

	<b>Bread of Holy Oblation</b>	<b>Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>25 Jun</b>	Zeina Manasseh/in honor of George's Birthday & IMO/Mounif Maalouf	Church Picnic
<b>02 Jul</b>	Donna Gavin IMO/David Newkirk	
<b>09 Jul</b>	Ayoub Family/40-Day Memorial for Peter Ayoub	Ayoub Family/40-Day Memorial for Peter Ayoub
<b>16 Jul</b>		
<b>23 Jul</b>	Jennifer & Darren Montgomery	Jennifer & Darren Montgomery

**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.

## 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, JUNE 25, 2017**

**tone 2 / EOTHINON 3**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**& THIRD SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

**APODOSIS (LEAVE-TAKING) OF THE FORERUNNER'S  
NATIVITY**

### APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 2)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

### APOLYTIKION OF THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (Tone 4)

(\*\*Be quick to anticipate\*\*)

O prophet and Forerunner of Christ God's coming to us, \* all we who with longing now extol thee are at a loss to honor thee worthily. \* For thy mother's barrenness and father's long silence, \* by thine all-renowned and hallowed birth, were both ended, \* and the Incarnation of the Son of God is preached unto all the world.

### 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.

### 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.

There is a useful sorrow, and a destructive sorrow. Sorrow is useful when we weep for our sins, and for our neighbor's ignorance, and so that we may not relax our purpose to attain to true goodness, these are the real kinds of sorrow. Our enemy adds something to this. For he sends sorrow without reason, which is something called lethargy. We ought always to drive out our sadness like that with prayers and psalms.

*St. Synclitike of Alexandria*

## Make God Your Vacationing Friend

*Fr. Corel Todeasa*

There's an old monastic expression that says, "*We should pray like we will die tomorrow and work like we are going to live forever.*" This -saying may make a serious Christian feel that taking a vacation is something to be avoided! The truth is that vacations have been a part of our historical and religious lives from the beginning.

The Bible tells us that after the six days of creation, God rested on the seventh day. In "modern" language, He took a vacation. "*By the seventh day, God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work*" (Gen. 2:2). In the Old Testament period, the "days of vacation" (holy days or "holidays"), such as the Sabbath and Passover, were an important part of the religious rites and traditions. We remember, however, that Jesus was displeased with the legalistic way in which the people of the Old Testament observed these holy days.

Since the time of the New Testament up until today, vacations have continually been a part of the life of a Christian. Sundays, Easter, Christmas, Pentecost — these days were holy days, celebrations of persons (either Jesus or a saint), or events connected to the history of Salvation.

What is sad is the fact that often in our lives the holy day becomes *only* a vacation for us and not a remembrance of persons or events from the history of the Salvation brought to us by *Jesus*. We don't use this holy time as a means of appropriating this Salvation for the good of our everlasting life.

Vacation should be a time when we break away from the everyday routine, when we rest physically and spiritually and enjoy things we don't have time to enjoy during the rest of the year. But vacation should not be only this for a Christian. Our vacations should not be vacations from God, but should be *Christian* vacations — a time when our relation with God (through prayers, meditation, learning, love for Him and our neighbors) is reconstructed or improved.

We find excuses all through the year for why we don't have time to read the Bible, to pray, to go to Church, and to visit the sick and suffering as much as we should or would like to. We cannot use this excuse when we are on vacation. We visit our friends, and we show our love to our relatives. But even non-Christians do this. Therefore, we, as Christians, should do more, extending our love even to those who dislike us. Vacation is a time for resting, so let us put aside our *wars*, our arguments, our hate and all "evil things."

Vacation is also a time to travel — it is a time for leaving the town behind and taking off to the -mountains, to the beaches, or to foreign countries. As Christians, we shouldn't forget our Lord on such vacations. We should make an extra effort to pray, to go to church, and to read the Bible and other religious books. When we look at the mountains, we should admire their beauty and remember that the mountains and their majesty are from God. Remember that nothing, neither beautiful cathedrals or historical monuments could be built or made without the help of God. For this, we should praise Him, and we should praise Him with all our heart.

We should remember one thing: vacations were part of God's plan for us in order that we may fill our Christian lives with the grace of the Holy Spirit. Make God your traveling friend, your vacationing partner — this summer and always.

### Charity of the Month

Our charity collection today will be for USA for UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency. "USA for UNHCR helps and protects refugees and people displaced by violence, conflict and persecution." UNHCR — the UN Refugee Agency provides lifesaving essentials including shelter, water, food, safety and protection and helps refugees around the world survive, recover and build a better future. Our funds will be designated for Syrian Relief. Thanks for your generous tax-deductible donations.

# Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

## NEW AUDIO SOUND SYSTEM

After much study and technical consultation, the Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Council has contracted for the installation of a new audio sound system for the Church Sanctuary. The new system will be installed over the next few weeks and tested. Donations towards the cost of the system (approximately \$43,000.00) to Ss. Peter and Paul Church earmarked 'Sound System' will be greatly appreciated.

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR A NEW CHURCH GRILL

The Church is in need of a new grill for our Bazaar in September. We estimate the cost will run about \$2500.00 and donations toward this purchase are very much welcome and appreciated. Please make your check out to Ss. Peter and Paul Church and earmark it in the

## 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.

## JULY 30, 2017 BULLETIN

Please have all updates—prayers, events, Bazaar news—to the office no later than Monday, July 24 at noon. The Bulletin will go to print on Tuesday, July 25 in the early AM. Thanks, so much. Church Office.

## TODAY: SS. PETER & PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH PICNIC

Immediately following Liturgy  
Bring a side dish and/or dessert and we'll provide the rest!  
Games for all ages; soccer, volleyball, basketball, & badminton competitions!  
Location: Bretton Woods Rec Center/15700 River Road, Germantown, MD 20874.

## SS. PETER & PAUL OUTREACH VISITATION MINISTRY

The outreach ministry seeks to visit and to assist the elderly, the sick, and those who are house-bound, 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

Jun 25 \*Ss. Peter & Paul Picnic/Bretton Woods Rec Cntr (see Flyer in Narthex)  
Jun 29-Jul 02 \*Parish Life Conference/Little Falls, NJ (see flyer in Narthex)  
**Jul 04 \*Church Office closed for Independence Day**  
Jul 09 \*Leah Grace Afash/Baptism  
Jul 16 \*Paul Michael Mufarreh/Baptism  
Jul 23 -\*Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese  
Jul 30 Convention/Miami, FL  
**Sep 04 \*Church office closed for Labor Day**  
Sep 22-24\*Ss. Peter & Paul Church Bazaar

## THE EPISTLE

(For Third Sunday after Pentecost)

*The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me sorely.*

**The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (5:1-11)**

Brethren, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Why, one will hardly die for a righteous man—though perhaps for a good man one will dare even to die. But God shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we are now justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. Not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received our reconciliation.

## GOSPEL

(For Third Sunday of Matthew)

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (6:22-33)**

The Lord said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is evil, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink; nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not the soul more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of heaven: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his stature? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon himself in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O men of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."

## The Antiochian Women "Angel Fund"

The Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church "Angel Fund" an outreach of the Antiochian Women provides support to parishioners in need. Our Pastor designates confidentially recipients who would benefit from the Angel Fund.

The Angel Fund provides grocery gift cards to parishioners in need to help them with some of their food needs. Donations and financial contributions toward this fund are welcomed, and should be made out to: Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Women and earmarked "Angel Fund." For more information contact Fr. Isaac at: [frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org).

## **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**

# 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 Threddeh	George Brown
Helen White	Thelma Badwey	Everett Alvarez
Holly Dubois	Tesia Yonkers	Barbara Abraham
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Lulu Brown	Tania Mufarrij
George & Joan Abraham		
Grace Malouf		

**DEPARTED**  
Met. ANTONIOS Shidrawi  
(Mexico & Central America)  
Afaf Kanazeh  
Peter Ayoub  
Carol Roach  
Jeannette Bennett  
Charles Baxley  
Jana Georges  
Fred Zacharia (Sr.)  
Mounif Maalouf

## LIVING

Leena Haddad	Yasmin Courtright
Elaine Buchko	Mariam Yazge
Leila Khoury	Deborah Brown
Mary Bazargan	Richard Ayoub
Bob Petrossian	Julia Fayad
Alya Ciavis	Melinda Fannoney
Charles Cox	Dn. Christian, Zeina, George, & Tamara Manasseh
Alexa Malooley	Zachary De Puy
Derek Gilliam	Mark Alvarez

## MEALS TO CHILDREN IN NEED

Hello volunteers, Summer Feeding is here once again! FOCUS North America thanks you for your service in your community last year, and we invite you to join us once again to serve meals to children in need. Some details have changed since last year, so please read on and see the links below for updates.

**We need volunteers each weekday throughout the summer to prepare meals on June 26 – August 4 from 9–1:30 p.m. at St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 2815 36th St. NW, Washington, D.C., 20007. Volunteers will then transport meals to Pendergrast Alston Consulting Services and serve. Children are most welcome to volunteer but must be supervised by an adult.**

Sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0544a9a82da3fb6-summer8>

Learn more here: <http://focusnorthamerica.org/programs/summerfeeding/washington-d-c/>

## Stewardship Corner/Theology of Giving Series – Week 21

**John 15: 1, 5, 8 ... “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.”**

“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>

## 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.

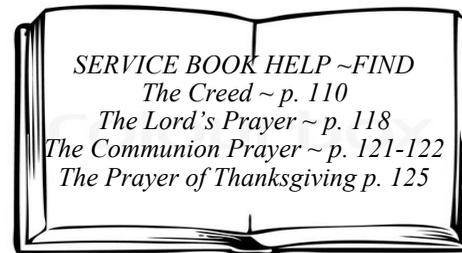
### PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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:

Dn. Christian & Zeina Manasseh in honor of George’s Birthday  
and in Memory of Mounif Maalouf

## FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

Ss. Peter & Paul Church Picnic  
Sponsored by the Men’s Ministry