 3:9-17:

We are laborers together with God: you are God's field. You are God's building. But let every man take heed how he builds; for no other foundation can man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Every man's work shall be made manifest, for the day shall declare it. For it shall be manifest by fire, and the fire shall try every man's work, of what sort it is.

Certainly we do not organize for the sake of organization. We do organize in order to coordinate our efforts, so that our vision and dreams for a Christ-like Church might be fulfilled and realized. The purpose of all our organizations is to grow spiritually in Christ. If we fail to do so, then all our organizations and all our efforts will have been in vain. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and everything else will be added unto you."

For many years we have been administering our local parishes under a false dichotomy, under a dangerous and completely un-orthodox dualism. Thus, we have been preaching two kinds of theologies: one for the church upstairs, and one for the hall downstairs. We do not believe in this "upstairs-downstairs" theology. Nor do we believe in the existence of two classes in the parish opposing each other: namely, clergy versus laity. This kind of dualism has caused us many problems.

Some Orthodox clergy do not think that we need organizations and church councils. They think that they can administer the affairs of the parish without help from the laity. Furthermore, they believe that the councils are

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

nothing but an American innovation in our Church and that we do not need them. We completely disagree with this trend of thinking. At the same time, there are some councils who believe that the priest can be hired or fired if he is not perfect. The question now is: what human being is perfect? If you are looking for perfect bishops or perfect priests, you are going to look, and look in vain.

We are very reluctant to transfer priests from one parish to another because someone does not like the way a priest combs his hair. We are very reluctant, also to transfer a priest from one parish to another because his English (or Arabic) is not perfect. We are further reluctant to transfer a priest from one parish to another because of complaints that he asks questions about the financial affairs of his parish. Priests are appointed and transferred only by the Archbishop, on the basis of whether or not his ministry in this particular parish is still fruitful.

I believe that we have reached a state of spiritual maturity when we can look at the parish as the family of God, one which is bound together by the bond of love, and which works together for God's glory.

Saint Peter, in his first Epistle, chapter 2, verse 9, wrote:

You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God, which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Thus, we are no longer living under the yoke of the law but in the grace and fellowship of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There are no masters and slaves in the parish. The parish is the family of God. The priest who listens to your confessions, who leads you in prayers, who distributes to you the sacrament of the

Holy Eucharist, must be respected a such. At Parish meetings, he must be given the place of honor. Councils must listen carefully to his comments and adhere to his recommendations. In his first Epistle to the Corinthians, Saint Paul wrote: "For though you have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you have not many fathers" (4:15). The priest, then, is a father to his family and not a dictator. He is the teacher of the Faith and must share in the administration of the parish. He must teach his children with love, carefulness, and patience. He must understand that the priesthood is a martyrdom for Christ's sake.

To be continued...

Edited by Father Joseph Allen, Th.D.



LOOKING AHEAD *Upcoming events...*

- Apr 6 - Sunday School Workshop @12pm
- Apr 8 - Parish Council Meeting @7pm
- Apr 9 - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @7pm
- Apr 12 - Lazarus Saturday Liturgy @9am
followed by Children's Workshop
Choir Pot Luck Lunch @ 12pm
- Apr 13-18 - Holy Week Services @7:30pm
- Apr 17 - Divine Liturgy of St. Basil @9am
- Apr 18 - Ladies Decorate Naach @10am
- Apr 18—Unnailing Vespers @3pm
- Apr 19 - Holy Saturday Liturgy @10am and
Rush Service & Paschal Liturgy @ 11pm
- Apr 20 - Great & Holy Pascha Agape Vespers @3p
- Apr 26 - Wedding Downing/Getahun @ 1pm
- Apr 27 - Antiochian Women lunch meeting @ 12p
- Apr 27 - Baptism Shereen & Nicole Hani @ 1pm
- Apr 29 - Men's Club Meeting @ 7:30pm
- May 3 - Byzantine Music Workshop @ 1pm
Wedding Asfaw/Davis @ 2pm
Arabic Liturgy @ 5pm
- May 6 - Adult Education Forum @ 7:15pm

A FORESHADOWING OF THINGS TO COME

Christ's earthly ministry was generously marked with the performance of a multitude of miracles. He restored sight to the blind. He made the lame walk. He cast out demons from those who were possessed. No miracle, however, matched the magnitude of what our Lord did on the outskirts of the village of Bethany. He raised Lazarus from the dead.

The celebration of this event on the Saturday prior to Palm Sunday dates back to the early centuries of the Church. The Gospel of St. John chronicles the circumstances leading up to this miracle. Lazarus, a personal friend of our Saviour, falls ill and dies. It is four days until Christ arrives at the home of Martha and Mary – sisters of Lazarus – to offer them comfort. When He sees the depth of their sorrow, Jesus goes to the tomb of His friend and call out: *"Lazarus, come fourth!"* Imagine the shock of those present when Lazarus, bound in burial cloths, emerges from the grave!

With the raising of Lazarus, Christ reveals Himself to be the Lord of both the living and the dead, the Conqueror of death and God Almighty Himself. The publicity caused by this miracle contributed greatly to Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. He was greeted not only as a Prophet, but as the Messiah, Lord and King.

This wonderful miracle should strengthen our own faith in the Divinity of Christ and in our own personal resurrection. Jesus Himself assured us: *"I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."* (Jn 11:25)

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
Apr 13	Nahla George	Mary Misleh
20	Zakieh Jweied	~Paschal Agape Breakfast~
27	Fellowship of St. John the Divine	Fellowship of St. John the Divine
May 4	Debi Abdow-Addis	George Abdow Family
11		
18	Sunday School (Buchko & Zolnerowich)	
25		
Jun 1		

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

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