

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
04 Aug	Michael & Laurice Nassif and Robby & Marybeth Nassif/IMO Mary Nassif Smith	Michael & Laurice Nassif and Robby & Marybeth Nassif/IMO Mary Nassif Smith
11 Aug	Chris Malaska	Michelle Boyle/IMO Peter Boyle
18 Aug	Zurefa Ellis/IMO Henry David	Jacklis Family/IMO Adnan Jacklis-40-day
25 Aug	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem/IMO Fahed Masarweh	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem/IMO Fahed Masarweh
01 Sept	Open	Open

**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 Kogok Hall.

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-3400 • www.peterpaulpotomac.org

Kindly keep all cell phones turned off or muted while in Church. Thank you.

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

Reverend
Fr. Luke Toumi
frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org
(610) 844-2583 cell
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Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL
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Vice Chairperson
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Marie Hyder
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Rezanne Toumi
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SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

H.E. Metropolitan JOSEPH

Archbishop Primate

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2019

STONE 6/ EOTHINON 7

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& SEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW**

THE HOLY SEVEN SLEEPING YOUTHS OF EPHEBUS;
RECOVERY OF THE RELICS OF MARTYR EUDOKIA OF PERSIA

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 6)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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 OF THE TRANSFIGURATION (Tone 7)

Thou wast transfigured on the mount, and Thy Disciples, in so far as they were able, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; so that, when they should see Thee crucified, they would remember that all Thy suffering was voluntary, and could declare to all the world that Thou art truly the effulgent Splendor of the Father.

We must strengthen ourselves by truly realizing that the God of the Universe is the God who dwells within us. When we begin to enter into our interior universe, we will find how close we are to our healing. God has given us all things; we need only remove from our inner selves what is not of God.

His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH

Gifts Differing

Hieromonk Calinic (Berger)

When we examine the gifts which St. Paul lists, we might be tempted to think that the only gifts that count have to do with some sort of ecclesiastical office (Rom 12:6-8, 1 Cor 12). Clearly this is not his intention, and indeed, often members of the laity and monastic ranks display some of these gifts much more than do clergy. More than financial support, the laity can offer gifts which the clergy cannot provide. For example, often members of the laity have highly developed professional talents, knowledge and experience, which are as essential to members of the Church as for specific Church projects. When such professional talents are used for God's work, then the Church takes its rightful place as the center of life: in beautiful temples, parish facilities for education, schools, hospitals, or specific ministries. The Church becomes a repository of spirituality, education, culture and all life. Energy flows both to and from the entire community. Thus we can see why St. Paul places all gifts under the greater purpose of uniting all in the one Body of the Church, in the same Spirit, in sincerity and love (Rom 12:4, 1 COT 13).

One helpful example in this respect is the work of "Project Mexico," an Orthodox charitable ministry which provides a ranch-home for orphan boys and builds houses for the homeless. The ranch also supervises their education and has its own Orthodox parish which many of the "graduates" of the ranch continue to attend. The Liturgy is sung in Spanish, simply, but majestically. There is a palpable, universal grace. Many groups of Orthodox youth from the United States have visited there to build houses for poor families, some living in shacks. Many of these youth had never seen such poverty before. Yet they have one common observation: the happiness of the Mexican people they encountered. They were so much more content with life and with what little they had. *Happier with less* — how can this be? The people in Mexico shared the only thing they had to share: their humanity. This is the goal of all sharing — hence their joyfulness.

When we who come from an affluent society see this, we are amazed. We see something beautiful and wondrous in our human nature which inspires us. We intuitively understand that it gives life meaning and warmth. Fr. Dumitru St_niloae wrote: "Our humanity has been so overlaid with artificiality, by the desire to appear rather than to be, that when it reveals its true self it causes amazement..." Truly this is the case: when true humanity is revealed, it is beautiful and attractive in a way we cannot articulate, even though the person possessing it is externally unimpressive. It reflects God.

Serving others in the name of Christ is a hallmark of Christian spirituality and a cornerstone of human fulfillment. One of the reasons why youth see something that touches them at Project Mexico is because they have opened themselves to see it. They do not go to Mexico for a good time or a vacation but to offer their gifts — time and talents — for a cause unrelated to their own "goals." They go to serve others in the name of Christ.

This experience reflects the truth that St. Paul is expressing in Romans: use your gifts for God and neighbor and you will be fulfilled. "Be not conformed to this world" — for things cannot make you happy — "but be transformed by the renewing of your mind" — by orienting your energies and gifts to God (Rom 12:2). In giving, we will receive back much more. We must all work to acquire the Holy Spirit and His gifts, then use these gifts for others. In fact, the two actions are interwoven. Only in this way will we become the persons God intends us to become and attain a fulfillment that goes far beyond our own selves.

Part 2 of 2

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2019

Church School is taking a break over the summer. We encourage all of our students to attend liturgy on Sundays.

Church school will begin in September. Please use the following link to register your children for the 2019-2020 Church School Year : <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>

We are also looking for teachers for the upcoming year. Please email us at peterpaulsundaysschool@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer or have any questions.

TEEN SOYO

Ss. Peter & Paul Teen Youth Ministry Group (Teen SOYO) is open to all teens of the Parish (13— 19 years). The teens meet regularly for social, spiritual, and community outreach events.

Lay Advisors:

Zaid Sharafudin/Zaid.sharafudin@gmail.com (412) 708-6726 and Marian Azar/azaremarian@gmail.com (703) 297-9638

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul YAF welcomes all young people over 20 years of age to join in its social, educational, and outreach activities. Please contact Amal Michael at amal17m@yahoo.com for more information.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

*Please pay your annual dues of \$25 to help support our outreach and charitable projects. **All women are members and are welcome.** Checks can be given to Janet Metz.

*Please provide your email address to Donna Gavin at crazygavins@verizon.net for future notices.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul is to serve the church through charitable outreach, educational and service projects which strengthen and deepen the faith of its members and develop a fellowship of Orthodox Christian servants. Please contact Sam Khalil at sk1943@aol.com or Fred Zacharia at fredzach@verizon.net 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 housebound, shut-in, or living in nursing homes. Volunteers are needed who are willing to call 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 or ajmzaki@gmail.com), Alex Cox at (alexcoxse@sells@gmail.com), Paula Massouh (pmassouh@aol.com) or Fr. Isaac at (frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org). Our Parish is grateful for this ministry remembering that when we visit the sick and the infirm we visit Christ himself.

THE SS. PETER & PAUL PARISH LIBRARY & MEDIA CENTER

The Parish Library and Media Center is up and running. The Center houses the Parish Library, audio visual materials, and Christian educational resources. The Center is located in the lower level inside room accessible from the Serge Malooley Conference Center room. Donations of books or materials related to the history, tradition and teaching of the Church and the Orthodox Faith are welcome. All are welcome to use the center by following its user guidelines. Contact Fr. Isaac, Fr. Luke, or Dn. Christian for access and information.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Aug 4 *Churching/Serene Storm Farmand
*Memorial Service/Mary Nassif Smith
Aug 5 *Feast of the Transfiguration/6p Matins, 7p Divine Liturgy
Aug 6 *Festival Baking/Mamoul/10a-3p (see Bulletin insert)
Aug 7 *Service of the Small Paraklesis/7p
Aug 8 *Festival Baking/Ghrabee & Yansoon/10a-3p
(see Bulletin insert)
Aug 9 *Service of the Small Paraklesis/7p
Aug 11 *Baptism/Jaclyn Zayed/1:30p
Aug 12 *Service of the Small Paraklesis/7p
Aug 13 *Festival Baking/Bird's Nest/10a-3p/(see Bulletin insert)
*Parish Council Mtg/7:30p/Serge Malooley Conf Rm
Aug 14 *Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God/6p Matins,
7p Divine Liturgy
Aug 15 *Festival Baking/Custard Triangles/10a-3p (see Bulletin insert)
Aug 18 *Baptism/Danny Afash/1:30p
Aug 20 *Festival Baking/Knafee/10a-3p (see Bulletin Insert)
Aug 24 *Wedding/Pablo Rincon & Miriam Kheirbek/4p
Sept 01 *Wedding/Sami Oudeh & Megan Fakhouri/4p
Sept 03 *Festival Cooking/Spinach Pies/10a-3p (see Bulletin insert)
Sept 04 *Festival Cooking/Spinach Pies/10a-3p (see Bulletin insert)
Sept 07 *Wedding/Gaelle Browning & Justin Misleh/4p
Sept 20-22 *Ss. Peter & Paul Middle Eastern Festival
Sept 28 *Baptism/Serene Storm Farmand/12p
Oct 12 *Baptism/Eliana Victoria Ghareeb/12p
Oct 23 *Professionals Gathering/4:30p-6p/email skorkor@gmail.com
for more information.

Ss. Peter & Paul Annual Festival

The 2019 Middle Eastern Festival is September 20, 21, & 22, 2019 and is a major fundraiser for our Church. The Festival Committee is asking for your help and support to offset our baking and cooking expenses. Please see Lorna Malooley, Thomaseena Cox, or Denise Bolus in the Church Hall to make your donation or volunteer. Contact information: Lorna Malooley - (703)503-3344, lornaam6542@icloud.com; Thomaseena Cox - (301) 775-3842 (cox1903@aol.com); or Denise Bolus - (301) 466-3323 (bolus.denise@gmail.com) to donate.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost)

O Lord, save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance.

Until Thee will I cry, O Lord my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans. (15:1-7)

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures, we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Seventh Sunday of Matthew)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:27-35)

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

OCMC UPDATE

—The upcoming short-term OCMC mission teams to Kenya are as follows: November 4-13 to Nyeri (teaching with clergy wives), and December 8-17 (in Kisumu and also in Nyeri) which are both youth work. If you are interested, please go to OCMC.org for complete information.

—"Go and make disciples of all nations" Matthew 28:19 (Thank you all for your support of OCMC and our church's box at our candle stand.)

2019 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

The 2019 Stewardship Drive is ongoing. Please support your church with your time, talents and treasure and fill out a stewardship form in paper (located in the Narthex) or online at peterpaulpotomac.elexiochms.com. Please make the commitment to support the Church through your generous free-will donation. If you have any questions or need more information, please see Fr. Isaac, Fr. Luke or Zeina Manasseh (zeina.maalouf@gmail.com) in the fellowship hall following the Liturgy for more information. Thank you for your support!

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Danielle Bellone
Michelle Zook
Ritamarie Saa
Jennifer Montgomery
Andrew Salem
Dara Potter
Layla Najjar
Caroline Jarboe
Stephen Zolnerowich
Nathaniel Guinn
Elizabeth El-Hage
Anees Mokhiber
AJ Wood
Philip Allen

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Sam Khalil

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Donna Gavin

TEEN SOYO

Lay Advisors

Zaid Sharafudin
Marian Azar
Officers
Joud Al-Kallas
Tia Saah
Jacob Azar
Julia Azar

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Amal Michael

FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Sam Berberian
Alex Cox

RENTAL COORDINATOR

Barbara Abraham
George Rados

CHARITIES

Sam Khalil

FINANCE

Salim Habayeb

STEWARDSHIP

Zeina Manasseh

GIFT SHOP

Alma Jean Zaki
Gail Bailey

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

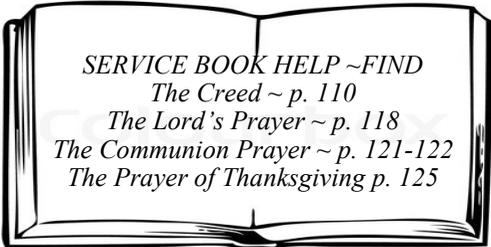
Orthodox Christians
 Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, 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 collection box.



Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Rt. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar	Rt. Rev. Daniel Griffith	
Margaret Ashley	Jamie Simon	Ann Marie Moses
Isabel Thredeh	Nabecha Ayoub	Joyce Hamaty
Holly Dubois	Suad Shammass	Robert & Thelma Badwey
Sophie Neam	Miriam Yazge	Barbara Abraham
George & Joan Abraham	Lulu Brown	Douglas Kalesh
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Edward Rizkallah	Dorothy Marge
Leila Khoury	Shoke George	Assad & Patricia Khoury
Bob & Shirley Neri	Barbara Mullin	Rene Saah
George & Chris Brown	Kevin Pinkstaff	

LIVING

Archpriest Isaac & Kh Dolly
 Ibtisam Toubaji
 Sami Korban
 Angela Romano
 Michelle Boyle
 Ibrahim Mazen Saah
 Robert & Arlene Nassif
 Michael & Laurice Nassif
 Luke, & Isabelle Nassif
 George & Hanada Rados & Family
 Jon, Jihan, Aurora, Julian & Serene Farmand

Nijmeh Zayed	Gladys Laham
Yeorgos Lampathakis	Anastacia Lampathakis
June Albrecht	Ramzi Azat
Amber Bennett	Carol Laham
Ramona Dora	Fred & Sherrie Zacharia
George Nassif	David Nassif
Robby & Marybeth Nassif	Melia Michael
Eli & Allie Nassif	

DEPARTED

Fr. George Rados
 Mary Nassif Smith
 David Tannous
 Mary David
 Zahwa Bitar
 Ibrahim Khoury
 Sadie & John Nassif
 Emie & Sadie Nassif
 Albert Nassif
 Abraham Brown
 John Nassif
 Sabrina Edmiston
 Helen & Albert Haje
 Jackie Cory
 Ernestine & Sam McLoota
 Issa Michael
 Anthony Lamana

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:
 Michael & Laurice Nassif AND Robby & Marybeth Nassif/IMO Marry Nassif Smith

MEMORIAL WHEAT OFFERED BY:
 Michael & Laurice Nassif AND Robby & Marybeth Nassif/IMO Marry Nassif Smith

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
 Michael & Laurice Nassif AND Robby & Marybeth Nassif/IMO Marry Nassif Smith

CHURCHING
 Serene Storm Farmand

MEMORIAL SERVICE
 Mary Nassif Smith/40-day

Fr. Isaac and Fr. Luke request if you or any of your family members or friends are sick or admitted to the hospital, please let them and the+ Church office know. They will be happy to visit and pray with you.