

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
21 Aug	Eways Family 1-year Memorial for Mudallaleh Fareed Eways	Eways Family 1-year Memorial for Mudallaleh Fareed Eways
28 Aug	Leila Deeb	Leila Deeb & Dr. Ziad Deeb
04 Sep	Open	Open
11 Sep	Open	Open
18 Sep	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 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, AUGUST 21, 2016

TONE 8/ EOTHINON 9

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

&

NINTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

AFTER-FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

APOSTLE THADDEUS OF THE SEVENTY; MARTYRS BASSA, THEOGNIOS,
AGAPIOUS AND PISTOS OF EDESSA; VENERABLE ABRAHAM OF SMOLENSK
AND HIS DISCIPLE, VENERABLE EPHRAIM

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURECTION (Tone 8)

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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.

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 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.

*H*omes and communities depend on concerns of daily life and society. These are God-given obligations; fulfilling them is not a step toward the ungodly, but is a walking in the way of the Lord. All who cleave to these erroneous premises fall into the bad habit of thinking that once they accept worldly obligations, they no longer need to strive towards God.

St. Theophan the Recluse

Worship without Love is Useless

"No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24).

Christianity does not accept a duality or multiplicity of gods. There is not a god for every human lust. There is not a good and another of evil. There is not a god of war and another of wine and another of fertility... Nor is Christianity a religion that accepts duplicity of behavior in life according to the needs of worldly life. In Christianity, worshiping God requires you to put your hope nowhere else but in Him.

Worshiping God means that you worship nothing apart from Him. But also, according to the words of the Lord Christ, there are two inseparable commandments that cannot be fulfilled one without the other, and unless they are practiced, this worship is not sound: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 22:37-40).

We do not need to be reminded the neighbor is not only our neighbor in the flesh, but every person we encounter in our daily life. Our neighbors are not only those who share our religion, our sect, our nation, our color, our race or our sex... Our neighbor is every person created by God in His image and likeness. The quality of being a neighbor increases the more this person needs us.

Worshiping God, then, first of all requires you to love your fellow man, not only in word but in deed. This means that you prefer nothing over him, not even your money. For this reason Christ indicated that the sole impediment preventing someone from loving his fellow man is his idolatrous attachment to his money. Christ made Himself equal to the needy when He said, "For I was hungry, and you gave Me food... I was a stranger and you took Me in" (cf. Matthew 25:31-46). Truly loving God requires you to love the hungry and the refugee who has no shelter, not only in word or thought, but in deed-- that is, with your money, with everything you possess.

Saint John Chrysostom, Patriarch of Constantinople (d. 407) said, "Here Christ calls money a lord not because of its own nature, but because of the wretchedness of those who submit to its yoke... How wretched are those condemned from the likes of those who abandon God as their Lord so that they may be painfully ruled by money." In reality, money is not an evil in itself, but it becomes an evil when one treats it as an end, rather than a means to a higher end: the love of man. Money becomes an evil when the love of it becomes stronger than people's love for each other.

At the end of his discourse about money, Jesus says, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). Of this saying, the Blessed Augustine, Bishop of Hippo (d. 435), says, "When Jesus said, 'Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,' He clearly indicated that seeking other things comes after that, not in the sense of seeking them at a later time, but because they are of secondary importance. What we seek first is the Good and what we seek after that is what we need. But seeking what we need comes by way of realizing the Good."

Truly worshiping God requires one to regard money as a trust from God that he spends in the places where it must be spent, for Jesus' beloved ones: the needed, the vulnerable, refugees, those who are tormented... One only owns his money if he spends it. One is owned by money-- and is not its owner-- when he saves it for himself, thinking that it ensures his future and the future of his children and grandchildren... Truly worshiping God requires you to love man first.

Fr. Georges Massouh

HOLY LAND CHRISTIAN ECUMENICAL FOUNDATION

The Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation (H.C.E.F.) is an Ecumenical Christian Foundation based in Washington D.C. which has worked for many years to support the Christian Communities of the Middle East. This year the H.C.E.F. will honor the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdioceses of North America with the "Living Stones Solidarity Award" at its 18th International Conference to be held at the Georgetown Washington Marriott hotel. His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH will be accepting the award on behalf of the Archdioceses on Friday, October 14 and will be the keynote speaker at the conference on Saturday, October 15. All those interested in attending the conference please speak to Fr. Isaac. For more information see hcef.org.

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

SUNDAY SCHOOL

It is time to register for our Children's Sunday School Program. All Registration will be online this year. Please visit

<http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>

to register your children. We have classes for children 3 years old (must be potty trained) through 12th grade. Classes meet following Communion until 12:30. We ask each family to contribute snacks and drinks for the students throughout the year. **Our first day of classes will be on September 11th. We will have an Open House on Sunday, August 28th following liturgy**

where you can ask questions, register and meet some of our teachers. If you have any questions please email the directors at SundaySchool@peterpaulpotomac.org.

SS. PETER & PAUL OUTREACH VISITATION MINISTRY

Our Parish is starting a new outreach ministry 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 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 (georgezaki@gmail.com or ajmzaki@gmail.com), Alex Cox (alexcoxsells@gmail.com) or Fr. Isaac (frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org). Our Parish is grateful for this ministry remembering that when we visit the sick and the infirm we visit Christ himself.

IOCC NEWS

(International Orthodox Christian Charities)

2016 Baltimore Running Festival RACE TO RESPOND

Do you want to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable families around the world? Come join our IOCC Team at the Baltimore Running Festival on October 15, 2016 and help raise money for those in need in places like Syria, Greece, and Ethiopia! For the past four years at the Baltimore Running Festival, IOCC's team has included a wide range of participants, from kindergartners to an Orthodox priest and retired grandmothers! All abilities of walkers and runners are welcome, as there is a range of participation options: Kids' Fun Run, 5K, Team Relay, Half Marathon, and Full Marathon. Signing up is easy at www.iocc.org/baltimore.

PASTORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Effective June 1, 2016, the Faithful of the Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Community are kindly requested to direct all Pastoral communications to Fr. Isaac our new Pastor. These include all day-to-day parish visitations, sick calls, prayers and sacraments, Pastoral consultations, and Parish Ministries and ongoing parish events and projects. Fr. Isaac can be reached at the following: cell (401) 300-8238, office (301) 765-3400/prompt 1, or FrIsaac@peterpaulpotomac.org.

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul YAF will be holding a meeting to elect its new officers on Sunday, August 28, 2016 following fellowship hour. All young adults in the parish (20-40 years of age) are encouraged to participate in this important ministry of the church. The fellowship is planning a number of activities for the new year including resumption of its study group meetings, potluck dinners, and Orthodoxy-on-Tap get togethers. In addition, a spiritual retreat is being planned. For more information contact Samar Korkor at skorkor@gmail.com, Dn Christian at dncristian@peterpaulpotomac.org, or Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org.

Upcoming events...

Aug 21	*Amelia Lynn Zegeer Baptism 1:30p
Aug 28	*Sunday School Open House to follow Liturgy
	*Sunday School Staff Meeting/LL Conf. Rm. to Follow Fellowship Hour
Sep 05	*Offices closed for Labor Day Holiday
Sep 06	*Baking Session 10a (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 08	*Baking Session 10a (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 10	*Baking Session 1p (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 11	*Blessing of the Children for the start of Sunday School classes
	*Ladies Auxillary Luncheon to follow Liturgy
Sep 13	*Parish Council Mtg/LL Conf. Rm/7:00p
Sep 14	*Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
	*Baking Session @10a (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 15	*Baking Session @10a (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 16	*Baking Session @10a (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 17	*Baking Session @9a (see Bazaar insert)
Sep 18	*Procession of the Cross to follow the Liturgy
Sep19-22	*Bazaar Prep
Sep 23-25	*Ss. Peter & Paul Middle Eastern Bazaar
Sep 25	*1-year Memorial for Renee Moorad
Sep 26	*Bazaar clean-up
Oct 09	*Parish General Assembly (to follow the Liturgy)

THE EPISTLE

(For the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Make vows to the Lord thy God and perform them.
In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.*

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (3:9-17)

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay or straw, each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (14:22-34)

At that time, Jesus made the Disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. When evening came, He was there alone, but the Disciples' boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea. But when the Disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately He spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered Him, "Lord, if it is Thee, bid me come to Thee on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "Truly, Thou art the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

The Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos falls on September 8th. This year on Wednesday, September 7 we will celebrate the Feast with our sister parish St. Mary (Nativity of the Theotokos) Antiochian Orthodox Church, of Cockeysville, MD. The Feast will start with Great Vespers at 4:30pm followed by Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy. St. Mary's Church is located at 909 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030(just north of Baltimore). All are welcome.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook
Christine Morin
Layla Najjar
Lizzy Cassar
Lara Bellone
Andrew Salem
Caroline Jarboe
Chrissy Mackoul
Anees Mokhiber
Philip Allen

Men's Club

Sam Khalil

Antiochian Women

Kate Niewenhaus

Teen SOYO

Advisor

Jamilee Bellone

Officers

Rashid Haddad
Julia Allen
Danielle Bellone
Kinda Callas
Nick Guegel

Fellowship of St. John

Christine & Samar Korkor
Dn. 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

Lina Eid

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.

SERVICE BOOK HELP ~FIND
 The Creed ~ p. 110
 The Lord's Prayer ~ p. 118
 The Communion Prayer ~ p. 121-122
 The Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 125

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

Eways Family

1-year Memorial for Mudallaleh Fareed Eways

FELLOWSHIP HOUR OFFERED BY:

Eways Family

1-year Memorial for Mudallaleh Fareed Eways

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

Margaret Ashley
Richie Kogok
Isabel Threddeh
Edmond & Sophie Neam

May Fillah
Brian Briggs
Holly Dubois
Nicholas & Helen White

LIVING

Archpriest George & Family
Nabecha Ayoub
Everett Alvarez
Tesia Yonkers
The Eways Family
Melinda Fannoney
Nawal Ayoub Family
George Eways Family
Lamia Mufarreh & Family

Raymond Ayoub
Susan Ibrahim Ayoub
Victor Joubran
Greg, Maria, Zeid, Rami Wallace
Mary Salem Family
Georgette Tawil Family
Bassam Eways & Family
Nijmeh Eways and Family

DEPARTED

Archpriest Boniface Black
Jack Schueneman
Frances Huenemann
Ann & Dewey Guthrie
Lillian & Walter Koch
Mudallaleh Fareed Eways
Fareed Eways
Jad Eways

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Theology of Giving Series – Week 34 – August 21, 2016

Weeks 32 to 36 come from Again, Fall, 2005, "The Trial of the Tithe," Fr. Thomas Zell

From Saint John Chrysostom, Homilies on Ephesians ... "Woe to him, it is said, who doeth not alms; and if this was the case under the Old Covenant, much more is it under the New. If, where the getting of wealth was allowed and the enjoyment of it, and the care of it, there was such provision made for the succoring of the poor, how much more in that Dispensation, where we are commanded to surrender all we have? For what did not they of old do? They gave tithes, and tithes again upon tithes for orphans, widows, and strangers, whereas someone was saying to me in astonishment at another, 'Why, such an one gives tithes.' What a load of disgrace does this expression imply, since what was not a matter of wonder with the Jews has come to be so in the case of the Christians? If there was danger then in omitting tithes, think how great it must be now."

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>