

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
19 Nov	George Family/5-year Memorial for Suham George	George Family/5-year Memorial for Suham George
26 Nov	Jarboe Family	Jarboe Family
03 Dec	Fr. George 40-Day Memorial Lorna Malooley, Alganesh Piechocinski, Chris Malaska, Asma Trey. Memorial Wheat provided by the Choir	Ss. Peter and Paul Parish Fr. George 40-Day Memorial
10 Dec	Open	Open
17 Dec	Open	St. Ignatius Christmas Luncheon

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

PRIEST

Very Reverend
Fr. Isaac Crow
frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org
(401) 300-8238 cell
(240) 489-3494 home

DEACON

Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChris-
tian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL

Chairperson
Suzanne Hermes
Vice Chairman
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Treasurer
Richard Mahan
Secretary
Abe Fannoney
Members
Roy Abdo
John Abraham
Philip Allen
Alex Cox
Paul Debs
Lina Eid
Salim Habayeb
Bassem Haddad
Samer Kokor
Tony Moussa
George Zaki

CHURCH SECRETARY

office@peterpaulpotomac.org

CHOIR DIRECTOR

John Slanta
choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

CHANTERS

Wayne Parr
Zeina Manasseh
George Tannous

USHERS

Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
Sam Khalil

ALTAR

Manager
Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS

Captains -
Andrew Erickson
Rashid Haddad
Thomas Zook

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2017

TONE 7 / EOTHINON 2

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & NINTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

THE HOLY PROPHET OBADIAH; MARTYR BARLAAM OF ANTIOCH; MARTYR AZI
THE WONDERWORKER OF ISAURIA IN ASIA MINOR AND 150 SOLDIERS WITH
HIM; MARTYR AGAPIOS OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE; MARTYR HELIODOROS
OF MAGIDUM IN PAMPHYLIA; VENERABLE ABBOT BARLAAM OF THE KIEV
CAVES

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 7)

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

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 ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS (Tone 4)

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

The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, * the greatly precious bridal chamber and Virgin, * the Savior's most pure temple, free of stain and undefiled, * into the House of the Lord * on this day is brought forward * and bringeth with herself the grace * of the Most Divine Spirit; * her do God's Angels hymn with songs of praise, * for she is truly the heavenly tabernacle.

Desire and effort must come from you. God will provide the power and the result.

St. Paisios the Athonite

Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos

The Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos will be celebrated tomorrow evening on Monday, November 20, 2017, at 7:00pm with an evening Divine Liturgy.

“Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou has appeared in the Temple of God openly and hast gone before preaching Christ to all. Let us shout with one thrilling voice saying: Rejoice, O Thou who art the fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.”

WHY GO TO CHURCH?

THE CENTER OF WORSHIP: THE EUCHARIST

Because worship of God is communion, a direct connection and union of the human person with the divine Persons, the content of worship is not only words or outward actions. It is not enough merely to tell God that He is great, powerful, magnificent, and so forth. It is not enough merely to teach about God—which isn't even veneration, much less worship. It is also not enough to feel good feelings toward God. All that can be done from home or out in the woods.

Some people describe themselves as “spiritual but not religious.” They say they commune with God out in a beautiful forest far better than they can in church. They may even call what they're doing *worship*, a word that now gets used for nearly any kind of religious activity. But *how* is this person supposedly worshipping God? Is that really worship?

Ancient pagans knew exactly how they worshiped their gods. They put animals on altars, killed them, and then burned them. The Jews did the same thing. Throughout the history of the world, worship in nearly every religion has involved sacrifice, surrounded with incense, religious imagery, and so forth. That worship must be *physical* is one of the most basic intuitions of mankind, even outside of the divine revelation begun with the Jews and then completed in the Church. Both within and outside that revelation, ancient worship was earthy and bloody. In the history of human worship, there is a focus on materiality, and most especially on blood.

There's just something about blood. The ancient world had a fascination with blood. Followers of the Mithraist pagan mystery cult in the Roman Empire would ritually bathe themselves in the blood of bulls, believing that doing so would grant them immortality.

Worship of the *true* God has always been about blood, too, even since the days of Cain and Abel, the sons of Adam and Eve. When Noah and his family were saved in the ark, he offered a blood sacrifice to God. When God saved Isaac, his father Abraham offered a blood sacrifice to God. When Moses led the Hebrews out of Egypt, God instituted for Aaron and his descendants in the priesthood a complex system of blood sacrifices as the worship of Israel. The priests of the Old Covenant offered up bulls, goats, and sheep on the altar, first in the mobile Tabernacle and then later in the permanent Temple, much of which is described in detail in the Old Testament Book of Leviticus. Worship has always involved blood.

In the extended meditation on the priesthood that is the Epistle to the Hebrews, it thus makes complete sense for the apostle Paul, in writing to Jewish people, to make use of the image of blood when talking about the priest-hood of Christ (Heb. 9:11-14). The underlying message of the whole epistle is that the priesthood of the Old Covenant has now been fulfilled by the priesthood of Christ. And in the ninth chapter of Hebrews, Christ's priesthood is talked about specifically in terms of blood. Indeed, blood is mentioned twenty-two different times in this epistle, out of hundreds of references to it throughout the Bible.

What is all this about blood? Why do we see this theme repeated not only in the Jewish and then Christian Scriptures, but in nearly every culture and religion in human history, both for believers and unbelievers? Why do our minds always get back to blood?

*Fr. Andrew S. Damick
(Part 4 of 5)*

Teen SOYO would like to thank everyone who donated supplies, participated, and purchased for the Zataar Sale this past Sunday! It was a great success as we raised funds to support many of our service and community projects!

Last weekend we had 15 Teens participating at the Y.E.S. (Youth Equipped to Serve) trip in Washington D.C. with other teens from all over the country! We appreciate all the love, prayers, and support!

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/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. 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).

- Dec 3** *Saint Nicholas Workshop
Dec 17 *Church School Christmas Play
Mar 18 *2018 Pascha Prep Workshop

CHURCH SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PLAY

The Church School Christmas Play and St. Ignatius luncheon will be held after Church on Sunday, December 17. Once again, Carol Pappas will provide her beautiful costumes for our children. You can get a form for reserving a costume for your child from your child's teacher. Forms plus \$5.00 are due by November 26. We will be fitting the children with their costumes on December 3. Please contact Linda Shaheen at llshaheen47@gmail.com with any questions.

TEEN SOYO

Events and outreach projects:
Dec 2 *Retreat w/St. George Teen SOYO (more details to follow)
 The Lay Advisors are:
 Zaid Sharafudin/zaid343@yahoo.com and
 Anees Mokhiber / aneesmokhiber@gmail.com

THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Starting Today, the Antiochian Woman will be collecting funds and will be available in the Hall to accept your donations for the following Activities:

Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas

Dec 02 *Aniochian Women are, making Christmas Wreaths Saturday, **Dec. 2, 2017/9:00a**. Decorations, ribbons, ornaments, floral tape, glue guns & sticks are needed. Please come join in the spirit of the Birth of Our Lord. Please contact Donna Gavin at crazygavins@verizon.net with any questions.

Dec 03 **Putting Together.....**
 *Gift Bags for our Shut-Ins over the holidays
 *Back Packs full of toiletries and sundries for those in need at Bethesda Cares

Dec 09 *Antiochian Women's Christmas luncheon/ 11:30am at Wildfire, Tysons Corner.

MEN'S CLUB

Dec. 02 Decorate Church for Christmas/9:00a. Volunteers welcome. Please see Abe Fannoney for more information.
Jan 06, 2018 Take down Christmas decorations/9:00a

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

"Exploring Our Faith" meets every other Thursday evening **7:00p to 8:30p** in the lower level conference room. The next meeting is **Thursday, November 30, 2017**. Fr. Isaac facilitates the meetings using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a variety of topics concerning our faith. ALL ARE WELCOME. Please contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org or Kate Niewenhou at hand-maidens20854@gmail.com.

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

- Nov 19 *Suham George/5 yr Memorial offered by The George Family
 Nov 20 *Nareg & Nairy Akopian/Baptism 1:30p
 *Divine Liturgy/Feast of the Presentation Of the Theotokos/7:00p
 Nov 23 *Offices closed/Thanksgiving
 Dec 02 *Men's Club/Decorate Church for Christmas/9a
 Volunteers welcomed. Contact Abe Fannoney
 *Antiochian Women/Christmas Wreath decorating/9:00a
 Dec 03 *V.R. Fr. George M. Rados/40-day Memorial
 *Church School St. Nicholas Workshop/LL Hall
 *Antiochian Women putting together gift Bags and back packs/Kogok Hall
 Dec 09 *Antiochian Women Christmas Luncheon 11:30am/Wildfire, Tysons Corner
 *Vespers @5:30pm
 *Boston Byzantine Choir/6:30p
 *Reception to follow recital in the Hall
 Dec 12 *Parish Council Meeting/7p/LL Conf. Rm.
 Dec 17 * Church School Christmas Play to follow the Liturgy
 *St. Ignatius Luncheon to follow

THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost)

The Lord will give strength to His people.

Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord honor and glory.
The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (2:14-22)

Brethren, Christ is our peace, Who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the Cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And He came and preached peace to you, who were far off, and peace to those who were near; for through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in Whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in Whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Ninth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (12:16-21)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." As He said this, Jesus called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Charity of the Month

Today the monthly charity will be in support of the Antiochian Women Christmas outreach. Your support is needed to help those in need for the gift bags and backpacks that will be distributed this holiday season.

Antiochian Women

It's time to sign up for our annual Christmas party!

When: December 9, 2017 from 11:30 until 2pm.

Where: Wildfire at Tyson's Galleria

Cost: \$45.00 pp. Cash Bar

Bring a wrapped gift in the \$12 to \$15 range for our grab
ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED TO 50 PERSONS and secured by
 payment. Collecting the fee on Sundays until December 3.
CAMARADERIE, FUN, AND GOOD FOOD AWAIT!!

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
 Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
 Susan Kozlov
 Rose Ansara
 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

Margaret Ashley	Brian Briggs	Mary Smith
Helen White	Isabel Thredeth	George Brown
Everett Alvarez	Holly Dubois	Robert & Thelma Badwey
Edmond & Sophie Neam	Grace Malouf	Barbara Abraham
George & Joan Abraham	Lulu Brown	Tania Mufarrij
Suad Shammass	Mary Bazargan	Marie Kennedy

DEPARTED

Archpriest George Rados
Jacqui Rados
Christopher Rados
Issa Michael
Francis Cox
Suham George
Laila George

LIVING

Fr. Anthony Yazge & family	Miriam Yazge
Leena Haddad	Andrew Gavin
Leila Khoury	Bob Petrossian
Louise Magelli	Julia Fayad
Derek Gilliam	James Nimey, Jr.
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Mark Buchko
George & Hanada Rados & Family	David Rados
Mark & Dana Rados & family	Paul Rados
Sherrie Zacharia	Danielle Bellone
Amanda Ayvaz	Dorothy Marge
Alex Azar	Tallal, Andrea, & Talia Tawil & Family
Youstina Mikhaiel	Arin, Vivian Nareg, & Nairy Akopian & Family
Showke George	Sharon George
Sandra & Stefan Suib & Family	Steven, & Cathy George & Family
Scott & Martha George & Family	

Ss. Peter and Paul Christmas Card

Each year, Teen SOYO produces the parish Christmas Card on behalf of all the families. The donations raised from this effort has typically been \$2,500; these funds help the teens attend archdiocese events and meetings, provide much needed financial support to a variety of charities that the teens work with, allow teens to put special programs and activities together, as well as help the teens make meaningful contributions to the operations of Saints Peter and Paul as good stewards of our community. Without your support, these programs and activities would not be possible.

We are striving to have all parishioners included in this annual card and simply want to ensure your name is included. We are writing to ask that you inform us via email exactly how you wish your family name to appear, otherwise we will simply list the name of the family (examples for you to use: John Smith -or - John and Mary Smith, and family - or - The Smith Family - or - John, Mary, Elizabeth, Christopher and Joseph Smith). In exchange for putting your name in the cards, we are asking for a donation. The suggested donation is \$30, but any amount you are willing to give us is most welcome. Your generosity at this time of year is most appreciated, and we will provide you with a receipt for your donation. Simply email your instructions on how to print your name to: peterpaulsoyo@gmail.com.

The deadline for your submission is no later than Sunday, November 26, 2017. Thank you for your continued support of Teen SOYO.

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.

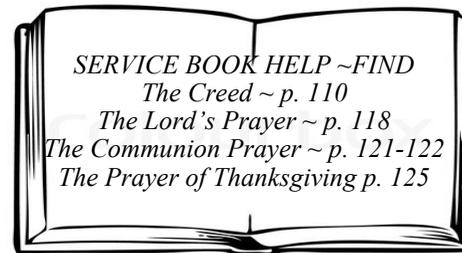
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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:

The George Family/5-Year Memorial for Suham George

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

The George Family/5-Year Memorial for Suham George