

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
25 Nov	Grace & George Malouf	Falafal/Jerry Audi & the Festival Committee & Teen SOYO
02 Dec	Neam/Abdow/Boulos Families/IMO Edmond Neam	Neam/Abdow/Boulos Families/IMO Edmond Neam
09 Dec	Open	Teen SOYO Zaatar Fundraiser
16 Dec	Lorna Malooley	Open
23 Dec	Tawil Family/IMO Maim Tawil (HB & MW)	Tawil Family/IMO Maim Tawil (HB & MW)

**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 Kogok Hall.

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.

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

Reverend
Fr. Luke Toumi
frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org
(610) 844-2583 cell
(301) 765-3400 #2 office

DEACON
Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL
Chairperson

Alex Cox
Vice Chairman

John Abraham

Treasurer

George Zaki

Secretary

Abe Fannoney

Members

Roy Abdo

Philip Allen

Jerry Audi

Nabil Emad

Michele Forzley

Salim Habayeb

Bassem Haddad

Samer Kokor

Anees Mokhiber

Wayne Parr

Mitody Tilev

CHURCH SECRETARY

office@peterpaulpotomac.org

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Kristopher Reese

choir@peterpaulpotomac.org

ASSISTANT CHOIR

DIRECTORS

Marie Hyder

Mark Buchko

CHANTERS

Amjad Khalil

Wayne Parr

Zeina Manasseh

Rezanne Toumi

George Tannous

USHERS

Jerry Audi

Michael El Araj

Abraham Fannoney

Sam Khalil

ALTAR

Manager

Peter Aburdeineh

SERVERS

Captains -

Andrew Erickson

Rashid Haddad

Thomas Zook

SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

H.E. Metropolitan JOSEPH

Archbishop Primate

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018

tone 1 / EOTHINON 4

LEAVE-TAKING (APODOSIS) OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS,

GREAT-MARTYR KATHERINE THE ALL-WISE OF ALEXANDRIA

& THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

MARTYR MERCURIOS OF CAESAREA IN CAPPADOCIA;

MARTYR MERCURIOS OF SMOLENSK

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 ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS (Tone 4)

Today the Virgin is the foreshadowing of the pleasure of God, and the beginning of the preaching of the salvation of mankind. Thou hast 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.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. KATHERINE THE GREAT-MARTYR (Tone 5)

*(**Let us worship the Word**)*

Let us praise the all-lauded and noble bride of Christ, * the godly Katherine, the guardian of Sinai and its defense, * who is also our support and succor and our help; * for with the Holy Spirit's sword * she hath silenced brilliantly the clever among the godless; * and being crowned as a Martyr, she now doth ask great mercy for us all.

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.

A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love.

St. Basil the Great

THE COSMOS AND THE MICROCOSM: ST. MAXIMUS THE CONFESSOR AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Sara Kinslow

In the Book of Genesis, we are instructed to be stewards of Creation, to have dominion over the “nonhuman” world. What a charge. Like Adam, we give names to species as they are catalogued, cultivate the land, and designate places that are separate from human development. But time and pride have turned our ideas of dominion into domination, and we find ourselves in the middle of an environmental crisis in which the future of our climate, biodiversity, and natural resources hangs in the balance. We can leave it to the scientists and politicians to argue about whether or not we have caused the problems we face today, because, regardless, we have taken Creation for granted and therein lies our fault. As Orthodox Christians, we believe that we can return to Paradise, like Adam before the Fall. But Paradise existed as a physical place, a collection of the very best of the things God created, and in order to go back, all of Creation must be restored and redeemed with us.

One of the best resources we have to try to make sense of this is the writing of St. Maximus the Confessor. Today, I would like to give a brief overview of St. Maximus' teachings on why environmental protection is not necessarily other to our own salvation and then get a bit more into how we can practically approach this in our own lives.

St. Maximus the Confessor was involved in the 6-7th century debate over the divine versus human nature of Jesus Christ, defending that Christ was both fully God and fully man. He based his reasoning on the concept of divination, or *theosis*. Man has the opportunity and potential to commune with the divine for all eternity. But this ability for men to “put on” divinity is only possible because God put on fully humanity. Theosis is a striking marvel of God's power and mercy, but it requires work of us. St. Maximus describes divisions in Creation that require reconciliation; some call for intra-personal reconciliation, while other divisions are between humans and the entire cosmos. The main question here is the “why.” Why do we need to be reconciled with Creation? Why do we need to bring Creation back to God with us to be sanctified?

St. Maximus teaches that our charge is to be mediators, the go-betweens for the Godhead and the created world. On the one hand this provides us with the opportunity to access the Creator through His Creation. God is revealed through the natural world and we are invited to pursue Him through our observations and interactions with nature. But even more than this, our role as stewards takes on a new meaning. Being made in the image and likeness of God, we, alone of all creatures, have the ability to see the connection between the creatures and the Creator. So if we can see that our environment is hurting, and we know that every ecological component wants to be united to the Creator, it is on us to do something about it. We must consider the environment as we would any human being, seeing the Logos, the Word of God, an icon of the Creator of All written everywhere throughout the world. It is for this reason that Elizabeth Theokritoff, a wonderfully insightful writer on these topics, says, “*So environmental concern turns out to be a matter of practical love for our neighbor. From the Christian point of view, there is no such thing as a discrete ideology of ‘environmentalism’ separate from love of God and love of neighbor.*”

Part 1 of 2

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

CHURCH SCHOOL 2018-2019

Registration for Church School is ongoing using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/G06uQSnltimwglW2>, include your email as most Church school announcements go out to the entire parish. Please list all/any allergies.

Check out our new online Church School Newsletter
<https://tinyurl.com/PeterPaulCSOctober>

Nov 25 No Church School/Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec 02 Christmas School Program Rehearsal
Dec 09 St. Nicholas Workshop
Dec 16 Church School Christmas Program/Christmas Lunch/
Special Visitor
Dec 23 No Church School/Christmas Holiday
Dec 30 No Church School/New Year's Holiday

TEEN SOYO

Ss. Peter & Paul Teen Youth Ministry Group (Teen SOYO) is open to all teens of the Parish (13—19 years). The teens meet regularly for social, spiritual, and community outreach events.

Lay Advisors:

Zaid Sharafudin/Zaid.sharafudin@gmail.com (412) 708-6726 and Marian Azar/azaremarian@gmail.com (703) 297-9638
Dec 02 *Teen SOYO Mtg/12:30p

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul YAF welcomes all young people over 20 years of age to join in its social, educational, and outreach activities. Please contact Wayne Parr at wayneparr@gmail.com or Amal Michael at amal17m@yahoo.com for more information.

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

*Please pay your annual dues of \$25 to help support our outreach and charitable projects. Checks can be given to Janet Metz.

*Please provide your email address to Carol Laham @ claham@wilevrein.com for future notices.

*If you have a child in college, please provide their name and college address to Carol Laham at the above email address. The ladies are planning a new outreach to college students.

*PLEASE volunteer to help!

Dec 02 *Antiochian Women Christmas Luncheon/see insert for more details)

THE SS. PETER & PAUL PARISH LIBRARY & MEDIA CENTER

The new Parish Library and Media Center is up and running. The Center houses the Parish Library, audio visual materials, and Christian educational resources. The Center is located in the lower level inside room accessible from the Serge Malooley Conference Center room. Donations of books or materials related to the history, tradition and teaching of the Church and the Orthodox Faith are welcome. All are welcome to use the center by following its user guidelines. Contact Fr. Isaac, Fr. Luke, or Dn. Christian for access and information.

"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 Library & Media Center. The next meeting is **Thursday, December 6, 2018**. Fr. Isaac facilitates the Forums using brief presentations as a springboard to open discussion on a variety of topics concerning our faith. ALL ARE WELCOME. Contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org, Fr. Luke at frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org or Kate Niewenhou at handmaidens20854@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 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.

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY REMINDER

Please remember to sign up to take your family/individual picture over the coming few Sundays. The pictures are taken right after the liturgy inside the church. Please check in with the bookstore across from the elevators. Please use the following link to signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945A4A823ABFF2-parish2>
Questions? email: FrLuke@peterpaulpotomac.org OR call: 301-765-3400 ext. 2.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Nov 25 *No Church School/Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov 29 *Professionals Meeting/presented by DLA Piper/4p—6:30p
Dec 01 *Baptism/Remington Buell/12:00p
*Antiochian Women Christmas Luncheon/see insert for more details)
Dec 02 *Antiochian Village "Camp" Liturgy (every 1st Sunday of the month)
*Church School Christmas Program Rehearsal
*Teen SOYO Mtg./12:30p
Dec 06 **Adult Religious Education Forum/'Exploring our Faith'/7:00p/
Library & Media Center
Dec 08 *Community Night/5p-8p/(see box on page 2 for more details)
Dec 09 *Church School St. Nicholas Workshop
Dec 11 *Parish Council Mtg./7p/Serge Malooley Conf. Rm.
Dec 16 *Church School Christmas Play
*The Order of St. Ignatius Dinner (see box on page 2 for more details)
Dec 22 *Baptism/Aryana Sahouri/1:30p
Dec 23 *Choir Christmas Concert/following Liturgy
*No Church School/Christmas Holiday
Dec 24 *Feast of the Nativity/6:00p Matins & 7:00p Divine Liturgy
Dec 25 *Offices Closed for Christmas
Dec 26 *Baptism/Zaya & Zara Abdallah/12:00p
Dec 30 *Baptism/Elijah T. Mitchell/1:30p
*No Church School/New Year's Holiday

CHRISTMAS DECORATING COMMITTEE

On-Going

***Today**, the Antiochian Women are selling frozen trays of pastries which are ideal for your holiday entertaining and gift giving. All the work is done for you! Please see Bette Adam after Liturgy in the Church Hall following Liturgy.
***Donations** for the Poinsettias and Shut-In & Homeless Projects. The Antiochian Women will be collecting for these 3 projects. See flyer and sign-up sheet in the Narthex on the glass table for more information. For questions, please see Thomaseena Cox, Leila Ayoub, Barbara Bosworth or any Ladies Auxiliary Member following the Liturgy.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Saturday Dec. 8 *9:00am decorating the Church for Christmas. Volunteers are welcome!
Saturday, Jan 12, 2019 *9:00am take down Christmas decorations. Volunteers are welcome!

THE EPISTLE

(For St. Katherine the Great-Martyr)

God is wondrous in His saints. Bless God in the congregations.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (3:23-4:5)

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the Law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the Law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, to redeem those who were under the Law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

THE GOSPEL

(For the Thirteenth Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (18:18-27)

At that time, a man came testing Jesus and asking, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery. Do not kill. Do not steal. Do not bear false witness. Honor your father and mother.'" And the man said, "All these I have observed from my youth." And when Jesus heard it, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the man heard this he became sad, for he was very rich. Jesus, seeing him sad, said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard it said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus said, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

COMMUNITY NIGHT

On Saturday, December 8, 2018, from 5:00p—8:00p the Church is hosting a Community Night. The program includes Vespers, a movie for the kids, pizza, and fellowship for parents and adults. All are welcome!

St. Ignatius Christmas Luncheon

****On Sunday, December 16, 2018**, following the Church School Nativity play in the Church, the Order of St. Ignatius will host their annual Christmas luncheon. All the faithful of the Parish are invited and there is no charge.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

****The Men's Fellowship** are sponsoring a 50/50 raffle from now until December 16 when the drawing will be made. Tickets are 5 for \$20.00 and proceeds to benefit the Church. See Sam Khalil and the ushers for tickets.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Danielle Bellone
Michelle Zook
Ritamaria Saa
Jennifer Montgomery
Andrew Salem
Dara Potter
Layla Najjar
Caroline Jarboe
Stephen Zolnerowich
Nate Guinn
Anees Mokhiber
AJ Wood
Philip Allen

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Sam Khalil

ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

Carol Laham

TEEN SOYO

Lay Advisors

Zaid Sharafudin
Marian Azar

Officers

Joud Al-Kallas
Tia Saah
Jacob Azar
Julia Azar

YOUNG ADULT

FELLOWSHIP

Wayne Parr
Amal Michael

ADORNMENT

Shams Akkawi
Jamil Hermes

FACILITY

MANAGEMENT

Sam Berberian
Bob Simon

RENTAL

COORDINATOR

Barbara Abraham

CHARITIES

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

FINANCE

Salim Habayeb

STEWARDSHIP

Zeina Manasseh

GIFT SHOP

Alma Jean Zaki
Gail Bailey

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

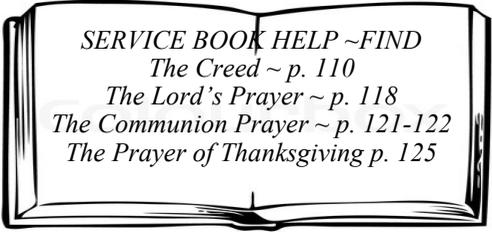
Orthodox Christians
Faithful Orthodox fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when they receive Holy Communion in fulfillment of Christ's command to eat His Body and drink His Blood. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, communicants should not be conscious of grave sin,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



Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

Rt. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar	Margaret Ashley	Mary Smith
Isabel Thredch	George Brown	Nabeeha Ayoub
Holly Dubois	Robert & Thelma Badwey	
Sophie Neam	Miriam Yazge	Barbara Abraham
George & Joan Abraham	Lula Brown	Douglas Kalesh
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Edward Rizkallah	Dorothy Marge
Leila Khoury	Shoke George	Suad Shammas
Assad & Patricia Khoury	Bob & Shirley Neri	Nadim Zarour

DEPARTED
Fr. George Rados
Edmond Neam
Josephine Lofgren
Melinda Aumaitre
Sami & Blanche Mufarrj
Eva Malouf
George Eways
Marguerite (Ann) Mahan

LIVING

V. Rev. Michael Kaiser	Rene Saah	David Saa
Brian Briggs	John Abraham	Margo Sahouri-Ghanem
Ramzi Imad	Gigi Hanna	Tammy Alvarez
Marcella Aumaitre	Stephanie Hatmaker	Barbara Mullin
George & Joanna Khoury	Elaraj Family	Fekrat Family
Ibtisam Toubaji	Michael Shoaseged, Mahlet Goitom & Lydia Michael	George Malouf, Sr.
Sean, Dania & James Korkor Wright		George & Grace Malouf & Family
Imad & Tania Mufarrj & Family	Mahan & Harris Families	

CHURCHING
Luke Behrooz Fekrat

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:
Grace & George Malouf

FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:
Falafel Luncheon
Offered by Jerry Audi & the Festival Committee
& Teen SOYO

Antiochian Women Christmas Outreach
We continue to need funds, most especially for our homeless drive (through Bethesda Cares), and also for our parish shut-ins. It would be very special if many of us could contribute a small amount to this effort, as contrast to a small number of us contributing larger sums. The giving can strongly be our prayer. The homeless situation in downtown Bethesda, right outside top shops like the Amazon store there, or the large Anthropology store is strongly evident. This is a small way we can add a little to cheer for others at Christmas. Drop a dollar or small change off during Coffee Hour, or go online and designate a sum, even a small sum for this charity in your comment section. It's all together that our church family makes a difference.

2018/2019 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE
The Stewardship Committee is launching our 2019 stewardship drive. Please support your church with your time, talents and treasure and fill out a stewardship form in paper (located in the Narthex) or online at peterpaulpotomac.elexiochms.com. Please make the commitment to support the Church through your generous free-will donation. If you have any questions or need more information, please see a member of the Stewardship committee member or in the fellowship hall for more information. Thank you for your support!