

AUGUST 17, 2014



*The grave and death could not hold the Theotokos, who is unsleeping in her intercessions and an unflinching hope in her mediations. For as the Mother of Life, she was translated to life, by Him Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.*

# SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes*

**Priests**  
Very Reverend  
Fr. George Rados  
frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org  
Very Reverend  
Fr. Isaac Crow  
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org

**Matins:** Sundays 9:30am  
**Divine Liturgy:** Sundays 10:30am  
**Confessions:** call to schedule

**Deacon**  
Dn. Christian Manasseh  
DrChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

**Sunday, August 17, 2014**

**SubDeacon**  
Majd Akkawi  
majd@peterpaulpotomac.org

**Tone 1**

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
and Tenth Sunday of Matthew

**Eothinon 10**

After-feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

**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 Jweid  
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

**Today we Commemorate:** Hieromartyr Myron of Kyzikos; the righteous siblings Eutychios, Eutychian, and Kassiane of Crete; Venerable Alypios the iconographer of the Kiev Caves; Martyrs Paul and Juliana of Ptolemaïs in Palestine; Theodoretos of Solovky, enlightener of the Lapps

## RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

## APOLYTIKION OF THE DORMITION (Tone 1)

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for living thou wast translated, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

## 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 the Dormition (Tone 2)

Verily, the Theotokos, who is ever watchful in intercessions, who is never rejected, neither tomb nor death could control. But being the Mother of Life, He Who dwelt in her ever-Virgin womb did translate her to life.

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:9-16)**

Brethren, God has exhibited us Apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill clad and buffeted and homeless; and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off scouring of all things. I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the Gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (17:14-23)**

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before Him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to Thy disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" Jesus said to them, "Because you have no faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. This kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting." As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and He will rise on the third day."

### **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

#### **Antiochian Women**

Ann Marie Moses  
Kate Niewenhaus

#### **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.

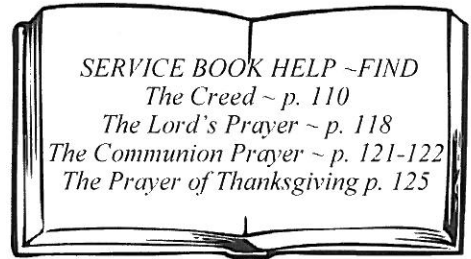
#### **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS**

- the clergy censures 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 Mary Misleh

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR:**

# 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 Shammas

Edmond Neam

Richie Kogok

Sister Gaviella

Phillip Allen

Brian Briggs

Andrew Gavin

Katherine Slanta

Nicholas Yanowsky

Mary, Justin, Marc, Elizabeth and

Robert Misleh

Mike & Samar & family

Lillian & Mike & family

Judy & Gene & 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

Ryan Michael Saba <sup>July 13</sup>

Victoria Curtin <sup>Aug 4</sup>

Walter Coury <sup>Aug 6</sup>

Rose & Theodore Yonkers

Sadie Hier

Mary Kiatta

Farris Shahadey

Ellen & Essa Rafeedie

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

## 31ST ANNUAL MIDDLE EASTERN CULTURAL FESTIVAL September 26, 27 & 28

### FESTIVAL AD BOOK

Sure to be one of the best ad books ever hosted by Ss Peter and Paul, complete with Social Media coverage and website Patron Page, don't miss the opportunity to be a part of it! Submit your ad to [adbook@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:adbook@peterpaulpotomac.org) today. Find sponsor sheets on the table in the vestibule.

Confirm your ad with Tony Moussa at [tonymoussa@aol.com](mailto:tonymoussa@aol.com) or 301-379-0350.

### FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Get updates for Festival news, cooking class, baking sessions, and other preparations at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and paste into the search bar *Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church*.

### MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FROM A-Z

You are wanted to learn to make the wonderful food that is your heritage.

Experienced men and women of the parish offer their expertise in food preparation. Young and old, men and women, come, learn and perpetuate the tradition! Join Saints Peter and Paul Cooking Classes. Even if you cannot attend both sessions, attend one! Come to the Saturday sessions if you cannot make the weekday sessions. Come, watch and learn all the steps and practice cooking for your family—impress them with your culinary skills! Prepared foods to benefit Saints Peter and Paul Middle Eastern Food Festival held September 26-28. Questions? Contact Sam and Margo at [ssg@afg-inc.com](mailto:ssg@afg-inc.com).

### AUGUST SESSIONS

Spinach Pie	Wednesday	August 20 @10am
Spinach Pie	Saturday	August 23 @10am
Spinach Pie/Sfeeha	Wednesday	August 27 @10am
Spinach Pie/Sfeeha	Saturday	August 30 @10am

### BAKERY HELP NEEDED

As we Look forward to another profitable bakery booth at our festival in September, we need your help to ensure its success. Join us for our last baking session for fun and camaraderie! For more information, contact Baking Co-Chairs Mary Misleh at [marymisleh@aol.com](mailto:marymisleh@aol.com) and Denise Bolus at [bolus.denise@gmail.com](mailto:bolus.denise@gmail.com).

Knafee	Friday	August 22 @10am
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## EXPLORING OUR FAITH Adult Religious Education Forum [A Ministry of the Fellowship of St. John the Divine]

A new season of the Adult Religious Education Forum at Ss. Peter & Paul begins September 18<sup>th</sup> from 7:15-8:30pm in the lower level Conference Room. You are invited to join us to better understand and discover the rich spiritual, historical, doctrinal and Scriptural Tradition of our Holy Orthodox faith. Meetings are held every other week on Thursdays. Contact Fr. Isaac for more information.

## ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN MISSION CENTER (OCMC)

### AGAPE CANISTER

Thank you for your OCMC Agape Canister offering this week brought in \$18.00 to support the mission and programs of the OCMC. An OCMC missionary couple is heading for Mongolia with their newborn child this month; other OCMC long-term missionaries continue service in Guatemala, Albania, Moldova, Mongolia, and Romania. Opportunities are still available to go on a 2014 OCMC Mission Team. Visit [www.ocmc.org](http://www.ocmc.org) if you are called to serve on a mission team.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

Parents register your children! Parents you must register your children each year and provide us with up-to-date contact and allergy information.

You can do so conveniently online at: <http://tinyurl.com/peterpaulregistration>. Questions? Please email Jennifer Buchko and Samia Zolnerowich at [peterpaulsundayschool@gmail.com](mailto:peterpaulsundayschool@gmail.com).

## NOT GETTING EMAIL?

If you are not receiving email from the Parish Office, you're missing a lot! That is, service times, upcoming events, notes from Father, notices of death and other updates. To be added to the Parish Email List, send your email address, and corresponding contact information to office @peterpaulpotomac.org.

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

## IN DEFENSE OF CHRISTIANS SUMMIT

Across the Middle East, from Iraq to Syria to Egypt, the descendants of the first Christians are persecuted for their faith. You can help them. This September 9-11, in Washington, DC, *In Defense of Christians* will hold a summit of diaspora Christians, policy makers, elected officials, and religious leaders – including cardinals of the Catholic Church, patriarchs of the Orthodox Church, evangelical leaders, bishops, priests, and from the Middle East. The Summit, "Preserving and Protecting Christians, Where Christianity Began," will give you the opportunity to be a voice for the Christians of the region. Tell Members of Congress and other government officials that you will no longer be silent while Christians are persecuted. The time to act is now. To register for the summit or for more information visit: [Idcsummit.org](http://Idcsummit.org). Stand in solidarity with them this September in Washington.



## CATECHISM THE CHURCH

One of the tragic aberrations of so-called modern religion is the presence of "Churchless Christianity." The assertion is that it is Christ who saves us, not the Church, so "all you need is Jesus."

Few who claim to be Christians would argue against the statement that it is Christ who saves. For He is the eternal Son of God who has assumed human flesh, and has done so "for us and for our salvation." Thus Paul writes, "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 2:5).

But because this Mediator established the Church which is His body, we who are joined to Him are joined to His Church as well. To say we love Christ, who is Head of the Church, and at the same time reject His body is to deny New Testament teaching.

The Gospel and Acts: The first use of the word "church" (Gr. ecclesia) in the New Testament comes in the Gospel of Matthew, when our Lord gives His approval of Peter's confession of faith and promises, "I will build My church" (Matt. 16:18). Jesus Christ builds and we cooperate with Him.

The Book of Acts discloses more of what Jesus meant in Matthew 16. When Peter's sermon on the Day of Pentecost concludes, those present ask for guidance toward salvation: "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Following Peter's word, they are baptized and join with the other believers, three thousand of them (Acts 2:38, 41).

Having been joined to Christ and His Church, these baptized believers begin living as the body of Christ. We find them looking after each other, using their personal resources for the care of each other, continuing together in prayer and in the Eucharist (Acts 2:42-47). From this point on "the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved (Acts 2:47), and throughout Acts, the Church is being built as the gospel of Christ spreads.

The Epistles: Paul's instructions in his letters to the churches throughout the eastern Mediterranean clearly show what it means to be members of Christ: to be the Church and to be in the Church. Nowhere in the New Testament is Paul's teaching on the Church more fully disclosed than in Ephesians 4. He instructs us that:

(1) The Church is one, "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:3). There is one Church, one God, one doctrine, one baptism.

(2) The Church is people, men and women who are energized by the Holy Spirit. For "to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift" (Eph. 4:7). We are not all given the same gifts, but together we are equipped to do God's will.

(3) The Head of the Church is Christ, "from whom the whole body [is] joined and knit together" (Eph. 4:14, 16).

(4) The Church is "the new man" (Eph. 4:24), the new creation, made to be righteous and holy. We are no longer alienated from God (Eph. 4:18) but we are being renewed together (Eph. 4:23), "members of one another" (Eph. 4:25).

The Church, then, is that place established by Christ where we each may become what we are created to be, maturing and being perfected, while the Church receives what it needs from each of us, so that it, too, is being perfected. The Church as the body of Christ carries us beyond our petty and worldly personal concerns, stretching our vision to the eternal and the heavenly as we ascend together to worship the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## LOOKING AHEAD Upcoming events...

- Aug 17 - Baptism of Salim Melki @ 1pm
- Aug 20 - Cooking Class Spinach Pie @ 10am
- Aug 22 - Baking Session: Knafee @10am
- Aug 23 - Cooking Class Spinach Pie @10am
- Aug 23 - Baptism Elnaz Davarparast @ 4pm
- Aug 26 - Men's Club Meeting @ 7:30pm
- Aug 27 - Cooking Class Spinach Pie/Sfeeha @10am
- Aug 30 - Cooking Class Spinach Pie/Sfeeha @10am
- Sep 6 - Wedding Danny Boulos/Karen Lesh@1:30p
- Sep 9 - Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm
- Sep 13 - Wedding Constantine/Donoho @ 2pm
- Sep 18 - Adult Education Forum @ 7:15pm

## THE MOTHER OF LIFE

**M**any people shy away from the sight and talk of death. Yet “it is appointed unto man once to die,” and of all the appointments of life, this one must be kept. Any Christian need not be thought gruesome who thinks and prepares himself for his heavenly journey.

We are reminded of our mortality as the Church observes the great feast of **THE REPOSE OF THE HOLY THEOTOKOS**. There are a number of names for this holyday: The Falling-Asleep of the Virgin, The Assumption or The Dormition.

The Sacred Scriptures are silent about the last days of the Birthgiver of God. Tradition, however tells us about her departure from this life to Heaven. The Apostles are said to have gathered for her repose, and all came as she “passed over into life,” except for one . . . St. Thomas. When he does put in an appearance, after the internment, the tomb is said to be empty.

Iconography tells the rest of the story. The Figure of Christ is in the center, holding an infant in His arms. This was the icon painter’s unique way of depicting the spirit of the Holy Virgin being received into the realms of eternity by her Son. Angels are shown hovering above, while the apostolic group lingers close to the bier. Her internment is said to be in the Garden of Gethsemane at Jerusalem, although Ephesus has long claimed to be the place of burial.

A fasting period precedes the observance of this festival in the Church. Perhaps this is the Church’s way of directing our thoughts to our own falling asleep in the Lord. The Troparion hymn tells the Church’s teaching concerning this feastday: “In giving birth you kept your virginity, in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You passed over into life, you who art the Mother of Life, and by your intercession you deliver our souls from death.” Let us live **OUR** lives so that one day we may join the Holy Virgin in the kingdom of her Son.

**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
Aug 24		Montgomery family
31	Abdallah Daoud	Abdallah Daoud
Sep 7	Donna Gavin	
14	Ed & Eleanor Husson	
21		
28		
Oct 5		
12		

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.