

| | Bread of Holy Oblation | Fellowship Hour |
|---------------|------------------------|--|
| 08 Oct | Jerry Audi & Family | Jerry Audi & Family |
| 15 Oct | OPEN | OPEN |
| 22 Oct | Lorna Malooley | Parish Council for the visit of H.B. Patriarch JOHN X of Antioch |
| 29 Oct | | |
| 05 Nov | | |

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

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017

TONE 1 / EOTHINON 7

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& THIRD SUNDAY OF LUKE**

RIGHTEOUS MOTHER PELAGIA THE PENITENT OF ANTIOCH

MARYTR PELAGIA THE VIRGIN OF ANTIOCH; VENERABLE THAÏS OF EGYPT;
NEW-MARTYR IGNATIUS OF PRODROMOU SKETE ON ATHOS; VENERABLE PHI-
LOTHEOS, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE;
MARTYR IGNATIUS THE MONK OF BULGARIA

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. PELAGIA THE RIGHTEOUS (Tone 8)

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Pelagia; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

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 FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS (Tone 2)

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Depart from every man who loves to quarrel.
St. Pimen the Great

PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

When we look at the society in which we live, we see that even though its roots traditionally may be Christian, nonetheless, there has been a steady distancing from these roots. We certainly observe this to be the case here in North America, and it is also more and more true in traditionally Orthodox countries. We see a growing number of people who are actively searching for ‘meaning’ in their lives, however they might understand that word. There has been a rise in attention given to various religions and philosophies presenting themselves as alternatives to Christianity. What is very significant is the large number of people who have grown up outside of any Church, with only the most superficial, and often confused, understanding of the Gospel. In short, our own society has become a primary “missionary territory.”

Unlike other times and places, when the Gospel was preached, most people in our society believe that they *already know* what Christianity has to say. For better or for worse, the Church’s history, but more significantly the history of those people who have claimed to act in the name of Christ, has negatively shaped peoples’ views of the Christian faith. Our challenge is to frame the proclamation of the Good News so that it speaks in a new and fresh way, breaking through these prejudices.

At the same time, we should not forget that many of the foundational principles of modern society are the direct result of the Christian Gospel. Would we speak of human rights had not our Lord taught us the value of every human life? Would we speak of freedom had not our Lord liberated us from the fear of death? Would we speak of equality if our Lord had not lowered the heavens to become one with us? These principles were embedded in custom and law by people who were living out the Christian Gospel. Although the rationales currently offered for these principles have moved away from their original theological premises, they nonetheless have their basis in the faith experience of those whose lives were changed by the coming of God into the world.

Coming out of a Christian worldview, our society has attempted to balance the rights of the individual with a communitarian impulse. What is lost as these principles are separated from their original Christian foundation is the balanced emphasis on the importance of community and responsibility for the other, especially the weakest among us. There is an ancient Christian saying: *unus Christianus, nullus Christianus* — a single Christian is no Christian. What this means is that there can be no individual or isolated Christian. We are Christians in community, in relationship to one another. We would also claim that this is critical for society as a whole.

The increased erosion of community in the name of individual rights can be attributed to the inability to appreciate that personal identity can be maintained and supported within society. The reemergence of unapologetic racism and ethnocentrism have a similar root. Here the individual totally identifies with the group and sees the ‘other’ as a threat. Can our understanding of the Holy Trinity — as a community of three distinct persons who exist in total love while sharing everything in common — be helpful?

As we observed above, people have gone searching to fulfill their need for meaning. Yet, this search often involves popular and personal “spiritualities” that lack a coherent theology. “New Age” religions that mix and match according to personal taste give the illusion of spiritual fulfillment, but lack the qualities of true worship. The substitution of purely humanistic social and political movements for a true relationship with God is another example. These tend to be distractions at best, and idolatry at worst. We have watched as some have ended tragically.

**From a Pastoral Letter for the Third Millennium
Part 4 of 6**

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ALTAR

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Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS

Captains -

Rashid Haddad

Thomas Zook

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2017-2018

Church School has had a great start with 73 children! Registration is ongoing using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/GQ6uQSnltimwgwJW2> 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. We are also in need of snacks/drinks for the children--small and reg. juice boxes, juice pouches, small waters, individually wrapped snacks (PEANUT & TREE NUT FREE).

Teen SOYO

October is Youth Month

Oct. 15 is Teen SOYO Special Olympics Awareness Day. Please be generous in your financial donations and support this premier outreach program which will enable Teen SOYO to sponsor the 37th Annual Special Olympics Sports camp next August, 2018. For more information flyers are located in the Narthex. For questions please contact: Kinda Callas at kindacallas@gmail.com for more information. Lay Advisors: Zaid Sharafudin/zaid343@yahoo.com and Anees Mokhiber / aneesmokhiber@gmail.com

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.

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 Niewenhous for more information.

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

"Exploring Our Faith" will meet every other Thursday evening from **7:00pm to 8:30pm** in the lower level conference room. **The next meeting is Thursday, October 12 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 Niewenhous at handmaidens20854@gmail.com for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME. (please note new start time)

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 (alexcoxsells@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

| | |
|--------|--|
| Oct 08 | *Jaydin Saa Baptism/2:00p |
| Oct 09 | *Office Closed/Columbus Day |
| Oct 10 | *Parish Council Mtg/7p |
| Oct 12 | *Adult Education Forum "Exploring Our Faith"/7p-8:30p (please note new start time)/LL Conf. Rm. |
| Oct 14 | *Bahou/Alhabib Wedding/3p |
| Oct 15 | *Annual General Assembly following Liturgy. Fellowship will follow in Kogok Hall |
| Oct 21 | *Nicholas/Mufarrij Wedding/2p *Great Vespers/5:30p/H.B. Patriarch JOHN X in attendance. Concert to follow |
| Oct 22 | *Patriarchal Divine Liturgy followed by a ...Parish luncheon |
| Nov 02 | Adult Education Forum "Exploring Our Faith"/7p-8:30p (please note new start time) |
| Nov 04 | *Nessim/Garadah Wedding/2p |
| Nov 05 | *Leo Robles/Baptism/1:30p |
| Nov 10 | *office closed/Veterans' Day |
| Nov 12 | *Aad/Norman Wedding 4p |
| Nov 14 | *Parish Council Meeting/7p/LL Conf. Rm. |

THE EPISTLE

(For the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.
The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:6-11)*

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Third Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (7:11-16)

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and many of His disciples and a great crowd went with Him. As He drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And He came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited His people!"

VISIT OF H.B. PATRIARCH JOHN X OF ANTIOCH

On Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 22, 2017, Ss. Peter and Paul Church will receive the great blessing of the visit of our Patriarch John X along with Metropolitan JOSEPH and their delegation to our Parish and to Washington D.C.

The program for the weekend includes:

Great Vespers at 5:30p on Saturday, October 21 followed by a concert of Byzantine chant in the Church with a presentation and reception in the Church hall to benefit the Syrian Relief Fund of the patriarchal Department of Ecumenical Relations and Development (DERD).

- Sunday, October 22, 2017 9:30a – 2:30p. Patriarchal Divine Liturgy at Ss. Peter and Paul Church followed by a Parish Luncheon to which all are invited.

The Beatitude will be in Washington D.C. for the week of October 23 – 27 and will attend a conference on The Future of Christians in the Middle East sponsored by the Catholic organization "In Defense of Christians".

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov

Chrissy 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

Lay Advisors

Zaid Sharafudin
Anees Mokhiber

Officers

Kinda Callas
Julia Allen
Joud Al-Kallas
Josian Azar
Tia Saah

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Wayne Parr

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

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.

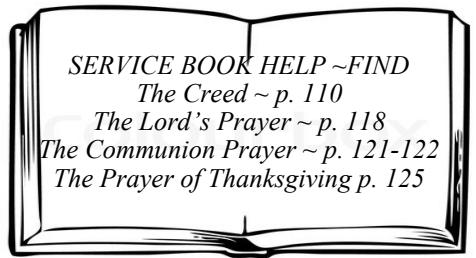
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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.



HOLYBREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

Jerry Audi & Family

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

Jerry Audi & 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

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Archpriest George Rados

Margaret Ashley
Helen White
Everett Alvarez
Edmond & Sophie Neam
George & Joan Abraham
Suad Shamas

Brian Briggs
Isabel Thredeh
Holly Dubois
Grace Malouf
Lulu Brown
Mary Bazargan

Mary Smith
George Brown
Robert & Thelma Badwey
Barbara Abraham
Tania Mufarrjj

LIVING

Leena Haddad
Mariam Yazge
Deborah Brown
Richard Ayoub
Julia Fayad
George Tannous
Michael Buchko, Sr.
Denise Bolus
Michael & Kristin Bolus & Family
Odette El-Hage & Family
Jerry Audi & Family

Andrew Gavin
Leila Khoury
Bob Petrossian
Louise Magelli
Derek Gilliam
James Nimey, Jr.
Mark Buchko
John & Andrea Bolus & Family
Nadia & Michael El-Hage & Family
Maha & Victor Abdunnur
Wesley, Johanna & Jayden Saa

Memorial Services

6-Day Memorial Service for His Grace Bishop ANTOUN (Khoury)

40-Day Memorial Service for Sami Audi & Salem Audi

THE PARISH GIFT SHOP

The Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Gift Shop (formerly the Parish Bookstore) is now open in its new location on the right side of the Narthex (entrance hall) opposite the elevator. The Gift Shop is newly stocked with books, bibles, Icons, CDs and all kinds of hand-made religious items with many items for children. The Gift Shop will open every Sunday following Liturgy. For information contact Alma Jean Zaki at (703) 283-9338 or ajmzaki@gmail.com

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

His Grace Bishop ANTOUN (Khoury)
Sammy Audi
Elaine Buchko
Salem Audi
Salloum Amine Matar
Khalil Kallasj
Issa Akel
Jeanie Labudie
Afaf Zabaneh
John & Catherine Bolus
Julian John El-Hage
Nicholas Hamaty
Shawki El-Hage
Eid & Amahl Smilie