

	<b>Bread of Holy Oblation</b>	<b>Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>02 Jul</b>	Donna Gavin In Memory of David Newkirk	Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Council for the good health of our parishioners on the occasion of our Patronal Feast
<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
<b>06 Aug</b>		

**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, JULY 02, 2017**

**TONE 3 / EOTHINON 4**

### **THE PLACING OF THE THEOTOKOS' ROBE IN BLACHERNAE**

### **& FOURTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

JUVENALY, ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM; THE NEW-MARTYRS OF SAMOTHRACE; RE-POSE OF JOB, FIRST PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW; ARCHBISHOP JOHN MAXIMOVITCH OF SHANGHAI AND SAN FRANCISCO

#### **APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (Tone 3)**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

#### **APOLYTIKION FOR PLACING OF THE THEOTOKOS' ROBE (Tone 8)**

O Ever-Virgin Theotokos, shelter of mankind, thou hast bestowed upon thy people a mighty investure, even thine immaculate body's raiment and sash, which by thy seedless childbirth have remained incorrupt; for in thee, nature and time are made new. Wherefore, we implore thee to grant peace to the world, and Great Mercy to our souls.

#### **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 PLACING OF THE THEOTOKOS' ROBE (Tone 4)**

*(\*\*Thou Who wast raised up\*\*)*

O godly shelter that dost cover all mankind, \* the sacred robe that covered thy sacred body \* hast thou bestowed on all the faithful graciously, \* O pure Virgin, as a robe \* of divine incorruption. \* As we celebrate with love \* its august deposition, \* we cry to thee with faith, O graced of God: \* Rejoice, O Lady, thou boast of the Christian race.

*There is no joy in this world without God.*

*St. Justin Popovich*

## RELIGION AND ABSOLUTISM

The most delicate and at the same time awkward issue with which we must deal in relation to religious fundamentalism is absolutism. It is well-known that every religion *asserts* that it contains the absolute truth concerning God and the world. Furthermore, it is also well-known that God is the absolute being, the one to whom all pure attributes belong and from whom all evil attributes are entirely absent. This is fairly common ground among the three monotheistic religions of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, and beyond.

Moreover, as all monotheistic religions confess, God is one—although Christians would prefer to recognize and refer to the One God in Trinity. This means that all believers of the monotheistic religions should have at least some perception of the one, immutable, and perfect God. The fact that the perception of adherents to one religion differs from the perception of adherents to another faith community means little other than the fact that as “creatures” of God and “observers” of the world, we naturally differ from one another. In other words, our perceptions as human beings and religious believers are essentially determined not by the object/Subject that is observed (if we can ever truly speak in this way about God) but by our condition as observers. The variation of opinions, then, derives not from the relativity of the One God or of God's creation but from the cultural and religious diversity as well as from the human and rational limitations of us as people.

The confession of this fundamental truth about God and ourselves incites within each of us the Socratic admission with regard to our ignorance: the one thing that *we do know* is that *we do not know* anything. In other words, we humbly accept the fact that when we speak of absolute values, we are dealing with truths beyond our intellectual capabilities and experience. We are dealing with truths beyond rational debate and logical discussion. As a direct consequence of this humble recognition—namely, as a direct consequence of our responsibility to the truth about the One God, whom alone we worship—we are at the very least obligated to *be* open to and tolerant of the views of others. For insofar as we stand in some relationship to one another before the truth about God, we can only be united in complete silence before God's transcendent being and inaccessible presence. Even the most complete and comprehensive sentence or definition of God can neither appropriate nor approach the fullness of divine nature, which always remains incomprehensible, indeterminate, and unqualified. As Saint Paul was raised to the third heaven, he -wrote in his Letter to the Corinthian: “For now we see only dimly [through puzzling riddles or reflections], as in a mirror. But then [one day], we shall see face to face” (1 Cor. 13:12).

*Patriarch Bartholomew*

#### **Priest**

Very Reverend  
Fr. Isaac Crow  
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org  
(401) 300-8238 cell  
(240) 489-3494 home

#### **Deacon**

Dn. Christian Manasseh  
DnChris-  
tian@peterpaulpotomac.org

#### **Priest Emeritus**

Very Reverend  
Fr. George Rados  
frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org

#### **COUNCIL**

##### **Chairperson**

Suzanne Hermes

##### **Vice Chairman**

Metody Tilev

##### **Treasurer**

Richard Mahan

##### **Secretary**

Abe Fannoney

##### **Members**

Roy Abdo

John Abraham

Philip Allen

Alex Cox

Paul Debs

Lina Eid

Salim Habayeb

Bassem Haddad

Samer Kokor

Tony Moussa

George Zaki

##### **Church Secretary**

office@peterpaulpotomac.org

##### **Choir Director**

John Slanta  
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

##### **Chanters**

Wayne Parr

Zeina Manasseh

George Tannous

##### **Ushers**

Jerry Audi

Michael El Araj

Abraham Fannoney

Sam Khalil

##### **ALTAR**

##### **Manager**

Peter Aburdeineh

##### **Servers**

Captains -

Rashid Haddad

Thomas Zook

## 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.

### 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 ([alexcoxsells@gmail.com](mailto:alexcoxsells@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.

### 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.

### CHURCH CALENDAR

**Jul 04 \*Church Office closed for Independence Day**  
Jul 09 \*Leah Grace Afash/Baptism  
Jul 11 \*Parish Council Mtg./7p  
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 12 \*Parish Council Mtg./7p  
Sep 22-24\*Ss. Peter & Paul Church Bazaar

### THE EPISTLE

(For the Theotokos' Robe)

*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit doth rejoice in God my Savior.  
For He hath regarded the lowliness of His servant.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:1-7)**

Brethren, even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant; above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

### GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Matthew)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (8:5-13)**

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the Kingdom of Heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

### 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)  
 Kh. Stefanie Yazge  
 Peter Ayoub  
 Carol Roach  
 Apostouli Barbopoulou  
 Jeannette Bennett  
 Charles Baxley  
 David Newkirk  
 Thomas Haje  
 Gilbert Precivale

## LIVING

Leena Haddad	Yasmin Courtright
Elaine Buchko	Mariam Yazge
Leila Khoury	Deborah Brown
Mary Bazargan	Richard Ayoub
Bob Petrossian	Julia Fayad
Alya Cjavis	Melinda Fannoney
Charles Cox	Derek Gilliam
Alexa Malooley	Mark Alvarez
Hosam & Rozana Abraham	Donna & Joseph Gavin & Family
Thomaseena Cox	Andrew Gavin
Moses Family	Courtright Family
Precivale & Bellone Families	

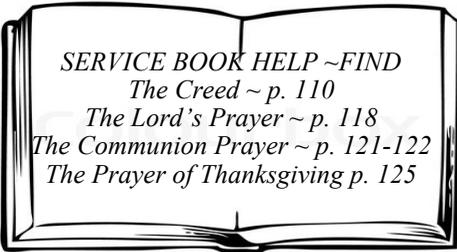
**Orthodox Christians**  
 Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave 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:  
 Donna Gavin/In Memory of David Newkirk

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:  
 Ss. Peter & Paul Church Parish Council for the good health of our parishioners on the occasion of our Patronal Feast

**Stewardship Corner/Theology of Giving Series – Week 22**

**John 10: 14-16 ... “As the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me.”**

“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>