

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
<b>23 Apr</b>	Farha Family	Farha Family
<b>30 Apr</b>	Bosworth/Slanta — IMO Nicholas Yanowsky	
<b>07 May</b>		
<b>14 May</b>		
<b>21 May</b>	Nawal Musleh 5-yr Memorial for Yaqub Musleh	

**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.

# CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

## 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 23, 2017**

**NEW SUNDAY OR ANTI-PASCHA**

**SUNDAY OF THOMAS THE APOSTLE, CALLED "THE TWIN"**

**GREAT-MARTYR GEORGE THE TROPHY-BEARER**

### APOLYTIKION FOR THOMAS SUNDAY (Tone 7)

While the tomb was sealed, Thou didst shine forth from it, O Life. While the doors were closed, Thou didst come in to Thy Disciples, O Christ God, Resurrection of all, renewing in us through them an upright spirit, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

### APOLYTIKION FOR ST. GEORGE (Tone 4)

Since thou art a liberator and deliverer of captives, a help and support of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender and fighter for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ God for the salvation of our souls.

### KONTAKION OF PASCHA (Tone 8)

O Immortal One, when Thou didst descend into the tomb, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades; and Thou didst rise victorious, O Christ God. Thou hast said to the ointment-bearing women: Rejoice! And Thou gavest peace to Thy Disciples, O Bestower of Resurrection to those Who had fallen.

*α* Christian is gracious. We should prefer to be wronged. If love enters us we forget the wrongs we have been done. This is where the secret lies. When the evil comes from afar, you cannot avoid it. The great art, however, is to show disdain for it. With the grace of God even though you see it, it will not affect you, because you will be full of grace.

*St. Porphyrios the Kapsokalyvite*

### **Stewardship Corner/Theology of Giving Series – Week 12**

**Matthew 23: 23 ... "Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, 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>

# CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

## PASCHA

Pascha means passage. The Pascha of the Jews is their passage from Egypt, the land of slavery, to the Promised Land. Christian Pascha is people's passage from sin to righteousness through the death and resurrection of Christ. That is, through your faith in this death and its efficacy. In our liturgical life, we do not make a distinction between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. It is three mutually-completing parts. You transcend the duality between Christ's death and resurrection in the services because you do not recall the death and linger there. You constantly leap from the Savior's crucifixion to his resurrection. It is worth pointing out that if Eastern Christians mention the death of the Teacher in prayer, they immediately speak of the resurrection. Hear the tones and words of the resurrection in the prayer of Good Friday.

Some say that the Western Church focuses on the Lord's passion and the Eastern Church on the resurrection. This is not true. In both churches there is a complete balance between the two events for the simple reason that the resurrection is also present in the passion. Therefore believers who examine the texts of the passion and the resurrection agree that there is no difference between the Eastern Church and the Western Church in this, even if Christians in the West pay more attention to the Lord's passion in popular practice.

In our liturgical practices, Pascha is from Good Friday to Sunday and if "Pascha" means passage, then all of it is the passage of the Lord from death to life. It is striking to me that, in the Orthodox Church, if you are a practicing believer you greet your friend with "Christ is risen" and he responds "indeed He is risen" for the fifty days after Pascha. Every practicing Orthodox child knows to greet his friends from Pascha until the Thursday of the Ascension by saying "Christ is risen." If an Orthodox person dies between Pascha and Ascension, a paschal funeral is held, with chants and praises of the resurrection. The priests do not wear black robes in the prayer and in the text and music you can't distinguish the funeral prayers from wedding prayers. All of us, in life and death, are brides of Christ.

Do you truly believe on account of this that you are risen from the dead? Have you believed that partaking of the Lord's body every Sunday is your resurrection or do you still feel that sin keeps you in death? Is the resurrection only a commemoration of the Savior or has it become your true life? Is Pascha a feast or the reality of your soul? Are you a person of Pascha? The unbeliever Nietzsche wrote, "Show me Christians risen from the dead and I will believe in their Savior." Do you not wish to challenge Nietzsche and demonstrate to the fullest that even as you are alive, you have been enlightened by the light of Christ?

*Metropolitan GEORGE (Khodr)*

### Ss. Peter & Paul Church Learning & Media Center

Donations are welcomed in support of the establishment of the new Church Learning and Media Center. Please send all donations to Ss. Peter and Paul Church earmarked "Library Fund". In addition, donation of books on topics related to the Orthodox Faith, Doctrine, Church History, Liturgy, and Scripture will be gratefully accepted. Please contact Fr. Isaac, Dn. Christian, or Kate Niewenhaus for more information.

# CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

## Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have classes for children 3 years old through 12th grade and meet following Communion. Registrations are handled online at <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>. We are also in need of snacks and juice for the children. Snacks must be **peanut and tree nut free** due to allergies. Individually wrapped snacks such as 100-calorie snacks work best. Juice may be 100% juices or flavored water pouches. We can use both 6-oz as well as 4-oz juice boxes. We are looking for one more teacher for this school year. Please contact [peterpaulsundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:peterpaulsundayschool@gmail.com).

### TEEN SOYO

#### May 7

Teen SOYO Mtg./Conference Center/12:30p

#### May 13

Teen SOYO Hike & Picnic @Great Falls, MD

#### May 19-21

Spring Delegates' Mtg. at the Antiochian Village (more info to follow).

#### June 10, 6:30p – 10:00p

Teen SOYO HAFLI at Ss. Peter and Paul. Please bring canned foods that will be donated to FOOD FOR OTHERS food bank. RSVP to [Kindacallas@gmail.com](mailto:Kindacallas@gmail.com) or (703) 973-6648 by June 1.

### High School Seniors:

We will be recognizing our High School graduates on **Sunday, May 14th** during Liturgy. Please fill out this Google form by April 28th to let us know who we need to recognize.

<https://tinyurl.com/peterpaulsenior2017>

Thanks so much! Jennifer and Samia

### YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul Young Adult Fellowship seeks to gather young adults (20-40 years of age) together in the ministry worship, witness, service, and fellowship. These include study groups, outreach projects, potluck dinners, and other social and charitable gatherings. For more information contact Jad Ibrahim Jr. at [jad.ibrahim.jr@gmail.com](mailto:jad.ibrahim.jr@gmail.com) or Dn. Christian Manasseh at [dchristian@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:dchristian@peterpaulpotomac.org).

### ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

#### Antiochian Women/Luncheon & Fashion Show

On May 13 the Antiochian Women are hosting a Luncheon & Fashion Show 11:30am at Congressional CC. Tickets are \$55.00. See Rida Boulos at [Frita18@aol.com](mailto:Frita18@aol.com). For raffle donations contact Hala Paskaleva. Flyers are located in Narthex.

### MEN'S CLUB

#### Jun 07

\*Golf Tournament/Bretton Woods Golf Course

#### Jun 25

\*Ss. Peter & Paul Picnic/Bretton Woods Rec Cntr (more details to follow)

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

"Exploring Our Faith" will meet every other Thursday evening from **7:15pm to 8:30pm** in the lower level conference room. **The next meeting is Thursday, April 27, 2017.** Fr. Isaac facilitates the meetings using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a wide range of topics concerning our Faith. Please contact Fr. Isaac at [frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org) or Kate Niewen-hous at [handmaidens20854@gmail.com](mailto:handmaidens20854@gmail.com) for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME..

### 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 and to visit and to reach out to our elderly brethren. All those willing to help please contact the coordinators of the group: George & Alma Jean Zaki at ([georgezaki@gmail.com](mailto:georgezaki@gmail.com) or [ajmzaki@gmail.com](mailto:ajmzaki@gmail.com)), Alex Cox at ([alexcoxells@gmail.com](mailto:alexcoxells@gmail.com)) or Fr. Isaac at ([frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org)). Our Parish is grateful for this ministry remembering that when we visit the sick and the infirm we visit Christ himself.

### CHURCH CALENDAR

April 27 \*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p  
May 07 \*Teen SOYO Mtg./LL Conf. Rm/12:30p  
May 09 \*Parish Council Mtg./7p  
May 11 \*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p  
May 13 \*Antiochian Women/Luncheon & Fashion Show @Congressional CC (see Antiochian Women)  
May 19-21 \*Teen SOYO/Hike & Picnic @Great Falls, MD  
May 19-21 \*Teen SOYO Spring Delegates' Mtg./Antiochian Village (more info to follow)  
May 25 \*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p  
Jun 03 \*IOCC Fundraiser (see p.2 for more info)  
Jun 07 \*Golf Tournament/Bretton Wood Golf Course (more details to follow)  
Jun 10 \*Teen SOYO HAFLI/6:30p-10p/Kogok Hall  
Jun 13 \*Parish Council Mtg./7p  
Jun 25 \*Ss. Peter & Paul Picnic/Bretton Woods Rec Cntr (more details to follow)

# CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

### THE EPISTLE

(For St. George)

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. Hear my voice, O God.

**The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (12:1-11)**

In those days, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church. The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

### THE GOSPEL

(For Thomas Sunday)

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (20:19-31)**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the Disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the Disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other Disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His Disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the Disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His Name.

### IOCC FUNDRAISER/SAVE THE DATE

On Saturday, June 3, 2017, Ss. Peter & Paul Church will sponsor a Fund Raising Reception in the Church Hall from 6:00p-9:00p in support of "Syrian Relief Programs" of the International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC).

This important event will be open to all the Parish, to the local Churches and to the public at large. With the Civil War in Syria entering its seventh year the scale of suffering, and the humanitarian needs are immense. Please plan on attending and supporting this event. For information go to [www.iocc.org/potomac](http://www.iocc.org/potomac) or <https://www.facebook.com/events/1242796825817758/> or [anita.elaraj@gmail.com](mailto:anita.elaraj@gmail.com).

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### Directors

Samia Zolnerowich  
Jennifer Buchko

#### Teachers

Jumana Misleh  
Susan Kozlov  
Michelle Zook  
Christine Morin  
Lizzy Cassar  
Caroline Jarboe  
Chrissy Mackoul  
Anees Mokhiber  
Philip Allen  
AJ Wood  
Jennifer Montgomery  
Dina Saah  
Stephen Zolnerowich

#### Men's Club

Sam Khalil

#### Antiochian Women

Carol Laham

#### Teen SOYO

##### Advisor

Jamilee Bellone

##### Officers

Danielle Bellone  
Kinda Callas  
Maya Saah  
Joud Al-Kallas  
Juliana Natour

#### Young Adult Fellowship

Jad Ibrahim, Jr.

#### Adornment

Shams Akkawi  
Jamil Hermes

#### Facility Management

Sam Berberian  
Nick Nahas  
Bob Simon

#### Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

#### Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

#### Finance

Salim Habayeb

#### Stewardship

# CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

## 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.

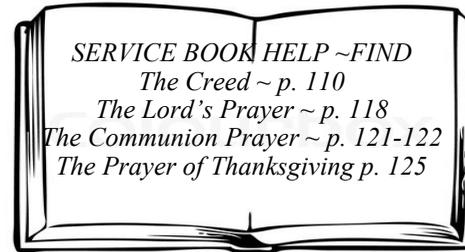
### PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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 col-



## HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

The Farha Family

## MEMORIAL WHEAT OFFERED BY:

The Chahine & Rene El-hage Family for the 40-day Memorial of Linda El-hage

## FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

The Farha Family

# CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

## 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 remember them in his kingdom always: now and ever, and unto ages of ages

### Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Archpriest George Rados	Brian Briggs	Mary Smith
Margaret Ashley	Isabel Thredeth	George Brown
Helen White	Thelma Badwey	Everett Alvarez
Holly Dubois	Tesia Yonkers	Barbara Abraham
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Lulu Brown	
George & Joan Abraham		

## LIVING

Leena Haddad	Yasmin Courtright
Janice	Gizel Haddad
Mazen Saah	Tony Moussa
Leila Khoury	Elaine Buchko
Mary Bazargan	Deborah Brown
Mariam Yazge	Ann Marie Moses
Habib, Hind & Paul Debs	The Family of Ghada Saah
Richard Ayoub	James Ayoub
Tania Mufarrij	Joseph & Donna Gavin
Arin, Vivian, Nareg, Narry, Akopian	The Family of George Fahme Saah
Larry & Joanne Starr	Lorna Malooley
Gary, Susan, Evan, Griffin & Eliza Farha	Jon, Jihan, Aurora, & Julian Farmand
Danny, Sonya & London Audi	David, Dolly Gaëlle Browning
Chahine, Rene, Elias, Sahar, Elizabeth, Firas, Widad, Bahaa, Serjios, louisette, Marcel, Sanaa & their families	

## CHURCHING

Dylan Arcadius Hakim

### FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE

With the coming of the great feast of Pascha, our annual food for hungry people collection is ending. As soon as possible, please return your coin collection boxes to the Church School office and any final donations earmarked Ss. Peter and Paul Church Food for Hungry People (FFHP).

### THE ANNUAL BENEFIT BANQUET FOR OCMC

TAKING RESERVATIONS for what promises to be a great evening: THE ANNUAL BENEFIT BANQUET FOR OCMC, Sunday, April 30. The night begins with Vespers followed by a wine reception, SILENT AUCTION and TWO RAFFLES. Raffle prizes include: a weekend stay at the FOUR-DIAMOND HILTON MCLEAN HOTEL or a weekend/weekday stay at a CONDO at SEVEN SPRINGS MOUNTAIN RESORT in PA. Your \$60 ticket includes a wine reception, dinner & wine, desserts and a beautiful classical guitar performance. The keynote speaker, the Very Rev. Martin Ritsi, Executive Director of OCMC, will be speaking from the heart on MISSIONS IN TODAY'S WORLD. PLEASE JOIN US in this wonderful benefit for OCMC MISSIONS around the world! Visit our reservation & ticket table during coffee hour OR contact Dr. Demakis [demakis9931@gmail.com](mailto:demakis9931@gmail.com) or Betty Slanta [slanta@verizon.net](mailto:slanta@verizon.net) THANK YOU!

## DEPARTED

Metropolitan Elia Saliba  
 George Karam  
 Sirvart Babaaharonians  
 Ghada Saah  
 Victoria Audi  
 John Bridenhagen  
 Monsour & Nellie Laham  
 Michael & Helen Joseph  
 Andrew Swydan  
 David Newkirk  
 Mable Moses  
 Evelyn Baxley  
 Linda El-hage  
 George Fahme Saah  
 Ralph & Nina Farha  
 Janette Starr  
 Linda & Elias El-hage  
 Suleiman Rafidi  
 Elias El-hage  
 Fouad, Salwa Azkoul  
 Wayne, Ophelia Browning