

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
15 Oct	Bolus & El-Hage Families	Ss. Peter & Paul Church
22 Oct	Lorna Malooley Frank & Barbara Ellis	Parish Council for the visit of H.B. Patriarch JOHN X of Antioch
29 Oct		
05 Nov	Bashar & Rana Callas	Teen SOYO/Zaatar Sale
Nov 12	Alganesh & Michael Piechocinski	

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
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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, OCTOBER 15, 2017

tone 2 / EOTHINON 8

**SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL
& FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

HIEROMARTYR LUCIAN OF ANTIOCH;

VENERABLE EUTHYMOS THE YOUNGER OF ATHOS;

SAVVINOS, BISHOP OF CATANIA

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.

APOLYTIKION OF THE HOLY FATHERS (Tone 8)

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

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.

Wisdom, holy dignity, a desire for justice, valor, the thought of a good heart, love that is strong, love of the poor, faith in Christ, freedom from anger, hospitality. If we possess these things, we will find them going before us, preparing a dwelling for us in the land of the gentle.

St. Anthony the Great

PREACHING THE GOSPEL IN A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

But perhaps the most distressing sign we detect today is the degree of cynicism on the part of some young people and the adults influencing them. There are those actively seeking to take away or distort the idealism, so characteristic of youth. We see this as a symptom of the hopelessness that affects some young people, be they poor or affluent. Perhaps this helps explain the acts of indiscriminate and merciless violence that we have witnessed in our nation and around the globe. In some places the suicide rate, especially among teenagers, is higher than the overall murder rate. As Christians we have a responsibility to give an account to others for the hope that is in us (cf. 1 Peter 3:14). But even more, we have a responsibility to show them that our hope is more than words, that our love is more than sentiment. People can live without a great many things. They cannot live without hope. It is our obligation to bring the truth and therefore hope to our young people. It is likewise our responsibility to shed light on the many wonderful works and ministry done by our young people across the North American continent, so as to give hope to others and bear witness to the love that our young people have for God. There is a profound message in this.

The recent almost unprecedented economic growth in North America, coupled with the collapse of totalitarian communism in other parts of the world, has given us the sense that our economic system is the best and perhaps the only way of organizing a society. We will not, at this time, enter into a detailed commentary on the Christian principles one might use to organize an economy. Rather, we will limit ourselves to a few general observations.

The disparity of wealth distribution between the richest members of our society and the poorest is growing at an alarming rate. There is always an “underclass.” Now there is a permanent underclass that is definitely unaffected by the rising economic tide. This is not only unjust but creates a sense of hopelessness. This is very troubling, especially in our society that claims to be predicated on a notion of classlessness, or the possibility of persons to change their economic status through gainful employment. The Church can and must help ameliorate the condition of the most vulnerable. But the problem is structural, and needs to be addressed structurally.

As bishops who have ties to many churches that suffered terribly under communism we believe that we have an understanding of that system that few other Americans share. The common belief that communism was predicated on atheistic materialism is true. However, we acknowledge that our capitalist system is no less predicated on purely materialist principles, which also do not engender faith in God. There is no place in the calculus of our economics to account for the “intangibles” of human existence. Reflect on how the simple accounting phrase “the bottom line” has shaped our whole culture. We use it to force the summarization of an analysis devoid of any externals or irrelevancies to the “heart of the matter.” This usually means the monetary outcome.

We spoke above about the origins of the word “economy,” and how it was used by the Fathers of the Church to describe God’s plan for our salvation. Contrast this meaning of economy to the narrow sense in which we use it today. In spite of the growing need many people feel for meaning in their existence, we seem to be trapped in a substantially materialist understanding of life. This understanding sets God in a compartment far away from the concerns of the “real” world. In spite of the religious rhetoric which falls so easily from the mouths of some, many of those who have great wealth fail to share their wealth with others, while many of the poor are consumed with get-rich schemes that promise to solve their problems. Can our Christian understanding of “economy” help our society see life as more than “bread”? (cf. Matthew 4:4)

As Orthodox Christians we must have a view of mission that focuses both on the salvation of persons and on the transformation of the cultural context. There is nothing more precious than one soul. Certainly, the surrounding environment can provide support and encouragement in the Christian life. Orthodox mission has traditionally been oriented to-ward both. As we preach the Good News to those around us, we must be thinking about this question of the cultural context of Orthodox mission in North America. It must become a subject of study and reflection, not only in our seminaries, but also in our parishes and homes. We are not suggesting that there is such a thing as a “Christian culture.” There is not. However, the risk of not engaging and transforming the culture in which we live is that the Orthodox Church will become just another sect.

**From a Pastoral Letter for the Third Millennium
Part 5 of 6**

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COUNCIL

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ALTAR

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Peter Aburdeineh

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Captains -

Rashid Haddad

Thomas Zook

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2017-2018

Registration for Church School is ongoing using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/GQ6uQSnltimwJW2>. 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). **Please note that due to the Hierarchical Liturgy on Sunday, October 22 we will not have Church School. We encourage families to attend with their children.**

Teen SOYO

October is Youth Month

Today, 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 or questions flyers are located in the Narthex or contact Kinda Callas at kindacallas@gmail.com**

Lay Advisors: Zaid Sharafudin/zaid343@yahoo.com and Anees Mokhiber / aneesmokhiber@gmail.com

HURRICANE AND FLOOD RELIEF APPEAL

Thanks and gratitude are offered to all those who responded so generously to the September Hurricane and Flood Relief Appeal for our parishes in Texas and Florida. \$7,407.00 was raised by our Parish to help assist and console our brethren in need.

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, November 2, 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 (alexcoxells@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 15 *Teen SOYO Special Olympics Awareness Day. See above for more info.
- *Annual General Assembly following Liturgy. Fellowship will follow in Kogok Hall
- Oct 21 *Nicholas/Mufarrij Wedding/2p
- 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 *Awad/Norman Wedding 4p
- Nov 14 *Parish Council Meeting/7p/LL Conf. Rm.
- Nov 18 *Talia Tawil/Baptism/12p
- Nov 23 *Offices closed/Thanksgiving

THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Fathers)

Blessed are Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to St. Titus. (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissension, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Fourth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when His Disciples asked Him what this parable meant, Jesus said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As Jesus said this, He called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

VISIT OF H.B. PATRIARCH JOHN X OF ANTIOCH

On 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.

- Sunday, October 22
9:30am—Matins, 10:30am—Patriarchal Divine Liturgy
12:30pm— Luncheon in honor of H.B. Patriarch JOHN X in the Church Hall.
ALL ARE WELCOME

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

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	Holly Dubois	Robert & Thelma Badwey
Everett Alvarez	Grace Malouf	Barbara Abraham
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Lulu Brown	Tania Mufarrrij
George & Joan Abraham	Mary Bazargan	
Suad Shammass		

LIVING

Leena Haddad	Andrew Gavin
Leila Khoury	Bob Petrossian
Louise Magelli	Julia Fayad
Derek Gilliam	George Tannous
James Nimey, Jr.	William & Christina Alhabib
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Mark Buchko
Denise Bolus	John & Andrea Bolus & Family
Michael & Kristin Bolus & Family	Nadia & Michael El-Hage & Family
Odette El-Hage & Family	Maha & Victor Abdunnur
Chris Malaska	

DEPARTED

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

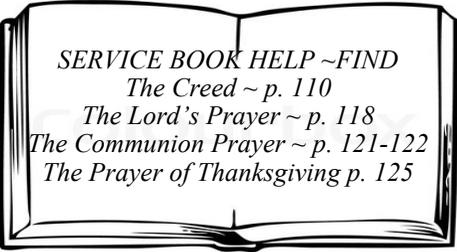
Orthodox Christians
 Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin, 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:
 Bolus & El-Hage Families
 FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
 Ss. Peter & Paul Church

THE PARISH GIFT SHOP
 The Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Gift Shop (formally 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