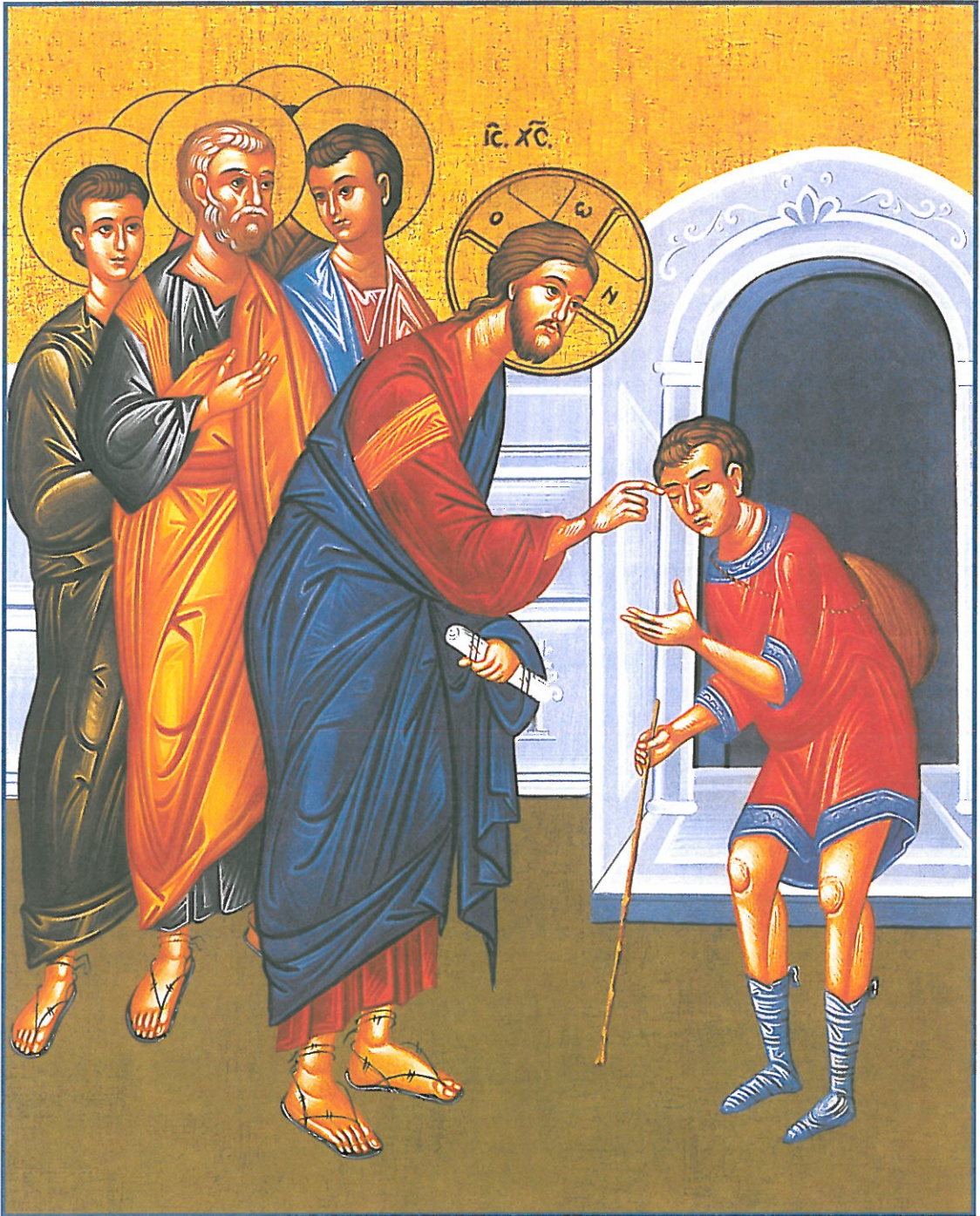


MAY 25, 2014



SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

Confessions: call to schedule

Sunday, May 25, 2014

Sixth Sunday of Pascha
Sunday of the Blind Man

Eothinon 8

Tone 5

Martyr Celestine of Rome; Hieromartyr Therapon, bishop of Cyprus

TROPARION of Easter (Tone 5)

Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

EISODIKON of Pascha

In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 5)

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

APOLYTIKION of the Forerunner's Head Discovery (Tone 4)

Christ God hath revealed to us thy truly venerable head as a divine treasure that had been concealed in the earth, O Prophet and Forerunner John. Wherefore, as we gather on the feast of its discovery, with our hymns inspired of God, we praise Christ the Savior, who by thy mighty prayers saveth us from every kind of harm.

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 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.

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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David Jackson

Vice Chairman

George Salem

Secretary

Caroline Emad

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Abdullah Daoud

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Anita El-Araj

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Dr. Bassem Haddad

Maha Jweied

Lorna Malooley

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Steve Simon

Metody Tilev

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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 -

Robert Bridenhagen

Nicholas Zolnerowich

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY, HE IS RISEN!

THE EPISTLE *The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. O God, hear my voice.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:6-15)

Brethren, it is the God Who said, "Let light shine out of darkness." Who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. While we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So, death is at work in us, but life in you. Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that He Who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into His presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

THE GOSPEL **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (9:1-38)**

At that time, when Jesus was passing, He saw a man blind from his birth. And His Disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be made manifest in him. I must work the works of Him Who sent me, while it is day; night comes, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." As He said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of the spittle and anointed the man's eyes with the clay, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" [which means Sent]. So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar, said, "Is not this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is he"; others said, "No, but he is like him." He said, "I am the man." They said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. The Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" There was a division among them. So they again said to the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight, and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age, ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give God the praise; we know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you too want to become His disciples?" And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is a marvel! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him He said, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" He answered, "And Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen Him, and it is He who speaks to you." He said, "Lord, I believe"; and he worshiped Him.

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
Nick Nahas

Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

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.

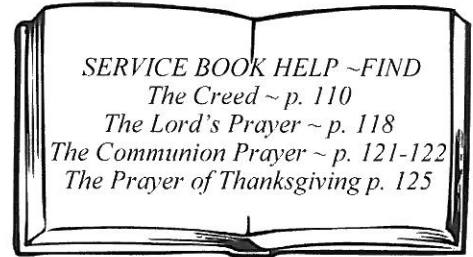
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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:

FELLOWSHIP HOUR:

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

LIVING

**Parishioners who remain
in our prayers continually**

Margaret Ashley

Lulu & George Brown

Issa & Suad Shammass

Edmond Neam

Richie Kogok

Eddie Yazge

Joe Charley

Kathryn Haddad

Victoria Curtin

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

Isam Naim Ibrahim Apr. 17

Ivanka Tileva Apr. 17

Khalil Haddad May 1

Gretchen Miller May 6

Velio Chotov May 6

Helen Bottash

Mona St. Leger

Peter & Anna Yanowsky

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

COLLECTION FOR CHARITY

Our sincerest thanks for the extreme generosity shown by our parishioners for our monthly charity collections. You are helping so many people in need. This month collection is for FOCUS North America; Fellowship of Orthodox Christians United to Serve. This organization is supported by the Archdiocese and founded by one of our very own. FOCUS North America is a national movement of Orthodox Christians, united in faith and joined by a desire to provide action-oriented and sustainable solutions to poverty in communities across America. FOCUS has operations and youth volunteer experiences in more than 20 cities in the United States. As an expression of Christ's love, FOCUS North America serves the hungry, thirsty, stranger, naked, sick and imprisoned by providing Food, Occupation, Clothing, Understanding, and Shelter; a worthy cause. Thank you in advance for your support of this project; your donations are tax deductible.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN END-OF-YEAR LUNCHEON

Ladies, please join us for lunch to honor outgoing President, Ann Marie Moses, on Saturday, June 14th at 12:00pm, IL PORTO restaurant, Gaithersburg, MD. The cost is \$28 per person (Includes tax, tip and gift). Rsvp by June 12th to Bette Adam at johnbette@aol.com or (301) 572-4260.

ADULT EDUCATION FORUM-NOW THURSDAYS

Exploring Our Faith, Adult Education Forum [and ministry of the Fellowship of St. John the Divine] *has changed* the date of class to *THURSDAYS* and will meet again **June 12th** at 7:15pm in the Lower Level Conference Room. All are welcome, with a special invitation to young adults. For more information contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org.

SS PETER & PAUL MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 15th Golf Tournament will be held at the Bretton Woods Golf Course, 15700 River Rd, Germantown, MD on Wednesday, June 25th, in memory of Abe Brown. Registration deadline is June 23rd. Download a registration form (Events Page) at www.peterpaulpotomac.org or contact Bob Simon at 202-253-0490 or bobsimonjr@mail.com.

OCMC TEAMS 2014

OCMC (Orthodox Christian Mission Center) Mission Teams need qualified volunteers for 2014. There are openings for hard workers in Kenya, Mexico, Moldova, Ghana, Albania, Uganda and Tanzania. Details are available on the OCMC website www.ocmc.org. Please consider these opportunities to serve our Risen Lord in missions.

**Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox
Church News**

FINDING ONE'S CALLING IN LIFE

By Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko
St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary
Part 1 in a Series

Everyone has a calling. God creates every human being in His image and likeness for everlasting life. There are no mistakes and no accidents. As the saying goes, "God makes no junk." Everyone (or in biblical language, the "many") is called. But not all are chosen. Some are rejected not because they have no vocation from God, but because they refuse to accept their calling.

Everyone has a vocation. All vocations are "religious." This does not mean that everyone is called to serve the church in a professional manner—to be a bishop, priest, deacon, monk, nun, Psalm reader, or church worker of one sort or another. Obviously, not all are called to these specifically ecclesiastical ministries. But everyone is called to serve God and their fellow human beings in some form of life, which God Himself wills. This "form of life" is not necessarily a job or profession. For example, some people may be called to suffer on this earth and to bear the results of fallen humanity in the most violent manner—to be victimized by disease, affliction, or both physical and mental disability; to be the objects of other people's cares or disdain. This is their vocation, and they are particularly blessed by God and loved by Christ in its acceptance and fulfillment.

In a word, there is a divine plan and purpose for everyone. There is a "predestination," not in the sense that God programs His creatures or forces His will upon them, but rather that God knows every person from before the foundation of the world and provides their unique life and the specific conditions of their earthly way that are literally the best possible conditions for them (however unacceptable this may seem to us creatures in our limited and fallen state). God works together with each one of us so that by suffering what we must on this earth we may attain to life everlasting in the age to come.

Everyone has the same calling. In a certain sense, every person has the same vocation, which is to be a saint. We are all called to be

saints, to be holy as God is holy, to be perfect as the Father in heaven is perfect (Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 1 Peter 1:15; Matthew 5:48). We are all made to fulfill ourselves as creatures made in God's image and likeness for eternal life. And we can do so because God not only creates us with this possibility, and indeed, this command, but because He also does everything in His power to guarantee its accomplishment by sending His son and His Spirit to the world.

Since Christ has been glorified and the Holy Spirit has been poured out on all flesh, there is no excuse for those who know and believe this and experience it in the life of the Christian Church, not to be saints. Everything possible has been done to secure this. There is nothing more that God can do. All is given and all is fulfilled. The rest is up to us. Whatever the Lord may be doing with other people in other places, some things are certain for Christians, and certainly for us Orthodox. We can cooperate with God. We can share His holiness. We can become, as the saints themselves teach us, all that God Himself is by His gracious action in our lives. We can become loving, peaceful, joyful, good, wise, true, patient, kind, compassionate, powerful, pure, and free. Or we can refuse to cooperate with God, never find our true selves, and perish.

LOOKING AHEAD
Upcoming events...

- May 27 - Men's Club Meeting @ 7:30pm
- June 4-6 - Special Antiochian Assembly, Chicago, Illinois, to elect the new Metropolitan
- June 7 - Byzantine Music Workshop @ 1pm
- June 7 - Arabic Divine Liturgy @ 5pm
- June 8 - Baptism Faraj Tawil @ 1pm
- June 10 - Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm
- June 12 - Adult Education Forum @ 7:15pm
- June 14 - Antiochian Women Luncheon @ 12pm
- June 22 - Baptism Stella Mele @ 1pm
- June 24 - Men's Club Meeting @ 7:30pm
- June 25 - Golf Memorial Tournament @ 9am
- June 26 - Adult Education Forum @ 7:15pm

THE MANY FORMS OF "BLINDNESS"



B On the Sixth Sunday of Pascha, the Church commemorates the Sunday of the BLIND MAN. A touching tale is related to us in the Gospel lesson, as we witness another miracle performed by Christ, Who gives sight to a man who had been blind from birth. How thrilling it must have been for this poor soul to have a whole new world opened up to him! How he must have rejoiced at his first experience of beholding the beauty of God's creation!

Others, however, continued to exhibit another curious form of "blindness" long after this man was given the ability to see by our Lord. The pharisees and scribes "closed their eyes" to the reality of this miraculous event! They refused to "see" the Hand of God in this matter. Instead, they insinuated that the Blind Man was lying; that perhaps he had his sight all along! The hardness of their hearts would not allow them to view Jesus for what He truly was: THE LIGHT THAT HAD COME TO ENLIGHTEN THE WORLD.

The message placed before us is a simple one. Only Christ can open the "eyes of our souls" and make us children of light. Only Christ can illuminate and overshadow the darkness caused by sin, making visible to us the eternal joys of Heaven. We must, therefore, never allow ourselves to be "blinded" by the temptations of this world.

If we are temporarily afflicted in this manner, we would be wise to heed these words: "IN REPENTANCE, I CRY TO YOU: YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF SUPREME BRIGHTNESS FOR ALL OF THOSE WHO ARE IN DARKNESS."

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
Jun 1	Metody Tilev	Metody Tilev
8	Zakieh & Reema Jweied	Jweied & Guegel families
15	The family of Abraham Brown	The family of Abraham Brown
22	Marie Khalil	Marie Khalil
29		
July 6		
13		
20		

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.