

SEPTEMBER 14, 2014



SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

Confessions: call to schedule

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2014

EXALTATION (ELEVATION) OF THE HOLY CROSS

REPOSE OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE;

VENERABLE-MARTYR MAKARIOS THE NEW OF THESSALONICA;

VENERABLE-MARTYR JOSEPH OF DIONYSIOU MONASTERY ON ATHOS

Priests

Very Reverend

Fr. George Rados

frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org

Very Reverend

Fr. Isaac Crow

frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org

Deacon

Dn. Christian Manasseh

DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

Pastoral Assistant & Youth Director

Majd Akkawi

majd@peterpaulpotomac.org

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 Jweied

Lorna Malooley

Wayne Parr

Steve Simon

Metody Tilev

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Chanters

Majd Akkawi

Wayne Parr

George Tannous

Ushers

Jerry Audi

Michael El Araj

Abraham Fannoney

Sam Khalil

ALTAR

Manager

Peter Aburdeineh

Servers

Captains -

Robert Bridenhagen

Nicholas Zolnerowich

EISODIKON (Entrance Hymn) of the Feast

Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool; for He is holy. Save us, O Son of God, Who wast crucified in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION of the exaltation of the Holy Cross (Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

KONTAKION of the exaltation of the Holy Cross (Tone 4)

*(**Thou Who wast raised up**)*

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

ANTI-TRISAGION Hymn

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, Master, and we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection. (THRICE)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

And we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection.

Dynamis!

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, Master, and we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection.

THE EPISTLE

Exalt ye the Lord our God. The Lord reigneth; let the people tremble.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (1:18-24)

Brethren, the word of the Cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the cleverness of the clever I will thwart." Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John.(19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30-35)

At that time, the chief priests and the elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. And they came to Pontius Pilate saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Take Him yourselves and crucify Him, for I find no crime in Him." The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die, because He has made Himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where art Thou from?" But Jesus gave no answer. Pilate therefore said to Him, "Wilt Thou not speak to me? Knowest Thou not that I have power to release Thee, and power to crucify Thee?" Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over Me unless it had been given you from above.

When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called "The Pavement", and in Hebrew, "Gabbatha." Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" They cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." Then he handed Him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus and led him away, and He went out, bearing His own Cross, to the place called the place of a skull, which is called in Hebrew "Golgotha." There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the Cross; it read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." Many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek.

Now standing by the Cross of Jesus were His mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw His mother, and the Disciple whom He loved standing near, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then He said to the Disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the Disciple took her to his own home. After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now fulfilled, said, "It is finished"; and He bowed His head and gave up the spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him; but when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true.

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 Niewenhaus

Teen SOYO

Adviser:
Majd Akkawi
Facilitators:
Phillip Allen
Reema Guegel
Stephen Zolnerowich
Anees Mokhiber

Fellowship of St. John

Majd Akkawi
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 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.

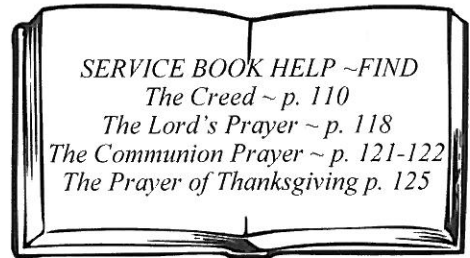
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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 Ed & Eleanor Husson,
and by Sally & Phillip Nimie
FELLOWSHIP HOUR: offered by Dn. Christian Manasseh & 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 Shammass
Edmond Neam
Richie Kogok
Rick Badwey

Sister Gavrriella
Brian Briggs
Bertha Aed
Katherine Slanta
Nicholas Yanowsky
Siham Ajoub

V Rev Fr Isaac, Kh Dolly, Basil
George
Mazen
George & Tamara
Michelle

Edward, Eleanor, David, Julie, Megan, Sophia, Vienna, Brian, Aurette
Husson

Martine, Aleksander Keys
Leo, Lisa, Sarah & Oscar Villalobos
Joann, Mary Husson & family
Georgette & Jackie Zakaib
Pat Chappell & family

Nouha Ghanayem
John Ghanayem Jr. & family
George Drooby

Petre, Emilia, Julia, Maria-Tamara,
Oana-Loredana

Rodica, Viorel, Jeana, Cristina, Mihail, Vanda, Daniel, Mihaila
Laurentice Mihail, Maris, Alina, Joana,

Constantin-Maria
Virgiliu & Cornelia Dumitran

Sam Brown, Sally & Phillip Nimic
Janet Tate

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

Mounif
Rosalyn
Najjyyah

William Chappell
V. Rev. Raphael & Khouryee, Josephine, Robert Husson
Salem, Galia, George, Roseanna & David Zakaib
Saleemah, Joseph, Albert, Helen, Georgette,
Jacqueline & Jimmy Majdel

John Ghanayem
Mitchell Aed

Stela Bogos
Ben Stone-Francisco

Habib Haddad
Nouha Emad

Leda Dwonczyk

Nemer Massarweh Aug 17
Helen Hawa Aug 17
Walter Coury Aug 8

Abraham "Brownie" Brown

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

31ST ANNUAL Middle Eastern Cultural Festival September 26, 27 & 28

Friday, September 26 (3-10pm)
Saturday, September 27 (11am-10pm)
or Sunday, September 28 (12-4pm)

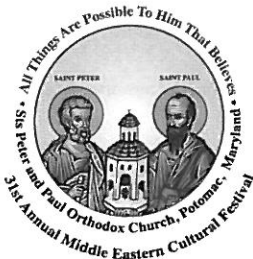
The festival is fast approaching. We need you to do two things. First we need you to share the festival flyer (copies in the vestibule) on your Facebook page and share and tag as many people as you can. It would be great to see the festival flyer throughout Facebook. It would be ideal if we all could do this between now and the 20th of September, and then again the week of the festival. Secondly we need you to send an email inviting all the people on your listserv to the festival and attach the flyer. Invite all on your listserv, even the people you know have the flyer. It might be the reminder that they need to do it themselves. If everybody participates then we may be able to eliminate some of the expensive print media in the future. It's going to be FABULOUS!

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

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Get updates for Festival news, cooking class, baking sessions, and other preparations at www.facebook.com and type into the search bar *Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church.*



SUNDAY SCHOOL-TODAY

Sunday school classes will not be held today. Students will stay upstairs for the entire liturgy. We will resume classes next Sunday, September 21st. Please remember to register your children for Sunday school, conveniently online at <http://tinyurl.com/peterpaulregistration>.

Teen SOYO-TODAY

Is back!!! Join us today, September 14th immediately following the procession in the courtyard to learn more about the exciting new fall program.

CHILDREN AGE 9 TO 18

Plan to attend the Antiochian Village Program "Village at Home" Retreat October 4th at Ss. Peter & Paul Church. Come see what camp is like without having to travel to Bolivar, PA! Join us for morning and afternoon programs, games, activities, services and more.

FSJD DINNER

Come join us for some great fellowship, delicious food and a preview of events to come at the Potluck Dinner Saturday, September 20 at 5pm at the home of Christian and Zeina Manasseh, 2030 Freedom Lane, Falls Church, VA 22043. Bring a dish to share and an instrument to play. See fsjd@peterpaulpotomac.org for more information.

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 18th from 7:15-8:30pm in the lower level Conference Room. Our first session of the new year will be a reflection on the "descent of Christ into Hades," presented by James Bennett. Contact Fr. Isaac for more information.

WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION

Plan to attend the reception Wednesday, October 8, from 7-9pm in Kogok Hall in support of the Orthodox Christian Network. More information to come.

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN KICK-OFF LUNCHEON AND MEETING

All women 18 years and older, please come and support this important organization; meet our new officers today, Sunday, September 14th, 2014, following Liturgy, in the lower level hall. Join us for a light luncheon to discuss the hopes and dreams, representing Saint's Peter and Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On Sunday, October 19th, the Annual Parish General Assembly will be held in the sanctuary immediately following Liturgy. Do not miss this important meeting to include reports, election, budget presentation and more.

THE CREATION AND FALL OF MAN

Part II in a series...

As a person created in the image of God you are not only free; you are also unique and unrepeatable. Just as no two fingerprints are exactly alike, so no two people are exactly alike. Of course, our society often tries to suppress our uniqueness. Indeed, it seems as though our human identity is reduced to our Social Security number. Yet no matter how dehumanizing modern life may be, it can never suppress the absolute uniqueness of the human person, for that uniqueness is the imprint of God upon us all. God calls us all to grow into His likeness, but in a way that is unique to each of us. It is sin that forces upon us a sterile uniformity, reducing us to a life of mere animal existence. But God would have us to share in His eternity, to grow ever more like Him in a way uniquely our own. The French aviator and author, Antoine de Saint-Exupery, describes our personal uniqueness in a beautiful way in his book, *The Little Prince*. In the book, a small fox teaches the Little Prince about the mystery of personhood:

To me [said the fox], you are still nothing more than a little boy who is just like a hundred thousand other little boys. And I have no need of you. And you, on your part, have no need of me. To you, I am nothing more than a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, then we shall need each other. To me, you will be unique in all the world. To you, I shall be unique in all the world.

This quotation from *The Little Prince* illustrates the third important aspect of personhood: our personal uniqueness is found only in a relationship of love with other persons. There is a great deal of difference between an individual and a person. An individual is a number, a member of a set, "a little boy like a hundred

thousand other little boys." A person, on the other hand, loves and is loved. It is the ability to love that ultimately defines us as persons created in the image of God. A man who stands alone and self-sufficient is not a person-is not fully human. As the English churchman and poet John Donne wrote, "No man is an island entire of himself." You cannot be a person-that is to say, fully human-on your own. To be human is to relate to others. There are three important relationships that define us as persons: our relationship with God, our relationship with other people, and our relationship with the physical world.

According to the book of Genesis, God created us for a relationship of love and communion with Himself. There is a sense in which our relationship to God is more primary than even our relationship to our biological parents, for the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul (Genesis 2:7). What is more, God is not only the originator of human life, He is the source of eternal life. As creatures, we are made from the dust of the ground; we have no life in ourselves. As a great, Russian bishop of the 19th century said, "All creatures are balanced upon the creative Word of God, as if upon a bridge of diamond; above them is the abyss of divine infinitude, below them that of their own nothingness." Only in communion with God, the Creator and source of life, do we have the promise of everlasting life. And this is life eternal, that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent (Jol-m17:3).

Upcoming events...

- Sep 14 - Feast of the Elevation of the Cross
- Sep 14 - Teen SOYO First Gathering post procession
- Sep 14 - Antiochian Women Luncheon @ 12:30pm
- Sep 18 - Adult Education Forum @ 7:15pm
- Sep 20 - Wedding Rita Morad/Jack Zegeer @ 3pm
- Sep 20 - FSJD Potluck @ 5pm
- Sep 21 - Baptism of Nader Tawil @ 1pm
- Sep 22-26 - Festival Cooking & Preparation
- Sep 26-28 - Festival 3-10pm-11am-10pm-12-4pm
- Sep 30 - Men's Club Meeting @ 7:30pm
- Oct 2 - Adult Ed Forum @ 7:15pm
- Oct 4 - Arabic Liturgy @ 5pm
- Oct 5 - Baptism of Reid Hartman @ 1pm
- Oct 8 - Wine & Cheese Reception OCN @ 7pm
- Oct 14 - Parish Council Meeting @ 7pm
- Oct 16 - Adult Ed Forum @ 7:15pm
- Oct 19 - *General Assembly @ 12pm*
- Nov 15 - *Nativity Fast begins*
- Nov 20 - *Entrance Theotokos to the Temple @ 7pm*

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST TREASURE?

Have you seen some recent lottery jackpots? The numbers are in the millions! Many people line up to buy a ticket, hoping that they will be the lucky winner. Most people these days think money will change their lives. They would be able to buy everything they ever wanted. Would new cars, houses, luxury vacations and many other valuable “treasures” change their lives and make them happy?

In our Lord’s famous Sermon on the Mount, He talks about what should be important to us and what we should value the most. He is openly critical of those whose material need eventually turns to greed, and He makes this remarkable statement: “FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO.”

This begs the question: just where is our heart? Now “family” should be very high on all of our lists of “treasures,” and strong family values have always been part of the Christian way of life. Still, there should be one thing in our lives more valuable to us: our faith in and our love for Jesus Christ. Our Lord told us as much when He said: “He who loves father or mother or wife or children more than Me is not worthy of Me.” Note that our Lord doesn’t say NOT to love our family – only that we must love Him MORE. And even though He tells us that it is “easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven,” He never says that a Christian cannot live a comfortable life and enjoy the fruits of their labors. All Christ asks us to do is to put everything into proper perspective. May we all be able to make this claim.

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
21	JJ Coury & family	JJ Coury & family
28	31st Annual Middle Eastern	Cultural Festival
Oct 5	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem	Sam & Margo Sahouri-Ghanem
12		
19		
26	Ayoub family	Ayoub family
Nov 2		
9		

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.