

AUGUST 24, 2014

# ST. ADRIAN



# ST. NATALIA

# 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  
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2014**

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

## **TONE 2    ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST    EOTHINON 11** **AND ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW** **AFTER-FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**COUNCIL**  
**Chairman**  
David Jackson  
**Vice Chairman**  
George Salem  
**Secretary**  
Caroline Emad  
**Treasurer**  
Abdallah Daoud

**TODAY WE COMMEMORATE:** MARTYR EUTYCHES, DISCIPLE OF JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN; NEW HIEROMARTYR COSMAS AITOLOS, EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES AND EVANGELIZER OF SOUTHERN ALBANIA; RECOVERY OF THE RELICS OF DIONYSIOS, BISHOP OF ZAKINTHOS AND OF PETER, METROPOLITAN OF MOSCOW

**Members**  
Frank Abdow  
Jerry Audi  
Rida Boulos  
Anita El-Araj  
Gary Farha  
Dr. Bassem Haddad  
Maha Jweied  
Lorna Malooley  
Wayne Parr  
Steve Simon  
Metody Tilev

### **RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (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.

**Church Secretary**  
Janet Tate  
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

### **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.

**Choir Director**  
John Slanta  
slanta@verizon.net

**Chanters**  
Wayne Parr  
George Tannous

**Ushers**  
Jerry Audi  
Michael El Araj  
Abraham Fannoney  
Sam Khalil

### **KONTAKION for the Nativity of the Theotokos (Tone 4)**

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life.

**ALTAR**  
**Manager**  
Peter Aburdeineh

**Servers**  
Captains -  
Robert Bridenhagen  
Nicholas Zolnerowich

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)

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

### **The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:2-12)**

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the Gospel of Christ.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (18:23-35)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

### **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**

Sam Khalil

#### **Antiochian Women**

Ann Marie Moses  
Kate Niewenhous

#### **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.

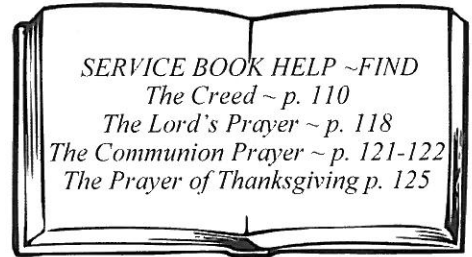
#### **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS**

- the clergy 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.



**HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION:** offered by Lorna Malooley  
**FELLOWSHIP HOUR:** offered by the Montgomery family

# 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 Gavriella

Phillip Allen

Brian Briggs

Andrew, Matthew & Joseph Gavin

Sophia Courtright

Bertha Aed

Katherine Slanta

Nicholas Yanowsky

Adrian Gabriel Gakos

Lorna, Alexandra, Matthew, Amanda, Kristian &

Joseph Malooley & families

John & Joyce Abdow-Dowd

Henry & Pam Braverman

Lauren David

Daniel, Sandra, Andrew Martelli & family

John & Marsha Irvin & family

Ricky Badwey

Jennifer, Daren, Nicholas & Luke Montgomery

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

Nimer Massarweh Aug. 17

Helen Hawa Aug. 17

Walter Coury Aug. 8

Victoria Curtin Aug. 8

Ryan Michael Saba July 15

Nelson & Judy Haje

Marie Moses

Catherine Shama

Rose & Theodore Yonkers

Rudolph Sergei Malooley

Katter & Mary Malooley

John & Nymry Abdow

Alexandria Abdow

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR TODAY

Fellowship Hour will be held in the Lower Level Hall today due to a wedding rental of Kogok Hall.

## 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.

### PRE ORDERS OF OUR DELICIOUS FOOD

Kibbie Balls • \$2 each • Units of 6

Kibbie Trays (9 x 13) • \$45 Each

Spinach Pies • \$2 each • Units of 6

See form in vestibule

### FOOD LINE

We are looking for food servers for the festival Friday September 26, Saturday September 27 and Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup>. The food line is open the following hours Friday 3 to 10 pm, Saturday 11 am to 10pm and Sunday noon to 4pm. (depending on crowd food may be open till 10pm, but will be determined based on need). Please contact Janet Metz at [titajzm@yahoo.com](mailto:titajzm@yahoo.com) or 703-821-2628.

### MIDDLE EASTERN COOKING FROM A @ Z

Festival Food Prep Sessions

Prepared foods to benefit Saints Peter and Paul Middle Eastern Cultural Festival

Contact Sam and Margo at [ssg@afg-inc.com](mailto:ssg@afg-inc.com)

### AUGUST SESSIONS

Spinach Pie/Sfeeha Wednesday August 27 @10am

Spinach Pie/Sfeeha Saturday August 30 @10am

### 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.*

## 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.

## 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 [peterpaulsundaysschool@gmail.com](mailto:peterpaulsundaysschool@gmail.com).

## 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.

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR SIGN UP—PLEASE

Saints Peter & Paul Church is your church. We care for one another. One of the ways we do that is to take turns providing refreshments Sundays after Liturgy in Kogok Hall for members and visitors alike.

It is our service to God. We either bring refreshments we have made or purchased, purchase them from the church office, or hire a caterer to provide them. We set up and clean up. It is a great way to practice Christian fellowship among our fellow parishioners. September and October need volunteers to lead this great act of hospitality. See the signup sheet in the vestibule as you leave the sanctuary and enter the hall.

## NOT GETTING EMAIL?

If you are not receiving email from the Parish Office, you're missing a lot! Service times, upcoming events, notes from Father, notices of death and other updates. To be added to the Parish Email List, please update your contact information at the Fellowship Hour immediately following Liturgy. Find forms and drop yours in the box labeled "Parishioner Contact Update."

## CATECHISM DEIFICATION

*Deification* is the ancient theological word used to describe the process by which a Christian becomes more like God. St. Peter speaks of this process when he writes, "As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness... you may be partakers of the divine nature" (2 Pet. 1:3, 4).

What does it mean to partake of the divine nature, and how do we experience it? To give an answer, first address what deification is not, then describe what it is.

*What deification is not.* When the Church calls us to pursue godliness, to be more like God, this does not mean that human beings then become divine. We do not become like God in His nature. That would not only be heresy, it would be impossible. For we are human, always have been human, and always will be human. We cannot take on the nature of God.

St. John of Damascus, writing in the eighth century, makes a remarkable observation. The word "God" in the Scriptures refers not to the divine nature or essence, for that is unknowable. "God" refers rather to the divine energies—the power and grace of God which we can perceive in this world. The Greek word for God, *theos*, comes from a verb meaning "run," "see," or "burn." These are energy words, so to speak, not essence words.

In John 10:34, Jesus, quoting Psalm 82:6, repeats the passage, "You are gods." The fact that He was speaking to a group of hypocritical religious leaders who were accusing Him of blasphemy makes the meaning doubly clear: Jesus is not using "god" to refer to divine nature. We are gods in that we bear His image, not His nature.

*What deification is.* Deification means we are to become more like God through His grace or divine energies. In creation, humans were made in the image and likeness of God (Gen. 1:26) according to human nature. In other words, humanity by nature is an icon or image of deity: The divine image is in all humanity. Through sin, however, this image and likeness of God was marred, and we fell.

When the Son of God assumed our humanity in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, the process of our being renewed in God's image and likeness was begun. Thus, those who are joined to Christ through faith in Holy Baptism begin a re-creation process, being renewed in God's image and likeness. We become, as St. Peter writes, "partakers of the divine nature" (2 Pet. 1:4).

Because of the Incarnation of the Son of God, because the fullness of God has inhabited human flesh, being joined to Christ means that it is again possible to experience *deification*, the fulfillment of our human destiny. That is, through union with Christ, we become by grace what God is by nature—we "become children of God" (John 1:12). His deity interpenetrates our humanity.

Historically, deification has often been illustrated by the "sword and fire" example. A steel sword is thrust into a hot fire until the sword takes on a red glow. The energy of the fire interpenetrates the sword. The sword never becomes fire, but it picks up the properties of fire.

By application, the divine energies interpenetrate the human nature of Christ. Being joined to Christ, our humanity is interpenetrated with the energies of God through Christ's glorified flesh. Nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, we partake of the grace of God—His strength, His righteousness, His love—and are enabled to serve Him and glorify Him. Thus we, being human, are being deified.

## LOOKING AHEAD Upcoming events...

- 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 6 - Arabic Liturgy
- Sep 7 - Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
- Sep 9-11 - IDC Summit Conference
- Sep 9 - Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm
- Sep 13 - Wedding Constantine/Donoho @ 2pm
- Sep 14 - Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
- Sep 18 - Adult Education Forum @ 7:15pm
- Sep 20 - Wedding Rita Morad/Jack Zegeer @ 3pm
- Sep 21 - Antiochian Women's Luncheon @ 12:30p
- Sep 21 - Baptism of Nader Tawil @ 1pm
- Sep 22-26 Festival Cooking & Preparation
- Sep 26-28 - 31st Annual Middle Eastern Cultural Festival, 3-10pm, 11am-10pm, 12-4pm

## MARRIED FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST

This is a story of ADRIAN and his young bride, NATALIA, who lived about the year 298 A.D. It is a story of faith and devotion to our Lord. When Maximillian was persecuting the Church, he ordered his army to gather all the Christians in the city of Nicomedia. One day he passed a group of 23 of them, heavily chained, being led to prison. He ordered them brought to trail at once.

One by one they were charged to deny Christ or suffer the consequences, yet they stood firm. They showed so much courage during the torture, that an idolater named Adrian suddenly sprang into the middle of the court and cried out: "Write me down as a Christian also, that I may be numbered with these warriors of Christ." The emperor burned with anger. He ordered Adrian chained and consigned to prison. Adrian had been married just 13 months to a young Christian believer, Natalia. Her pious example had first drawn his heart to Christ.

Upon hearing the news, Natalia hurried to the prison and flung herself at the feet of her husband. She implored the other Christians to encourage Adrian and teach him the way of truth. While there, she tended to the wounds of the 23 confessors. For 7 days she ministered to their needs. When women later were forbidden to enter the prison, Natalia cut off her hair, dressed herself like a man and came for admittance. Other women followed her example, that they might care for fellow Christians.

But orders came for the execution of the martyrs in the dungeons and so it fell that Natalia was present when her husband died. She stood as a tower of strength in this hour of crisis. Stationing herself beside her Christian husband, Natalia said to him, "Servant of Christ . . . put your hand to mine." Her dying husband stretched out his hand and groping for hers, caught it in a final embrace.

God grant that young people TODAY, so restless in their search for meaning in their lives, may turn to Jesus Christ, Who said "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

*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 31	Daoud family	Daoud family
Sep 7	Donna Gavin	
14	Ed & Eleanor Husson	
21	JJ Coury & family	JJ Coury & family
28		
Oct 5		
12		
19		

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

10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-9188 • [www.peterpaulpotomac.org](http://www.peterpaulpotomac.org)