

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
17 Sept	Joyce Kogok— IMO her husband Richard & their son Richard	Parish Council hosting the Fellowship Hour for Fr. George
24 Sept	Abraham & Susan Fannoney	BAZAAR
01 Oct	Rana Callas	The Alvarez and Badwey Families
08 Oct	Jerry Audi & Family	Jerry Audi & Family
15 Oct	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
 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.

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

tone 6 / EOTHINON 4

SUNDAY AFTER THE ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

MARTYRS SOPHIA AND HER DAUGHTERS FAITH, LOVE AND HOPE; MARTYR AGATHOKLEIA; HIEROMARTYRS HERACLEIDES AND MYRON, BISHOPS OF TAMASUS IN CYPRUS; VENERABLE ANASTASIOS PERISTERON OF CYPRUS; EUXIPHIOS OF CYPRUS, THE BISHOP

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

The Lord reigneth, let the people rage; He sitteth upon the cherubim, let the earth be moved. The Lord is great in Zion; and He is high above all the people. Let them give thanks to Thy great Name, for it is holy. *During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Holy Cross.*

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY SUNDAYS

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Now sing these apolytikia in the following order.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 6)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF THE ELEVATION 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.

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 ELEVATION 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.

In Honor of Fr. George Rados

Today the Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Council is hosting a Fellowship Hour in honor and appreciation of our Pastor Emeritus The V. Rev. Fr. George. Also on that day, a special plaque will be dedicated in the Narthex (entrance hall) of the Church in honor and gratitude of Fr. George's service and dedication to our Parish. Please plan on attending this event and coming to the fellowship Hour in the Church Hall.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

"And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance."(Acts 2:3-4)

One of the unique qualities of the modern era is that the average person in many parts of the world encounters a degree of diversity — cultural, philosophical, and religious — unprecedented in human history. Even a hundred years ago, a given people usually remained in a specific place. When you journeyed there, you expected to encounter the culture, religion, and language of the people of that region. Travel was difficult and visitors few. This contrasts sharply with our own experience, when travel is easy, communication instantaneous. Most major cities number as citizens people from all over the world. Although encountering people with worldviews different than our own can be enriching, it can also cause tension and conflict. We see this on the world stage just as we see this in our own neighborhoods. How can we be one human people while still preserving what is unique about each of us? This question has been the Church's concern from the beginning, but it takes on a new urgency in our own time.

The Church has used two biblical events to illustrate this tension, even as She has tried to understand how to overcome it. The first is the story of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9), and the second is the account of the Holy Spirit's descending on the Apostles on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13).

In Genesis we read that in the beginning everyone spoke one language. This enabled people to begin to build a tower "with its top in the heavens." They said that they wanted to "make a name" for themselves. The problem was not that they were cooperating, it was how they were cooperating. Their cooperation led them to believe arrogantly that they could challenge God. Seeing how their arrogance was bringing them to evil purpose, God "confused their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." Unable to communicate with each other, they scattered throughout the world abandoning their tower.

The Holy Spirit's action at Pentecost is the antithesis of Babel. After the Lord's Ascension, the Disciples remained in Jerusalem waiting for the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus had directed them. On the day of Pentecost they were gathered together in the upper room. There came the "rush of a mighty wind" and "tongues of fire, distributed and rested on each of them." "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages." Because it was a great feast, people from all over the world had gathered in Jerusalem. Hearing the sound of the wind, a great number came to find out what was happening. When the Disciples began speaking to them, "each one heard them in his own language."

The Tower of Babel divided humanity. The Holy Spirit restored that unity on the day of Pentecost. However, the unity which we have in the Holy Spirit is different than the pre-Babel unity in one very important respect. The unity of Babel was predicated on a uniformity of language, and one can presume, culture. The unity which the Holy Spirit brings preserves our particular and distinctive characteristics. It is a unity in diversity and a diversity in unity. The Orthodox Church has always used this Pentecost event as a way to understand how diverse people can be one in Christ. Historically, unity of faith has not necessitated one language or even one uniform practice for the entire Church. Sharing one faith, we can be one Church, even as we acknowledge our ethnic and cultural diversity. The question is, what are the "limits to diversity"? When does difference in practice become difference in faith?

The first experience that the Church had with this tension was at the Apostolic Council held in Jerusalem in A.D. 49 (Acts 15:1-29). The Apostles had to decide whether or not the non-Jewish converts to Christianity had to adhere to the Jewish Law. These new converts challenged the Jewish Apostles to think about what was central to the Christian faith. After much prayer, deliberation and struggle, the Apostles decided that faith in Christ did not require these Gentiles to become Jews. It was a decisive moment for the Church. The Apostles made a distinction between faith and practical expressions of the faith. They also recognized that as Christianity moved away from its Semitic milieu, it was going to confront a different worldview.

**From a Pastoral Letter for the Third Millennium
Part 1 of 6**

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DEACON

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PRIEST EMERITUS

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Salim Habayeb
Bassem Haddad
Samer Kokor
Tony Moussa
George Zaki

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Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
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ALTAR

Manager
Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS

Captains -
Rashid Haddad
Thomas Zook

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2017-2018

We had a great 1st day of Church school last week with 73 children! Registration is ongoing using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/GQ6uQSnltimwgvJW2>. Also, please make sure to register with the church, including your email as most Church school announcements go out to the entire parish. School calendars are now available. Two dates of note: no class today for the Elevation of the Cross and for the luncheon in honor of our beloved Fr. George; Sunday the 24th we will have class for Preschool-5th grade, middle and high school students will be helping at the bazaar. We are also in need of snacks/drinks for the children--small and reg. juice boxes, juice pouches, sm. waters, individually wrapped snacks (PEANUT & TREE NUT FREE).

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN 2017-2018

All women are invited to the new year's Antiochian Women's Club kick off meeting on Sunday, October 1 in the downstairs hall after church. There are many exciting events planned for Saint's Peter and Paul community. Please contact Carol Laham or Donna Gavin at crazvgavins@verizon.net with any questions.

THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN "ANGEL FUND"

The Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Orthodox Church "Angel Fund", an outreach of the Antiochian Women, provides support to parishioners in need. Our Pastor designates recipients who would benefit from the Angel Fund, which provides grocery gift cards to parishioners in need to help them with some of their food needs. Financial contributions to this fund are welcomed, and checks should be made out to: Ss. Peter & Paul Antiochian Women and earmarked "Angel Fund." For more information contact Fr. Isaac at: frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org.

"EXPLORING OUR FAITH" THE SS. PETER AND PAUL ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORUM

"Exploring Our Faith" will meet every other Thursday evening from 7:15pm to 8:30pm in the lower level conference room. **The next meeting is Thursday, September 28, 2017.** Fr. Isaac facilitates the meetings using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a wide range of topics concerning our Faith. Please contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org or Kate Niewenhaus at handmaidens20854@gmail.com for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME..

SS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH LEARNING & MEDIA CENTER

Donations are welcomed in support of the establishment of the new Church Learning and Media Center. Please send all donations to Ss. Peter and Paul Church earmarked "Library Fund". In addition, donation of books on topics related to the Orthodox Faith, Doctrine, Church History, Liturgy, and Scripture will be gratefully accepted. Please contact Fr. Isaac, Dn. Christian, or Kate Niewenhaus for more information.

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 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 at (georgezaki@gmail.com or ajmzaki@gmail.com), Alex Cox at (alexcoxsees@gmail.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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sep 17 *Procession of the Cross
*Joyce Kogok In Memory of her husband Richard & their son Richard/Memorial Wheat & Bread
*Fellowship in honor of Fr. George Rados
*Teen SOYO/12:30p/LL Conf. Room
Sep 22-24 *Ss. Peter & Paul Church Bazaar
Sep 28 *Exploring our Faith/7:15p/LL Conf. Rm.
Sep 30 *Summer Tomlin/Baptism/11:00a
*Rafeedie/Erzo Wedding/4p
Oct 01 *Ladies Auxillary Meeting/LL Hall/noon-3p
*Andrew Hinton Hartman Baptism/1:30
Oct 10 *Parish Council Mtg/7p
Oct 14 *Bahou/Alhabib Wedding/3p
Oct 21 *Nicholas/Mufarrrij Wedding/2p
Oct 28 *Sebastian Constantine Baptism/10a
Nov 4 *Nessim/Garadah Wedding/2p

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

*O Lord, how manifold are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.*

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday after the Elevation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

Christian spirituality proposes an alternative understanding of the quality of life, and encourages a prophetic and contemplative lifestyle, one capable of deep enjoyment free of the obsession with consumption. We need to take up an ancient lesson, found in different religious traditions and also in the Bible. It is the conviction that "less is more." A constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment. To be serenely present to each reality, however small it may be, opens us to much greater horizons of understanding and personal fulfillment. Christian spirituality proposes a growth marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little. It is a return to that simplicity which allows us to stop and appreciate the small things, to be grateful for the opportunities which life affords us, to be spiritually detached from what we possess, and not to succumb to sadness for what we lack. This implies avoiding the dynamic of dominion and the mere accumulation of pleasures.

-H.H. Patriarch Bartholomew

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Christy Mackoul
Michelle Zook
Dina Saah
Dara Potter
Claudia Rabie
Christine Morin
Jennifer Montgomery
Caroline Jarboe
Stephen Zolnerowich
Anees Mokhiber
AJ Wood
Philip Allen

MENS CLUB

Sam Khalil

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Carol Laham

TEEN SOYO

Advisor

Jamilee Bellone

Officers

Danielle Bellone
Kinda Callas
Maya Saah
Joud Al-Kallas
Juliana Natour

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Jad Ibrahim, Jr.

ADORNMENT

Shams Akkawi
Jamil Hermes

FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Sam Berberian
Nick Nahas
Bob Simon

RENTAL COORDINATOR

Barbara Abraham

CHARITIES

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

FINANCE

Salim Habayeb

STEWARDSHIP

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

Archpriest George Rados	Brian Briggs	Mary Smith
Margaret Ashley	Isabel Threddeh	George Brown
Helen White	Thelma Badwey	Everett Alvarez
Holly Dubois	Grace Malouf	Barbara Abraham
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Lulu Brown	Tania Mufarrrij
George & Joan Abraham	Mary Bazargan	
Suad Shammass		

LIVING

Leena Haddad	Yasmin Courtright
Mariam Yazge	Leila Khoury
Deborah Brown	Bob Petrossian
Richard Ayoub	Louise Magelli
Julia Fayad	Derek Gilliam
Andrew Gavin	Sharen Zacharia
Judy Zuccarello	George Tannous
Lorna Malooley and family:	Alexandra
Matthew & family	Kristian and family
Joseph & family	Cristine Haddad & family
Alice Doherty	Beverly Santora
Joyce Abdow Dowd	John Dowd
Sandra & Daniel Martelli	Pamela & Henry Braverman
Andrew Martelli & family	Lauren David
Joyce Kogok & Family	Sheryl & Joe Gangi
Robert & Marge Kogok	Ramona Dora & Family
William Dora, Jr.	Linda, George & Family

DEPARTED

Vr. Rev. Archpriest Fr. Louis Mahshie
 V. Rev. Joseph Sakkab
 Kh. Mary Sue Walker
 Sammy Audi
 Elaine Buchko
 Saleem Audi
 Jamil Boullata
 Claire Broadbridge
 Ann Kalill
 Yvonne Hyder
 Nicholas White
 Sergei Malooley
 John and Nymry Abdow
 Kater and Mary Malooley
 Michael Santora
 Walter Haddad
 Alice Abdow
 Lillian Abdow David
 Lillian & Walter Koch
 Evelyn & Jack Kogok

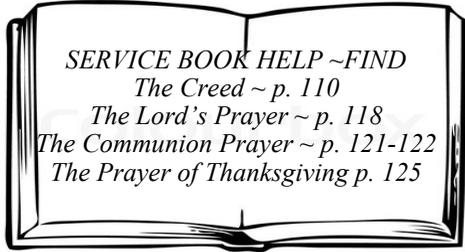
Orthodox Christians
 Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, 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.



HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:
 Joyce Kogok -In Memory of her husband Richard & their son Richard

HOLY WHEAT OFFERED BY:
 Joyce Kogok -In Memory of her husband Richard & their son Richard

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
 Parish Council hosting in Honor of Fr. George Rados

Ss. Peter & Paul Teen SOYO 2017-2018
 Ss Peter & Paul Teen SOYO will hold its first meeting on Sunday, September 17th at 12:00 noon in the Lower Level Conference Hall. All teens (ages 13-19) are invited to participate. May God Bless them at the start of their new year. For information contact Zaid Sharafudin (zaid343@yahoo.com) or Anees Mokhiber (aneesmokhiber@gmail.com)