

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR
AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION**

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
08 Sept	Kh. Dolly Crow	Kh. Dolly Crow
15 Sept	Habib Debs & Family	Habib Debs & Family
22 Sept	Open	Ss. Peter & Paul Annual Bazaar
29 Sept	George & Hanada Rados	George & Hanada Rados
06 Oct	Open	Open

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
(301) 765-3400 #2 office

DEACON
Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL
Chairperson
Carol Laham
Vice Chairperson

Jumana Misleh
Treasurer
Ken Bailey
Secretary
Abe Fannoney

Members
Roy Abdo
Philip Allen
Jerry Audi
Nabil Emad
Michele Forzley
Salim Habayeb
Bassem Haddad
Janet Metz
Anees Mokhiber
Alganesh Piechocinski

CHURCH SECRETARY
office@peterpaulpotomac.org

CHOIR DIRECTOR
Kristopher Reese
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

ASSISTANT CHOIR
DIRECTORS
Marie Hyder
Mark Buchko

CHANTERS
Amjad Khalil
Zeina Manasseh
Rezanne Toumi
George Tannous

USHERS
Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
Sam Khalil

ALTAR
Manager
Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS
Captains -
Andrew Erickson
Rashid Haddad
Thomas Zook

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, SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

STONE 3 / EOTHINON 1

SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

&

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (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 OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS (Tone 4)

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

KONTAKION OF 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.

FEAST OF THE ELEVATION OF THE LIFE-GIVING CROSS

“O Lord Save thy people and Bless thine inheritance, granting victory to the believers over all evil, and by the power of the cross preserve all those who follow thee.”

The Feast of the Elevation of the Cross (September 14) will be celebrated at church on Friday, September 13, 2019 with matins at 6:00 pm. and Divine Liturgy at 7:00 pm. The Procession of the Cross will be held on Sunday, September 15 at the end of the Liturgy.

We will recognize that, whether we like it or not, what happens happens; to be upset about it is useless, and moreover deprives us of the crown of patience and shows us to be in revolt against the will of God.

St. Peter of Damascus

How the Orthodox Church Embraces the Child From Day One

Anthony M. Coniaris

Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home

May I share with you how royally the Orthodox Church welcomes a newborn child into her bosom from day one? It is as if the church, representing God and God's people, rushes out to welcome the newborn, saying, "We're so glad you're here!" On the day the birth takes place, the church prays for the mother who has just given birth and asks for protection for the child: "Grant, O Lord, that the child which hath been born of her may do reverence to the earthly temple which thou hast prepared to glorify thy holy Name."

On the eighth day, the child receives its name, the name of a saint, "that the light of thy countenance may be shown upon thy servant." Through the giving of a name the child is recognized as a distinct and unique person. On the fortieth day, the mother brings the child to church, and the priest prays for it to receive spiritual light just as it now contemplates the natural light, "that in due season it may be united to thy holy flock."

Then, at baptism, the child is immersed in the bath of regeneration. Plunged three times into the water the child shares in the death and resurrection of the Savior. It is identified with Christ. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27).

Immediately afterward, anointing with the Spirit (the sacrament of Chrismation) makes the one baptized an authentic dwelling place of the Trinity. "Born again of water and the Spirit," a member of the Body of Christ, the child is now a full member of the Church. From that time on the child goes to Communion and receives "the bread of true life," the Body and Blood of the Lord.

Immediately following baptism, the church and the home begin to work together to train this new member of Christ's Body to become "a champion for Jesus." What the child does at church, he can do at home: pray before the family icon, light the flame before the family icon, cense the home, be present at the annual blessing of the home by the priest, read at home the same Scripture lessons as are read in Church, assist in the daily blessing of meals, make the sign of the cross, receive the parent's blessing before leaving for school, participate in the fasting periods-these and many, many other Orthodox family traditions will keep the flame of faith burning in the heart of each child as he/she grows physically, mentally, and spiritually in favor with God and man.

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2019-2020

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

Church school will begin on September 8, 2019. 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 peterpaulsundayschool@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

Oct 6 *Annual Kick-off Mtg./following Liturgy/Serge Malooley Conf. Rm./in need of an officer and Volunteers.

***Oct 12** *AWE Fall Retreat @ Holy Protection Monastery, White Haven, PA (see flyer in Narthex)

*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.

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.alexiochms.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!

The Stewardship Committee and the Parish Council remind all of the faithful for both individuals and families to submit their annual stewardship pledge to the Church. Membership and financial forms are readily available in the Narthex and on-line. PLEASE make the commitment to SUPPORT the Church through your generous free-will pledges. Any questions concerning stewardship pledges may be addressed to Fr. Isaac, Fr. Luke, or Zeina Manasseh, Stewardship Chairman.

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: Alex Cox at (alexcoxseels@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

Sept 8 *Start of Church School (see above Church School box)
*Sheikh al Mahshi (egg plant) cooking session to follow Liturgy in the Hall. See Festival Insert

Sept 9 *Parish Council Mtg/7:30p/Serge Malooley Conf Rm

Sept 10 *Festival Cooking/Spinach Pies/10a-3p (see Bulletin insert)

Sept 11 *Festival Cooking/Spinach Pies/10a-3p (see Bulletin insert)

Sept 13 *Matins and Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Elevation Of the Cross/6-7pm

Sept 15 *40 day memorial—Kamal Boulatta

*Procession of the Cross

Sept 20-22 *Ss. Peter & Paul Middle Eastern Festival

Sept 28 *Baptism/Serene Storm Farmand/12p

Oct 5 *Community Retreat on Marriage & Parenting/Camp at Home 3rd grade & up/Babysitting for younger children

Oct 6 *Antiochian Women Kick-Off Mtg/following Liturgy in the Serge Malooley Conf. Rm.

Oct 12 *Baptism/Eliana Victoria Ghareeb/12p

Oct 12 *AWE Fall Retreat/Holy Protection Monastery, White Haven, PA/see flyer in Narthex

Oct 8 *Parish Council Mtg/7:30p/Serge Malooley Conf Rm

Oct 13 *Parish-wide General Assembly following services

*Wedding/Raya Jarawan & Tyler Baldwin/4p

Oct 19 *Wedding/Amanda Ibrahim & Mathew Bannovra/4p

Oct 23 *Professionals Gathering/5:30p-7p/email skorkor@gmail.com for more information.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

To Thee, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (6:11-18)

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For, neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (3:13-17)

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For, God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

OCMC BULLETIN UPDATE

OCMC News

- Did you know that there is a new long-term missionary working with Project Mexico? Oliver Fahling, a recent Mississippi College graduate in international studies and Spanish leads teams of volunteers from around the country to build homes for families in need. (Our Ss Peter and Paul teens have volunteered to build homes in Mexico.) Consider joining a mission team to Mexico next summer.
- Ss Peter and Paul will welcome long-term missionary Jesse Brandow on September 22nd after Liturgy. Jesse works in Guatemala where over 40,000 people have converted to Orthodoxy. We hope everyone will have an opportunity to meet Jesse that day and hear this amazing story.

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
Meghan Zoto
George Zoto

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

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 Service starts on p. 91
The Creed ~ p. 110
The Lord's Prayer ~ p. 118
The Communion Prayer ~ p. 121-122
The Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 125

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Rt. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar	Rt. Rev. Daniel Griffith	
Margaret Ashley	Jamie Simon	Ann Marie Moses
Isabel Thredek	Nabeeha 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	Allison Ayoub Egge

LIVING

Ibtisam Toubaji	Nijmeh Zayed	Sami Korban
Yeorgos Lampathakis	Anastacia Lampathakis	Carol Laham
Fred & Sherric Zacharia	Ibrahim Mazen Saah	Ramona Dora
Allison Ayoub Egge	Brian Briggs	Joe Malooley
George & Hanada Rados & Family		Loma Malooley & Family
Geffen Franus	Paula Massouh	Halim & Hayat Barakat
James, Karina, Rylee, JJ, & Emilia Isaac		Marie Hyder
Radi, Hala, Raya, & Rami Paskaleva		Khouriya Rebecca Alford
Justin & Gaelle Misleh	Lidia, Adeeb, Gus, Farah and Ebah	
Ted Milkovich		

DEPARTED

Fr. George Rados
Fr. Louis Mahshie
Ibrahim Khoury
Anthony Lamana
Kamal Boullata
Anthony Abraham
George Rorke
Mabel Ellis
Charles Cox

CHURCHINGS
Emilia Isaac
Rami Paskaleva

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.

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:
The communion bread is offered by Khouriyee Dolly for the good health and blessing of Father Isaac On the occasion of his 30th anniversary in the priesthood

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
Kh. Dolly Crow