

JUNE 8, 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

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

Abdallah 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

Tone 6

Sunday on the Fiftieth Day after Pascha

Eothion 10

THE GREAT FEAST OF PENTECOST

EISODIKON of the Feast

Be Thou exalted, O Lord, in Thy strength; we shall praise and sing of Thy mighty acts. Save us, O Good Comforter, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION of Pentecost (Tone 8)

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, Who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise, having sent upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them Thou hast fished the universe, O Lover of mankind, glory to Thee.

KONTAKION of Pentecost (Tone 8)

When the High One descended, confusing tongues, He divided the nations. And when He distributed the fiery tongues He called all to one unity. Wherefore, in unison we glorify the most Holy Spirit.

ANTI-TRISAGION Hymn

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (THRICE)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

Dynamis!

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

THE EPISTLE

Their voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (2:1-11)

When the day of Pentecost had come, the Disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. And they were amazed and wondered, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians, we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (7:37-52; 8:12)

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this He said about the Spirit, which those who believed in Him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. When they heard these words, many of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over Him. Some of them wanted to arrest Him, but no one laid hands on Him. The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring Him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in Him? But this crowd, who do not know the Law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to Him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our Law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

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
Jamil Hermes

Facility Management

Nick Nahas
Bob Simon

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.

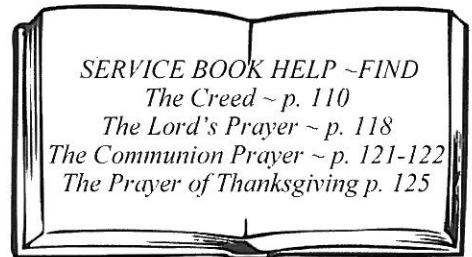
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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: offered by Zakieh & Reema Jweied for Pentacost

40-Day Memorial for Khalil Haddad

FELLOWSHIP HOUR: offered by the Jweied family & Guegel family for Pentacost

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 Shammam

Edmond Neam

Richie Kogok

Eddie Yazge

Victoria Curtin

Andrew Gavin

Ghassan, Zakieh, Elias, Serene,
& Maha Jweid

Roland, Reema, & Nicholas Guegel

William & Stefanie Mooney

Zaki, Dirjana, & Omar Naser

Suhaila Haddad & 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

Khalil Haddad Mar 1

Gretchen Miller Mar 6

Velio Chotov Mar 7

Rose Ann Yonkers Mar 19

Joseph Charley Mar 22

Kathryn Haddad Mar 24

Elias, Martha, Naeem, Kamal, Jamal,

Rasmiah, & Issam Jweid

Father Yousef, Hafeda, Farha, Najj,

Najeeb, Raji, Raja, Mariam Afaf Naser

Rolf Guegel

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

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 *this* Thursday, **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.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN END-OF-YEAR LUNCHEON

Ladies, please join us for lunch to honor outgoing President, Ann Marie Moses, next 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.

GOLF TOURNAMENT JUNE 25th

Esteemed golfers and sponsors, register now and be part of this memorable event. Many foursomes are planned, but space is limited, so get all donations and sponsorship's in to reserve your spot and ensure a successful tournament. Ss. Peter & Paul Church is counting on your support to honor the memory of our beloved parishioner, Abraham Brown. Go to www.peterpaulpotomac.org/events for more information 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.

SIGN UP FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR

As you make your summer plans, would you include signing up and providing refreshments for Fellowship Hour? There are many openings and your contribution is vital to the ministry of the church. 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. Sign-up in the vestibule.

FESTAL PICNIC JUNE 29

On the occasion of the Feast of the Apostles Peter & Paul, patrons of our parish, all the children and their parents are invited to a Festal Picnic on Sunday, June 29 at 1pm. The location will be announced soon. Picnic, i.e., cookout, food, games and activities will be provided free of charge. Don't miss it, mark your calendar and join in the fun and fellowship. More information to come.

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

FINDING ONE'S CALLING IN LIFE

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

Finally, we are taught that to discover God's will for us we must be faithful to Him where we are, faithful to the conditions in which He has placed us. One of the greatest obstacles to the discovery of one's vocation in life, which is a clear expression of our disobedience and self-will, is the desire to be someone else, someplace else, in some other time. We have all heard people say that if only they lived in another place, or in another time, or with other people, they could be holy. Or, if only they were married. Or, if only they were not married. If only this, and if only that! We must come to see how sinful such an attitude is, how crazy and deluded. It is simply blasphemy. And it may well be the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit, which Christ says cannot be forgiven, for it dares to tell God that our failures in life are His fault for making us the way we are (cf. Matthew 12:31; Luke 12:10).

God has made us who we are. He has put us where we are, even when it is our own self-will that has moved us. He has given us our time and our place. He has given us our specific destiny. We must come to the point where we do not merely resign ourselves to these realities, but love them, bless them, and give thanks to God for them as the conditions for our self-fulfillment as persons, the means to our sanctity and salvation. Being faithful where we are is the basic sign that we will God's will for our lives. The struggle to "blossom where we are planted," as the saying goes, is the way to discern God's presence and power in our lives, to hear His voice, to accomplish His purpose, to share His holiness. Jesus said that only those who are "faithful in little" inherit much and get set over much. Those who are not faithful in the little things of life, and thereby fail to accept and to use what God provides, end up losing the little that they have, or—as Jesus says in St Luke's Gospel—the little that they think that they have, for even that "little" may exist only in their own deluded imaginations (cf. Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27; Luke 8:18).

In sum, we must labor to do the smallest good and to fight the smallest sin in the smallest, seemingly most insignificant details of life. We must accept who we are, where we are, when we are, and how we are

and struggle to sanctify our real state of existence by the grace of God; resisting the world, the flesh, and the devil and gaining the Spirit of God through Christ in the Church. We must participate in the services and sacraments, be fed on the scriptures, and imitate the saints. We must seek out the help of the experienced and heed their counsel and advice. And, we must go to God Himself and say with a pure heart: Thy will be done! And He will see that we find our vocation and calling in life and become the saints that He has willed us to be from the beginning.

~~~~~

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko is dean emeritus of St Vladimir's Seminary, where he taught dogmatic and pastoral theology from 1968 until his retirement in 2002. He is the author of numerous books and articles on Orthodox Christian faith and practice, a world-renowned lecturer, and a witness to Orthodoxy within the ecumenical movement. Ordained to the priesthood in 1963, he has pastored three parishes and held the position of rector at St Vladimir's Seminary chapel.

## **LOOKING AHEAD** *Upcoming events...*

- 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
- June 29 - Festal Picnic @ 1pm
- July 2-5 - Parish Life Conference
- July 5 - Arabic Liturgy @ 5pm
- July 6 - Baptism Danielle Dib @ 1pm
- July 8 - Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm

**"THROUGH ALL THE WORLD THEIR VOICES RESOUND . . ."**

The Feast Day of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, commonly referred to as PENTECOST, is a pivotal event in the history of the Christian Church. It was on this day that a group of frightened fishermen were strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit, which came upon them in the form of fiery tongues and a rushing wind, as recorded in the Book of Acts. The mysterious happenings of that first Pentecost filled the Apostles with the zeal and dedication necessary to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the "ends of the earth", as they were commanded to do. Persecutions could not curtail their missionary activities. Death could not silence their message. Once they fully understood what it meant to be "fishers of men", the Apostles commended their entire lives to spreading the wonderful news concerning salvation through Jesus Christ to a skeptical, unbelieving world.

The icon gracing the cover of our Bulletin depicts a wonderful theological expression of the Feast Day of Pentecost. The Apostles are seated in a semi-circle, showing the unity of the body of the Church. Some of them hold books and scrolls in their hands, a sign of their having received the gift of teaching. At the bottom of this artwork is a symbolic figure of a "King", who represents all mankind. He sits in a dark place, since the whole world was engulfed by the darkness of sin prior to the coming of Christ. The crown on the man's head symbolizes the reign of sin over the world before our Saviour redeemed us. The white cloth in his hands with the twelve scrolls signifies the purity of the message brought to light by the Twelve Apostles.

It is significant to note that the grouping of the Apostles is completed by an empty, unoccupied place at the top of the circle. This "place of honor" is for Christ, the invisible Head of the Church.

*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 15 | The family of Abraham Brown | The family of Abraham Brown |
| 22     | Marie Khalil                | Marie Khalil                |
| 29     |                             | Festal Picnic-Jeff Jacob    |
| Jul 6  |                             |                             |
| 13     |                             |                             |
| 20     |                             |                             |
| 27     |                             |                             |
| Aug 3  | Qustandi & Naheda Kaibni    | Qustandi & Naheda Kaibni    |

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.