

	<b>Bread of Holy Oblation</b>	<b>Fellowship Hour</b>
<b>08 Dec</b>	Lorna Malooley	Open
<b>15 Dec</b>	Dolly Browning/IMO Fouad Azkoul	St. Ignatius Luncheon
<b>22 Dec</b>	Open	Open
<b>27 Dec</b>	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 Kogok Hall.

**SS. PETER AND PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

10620 River Road Potomac Maryland 20854 • 301-765-3400 • [www.peterpaulpotomac.org](http://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  
(301) 765-3400 #1 office  
(401) 300-8238 cell  
(240) 489-3494 home

Reverend  
Fr. Luke Toumi  
frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org  
(301) 765-3400 #2 office  
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**DEACON**

Dn. Christian Manasseh  
DnChris-  
tian@peterpaulpotomac.org

**COUNCIL**

**Chairperson**  
Carol Laham  
**Vice Chairperson**  
Jumana Misleh  
**Treasurer**  
Ken Bailey  
**Secretary**  
Abe Fannoney  
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Philip Allen  
Jerry Audi  
Nabil Emad  
Michele Forzley  
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Janet Metz  
Alganesh Piechocinski  
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**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
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**ASSISTANT CHOIR DIRECTORS**  
Marie Hyder  
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Amjad Khalil  
Zeina Manasseh  
Rezanne Toumi  
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Peter Aburdeineh

**SERVERS**  
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Rashid Haddad

**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, DECEMBER 08, 2019**

**tone 8/ EOTHINON 3**

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST & TENTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

FOREFEAST OF THE CONCEPTION OF THE THEOTOKOS;  
VENERABLE PATAPIOS OF THEBES; SOPHRONIOS, BISHOP OF CYPRUS;  
APOSTLES SOSTHENES, APOLLOS, CRISPOS,  
CAESAR & EPAPHRODITOS OF THE SEVENTY

**RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (Tone 8)**

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, 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 OF PREPARATION OF CHRIST’S NATIVITY (Tone 3)**

*(\*\*The original melody\*\*)*

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to \* God the Word ineffably, \* Who was before all the ages. \* Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing \* the gladsome tidings; \* with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him \* Who is willing to be gazed on \* as a young Child Who \* before the ages is God.

*You are daily asked for alms, and you ought daily to give willingly, without anger, harshness, and murmuring. You do not give your own, but you give that which belongs to God...*

*Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt  
My Life in Christ p.244*

**Christmas Eve Services**

6:00 pm Matins

7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

***MAKING GOD REAL***  
***In the Orthodox Christian Home***  
**The Purpose of the “Little Church”:**  
**To Produce Champions for Christ**

In his letter to the Romans, St. Paul says, “Greetings also to the church that meets in their house” (Romans 15:5). Even today the home is called in Greek *ekklesioula*, the “little church.” It is established as such by the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony where husband and wife are literally “crowned” by God with authority and responsibility for the home, and by the Sacrament of Chrismation by which we are ordained into the royal priesthood of believers, becoming in effect priests of the “little church,” the home. It takes not one but two sacraments to ordain parents to serve as “priests” in the home: Holy Matrimony and Chrismation. “Marriage is the union of man and woman that creates the little church,” said St. John Chrysostom. Our purpose as parents is to create a miniature of God’s Kingdom of love in our homes.

When young couples came to Fr. Yakov in the former Soviet Union to be married, he would ask them, “Can you give birth to a saint? If you are prepared to and can, then marry; if not, I shall not bless you!” Indeed, the purpose of marriage, according to St. John Chrysostom, is to produce “champions for Christ.” He further defines the family as a training ground for virtues. St. Theophan clearly told parents of their responsibility to raise their children not only as Christians but as *holy* Christians.

Elder Joseph tells us that both his parents loved to go to church and they often read spiritual books, especially the Lives of the Saints. Thus they set a good example both in their personal prayer life, and in their active concern for others. Their mother also led her six children in daily prayer. On feast days, she woke them early for Matins. Elder Joseph tells how as a child he really didn't want to get up so early to go to church! But once he did, he would be so happy the rest of the day. Between Matins and the Liturgy, they would go home and she would have John read an Akathist to the Savior or to the Mother of God while she censed the whole house. It is such godly homes that produce “champions for Christ.”

# Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

## CHURCH SCHOOL 2019-2020

We encourage all of our students to attend liturgy on Sundays. Please use the following link to register your children for the 2019-2020 Church School Year : <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>. For Newsletter <https://tinyurl.com/y48hecx>

- Dec 08** \*St. Nicholas workshop/pre-school — 5th grade  
Pizza lunch pre-school — 12th grade
- Dec 15** \*Christmas Program, Christmas Lunch, Special Visitor (more info to follow)
- Dec 29** \*No Church School for Christmas & New Year's Holidays (Church school resumes January 5, 2020)

## 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.

**Jan 11, 2020\***Hosting Christmas Hafli/invites have gone out to St. George, St. Mary, Holy Cross

Lay Advisors: see list on page 2

## YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

The Ss. Peter & Paul YAF welcomes all young people over 21 years of age to join in its social, educational, and outreach activities. Please contact Amal Michael at [amal17m@yahoo.com](mailto:amal17m@yahoo.com) for more information.

## ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

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

\*For future notices and any questions, please provide your email address to Donna Gavin at [crazygavins@verizon.net](mailto:crazygavins@verizon.net)

- Dec 08** \*Put together baskets for shut-ins & shoe boxes/backpacks — temporary plan for 100 backpacks (more details to follow)
- Dec 15** \*Cookie Sale during St. Ignatius luncheon (see Flyer in Narthex)

## MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Fellowship ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul is to serve the church through charitable outreach, educational and service projects which strengthen and deepen the faith of its members and develop a fellowship of Orthodox Christian servants. Contact Sam Khalil at [sk1943@aol.com](mailto:sk1943@aol.com) or Fred Zacharia at [fredzach@verizon.net](mailto:fredzach@verizon.net) for more information.

## "EXPLORING OUR FAITH": ON WHEELS

Will be back on the road again soon. If you are interested in hosting one of these every-other-week week-night meetings, please send Fr Luke an email ([frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:frluke@peterpaulpotomac.org)). He will check in with you on the dates the work best for you.

We are looking forward to moving these bi-weekly meetings around so its closer to your home at some point. Our goal is to drive no more than 15 minutes to get there.

**If you are willing to host one of these meetings in the future**, here is the deal: Number of attendees can be limited to fit in your space. You can host as few as 5 people if that is all you can seat (on-floor seats are premium). Only hot drinks are served. No food involved. Meeting time can be: 7:00-8:30 or 7:30-9:00 pm.

## THE SS. PETER & PAUL PARISH LIBRARY & MEDIA CENTER

houses the Parish Library, audio visual materials, and Christian educational resources. 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. Please contact the Church office for more details.

## 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 Church office.

## CHURCH CALENDAR

- Dec 08** \*St. Nicholas Workshop/Pre-school thru 5th grade  
Pizza lunch for pre-school thru 12th grade  
\*Continue putting together baskets for shut-ins & shoe boxes/backpacks/ temporary plan for 100 backpacks/following services
- Dec 15** \*Church School Christmas Program, Christmas Lunch, Special Visitor (more info to follow)  
\*St. Ignatius Lunch  
\*Antiochian Women/Cookie Sale during St. Ignatius luncheon
- Dec 24** \*Christmas Eve Services/6p Matins/7p Divine Liturgy
- Dec 29** \*No Church School for Christmas & New Year's Holidays
- Jan 05, 2020\***Church School resumes.

## 2020 BUDGET INFORMATION SERIES

### **Installment 2: Maintenance & repairs**

At our last general assembly, several questions were asked about our maintenance & repairs budget, and rightfully so. It's not cheap to maintain a facility such as our church. The fixed contracts portion of our annual maintenance & repairs expenses includes:

- |                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| -Elevator maintenance: \$4,283.66 | -Fire suppression: \$7,115.45 |
| -HVAC: \$16,449.00                | -Janitorial: \$33,000.00      |
| -Lawn and Grounds: \$14,470.00    | -Alarm System: \$1,275.19     |
| -Pest Control: \$1,063.23         |                               |

We also budget \$40,000 for general maintenance and repairs, and \$8,000 in maintenance & repair supplies. Please do your part in helping us maintain our beautiful church and contribute regularly and faithfully.

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost)

*Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them.  
God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians. (4:1-7)**

Brethren, I, a prisoner for the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, Who is above all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Tenth Sunday of Luke)

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (13:10-17)**

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

## OCMC News:

- The annual fundraising banquet dinner for OCMC will be Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. The guest speaker will be the Executive Director of Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage, Father Demitrios Andrews. (We have had several of our Ss Peter and Paul young people serve for short-term missions at Project Mexico, which is located just over the border from San Diego in Tijuana, Mexico.)
- Our parishioners Sam Khalil and Mike Bosworth will be going on a medical mission to northern Guatemala in March, where over 40,000 people have become Orthodox! They'd be grateful for your prayers and stewardship in any amount. Ss Peter and Paul donors can write checks to HOLY CROSS MISSION FUND, and be sure to write, "Medical Mission: Khalil and Bosworth" in a note or the subject line of the check. Checks can be simply put in the OCMC box at the candle stand for forwarding, or mailed directly to Holy Cross Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15228. Father Chakos, retired priest and active OCMC missionary at Holy Cross will send donors a receipt and thank you letter for tax-deductible contributions. Remember that Sam needs used eyeglasses for the optical clinic which he will administer. Thank you!

## **CHURCH SCHOOL**

### **Directors**

Samia Zolnerowich  
Jennifer Buchko

### **Teachers**

Jumana Misleh  
Susan Kozlov  
SaraAyoub  
Michelle Zook  
Beth Davis  
Alma Jean Zaki  
Jennifer Montgomery  
Kinda Callas  
Dara Potter  
Stephen Zolnerowich  
Caroline Jarboe  
Elizabeth El-Hage  
Jaren Sams  
Philip Allen  
Nathaniel Guinn

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Sam Khalil

## **ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN**

Donna Gavin

## **TEEN SOYO**

### **Lay Advisors**

Stephen Zolnerowich  
Riham Saah  
Ken Bailey  
Juliana Natour  
Maya Saah  
Kinda Callas  
Sanaa Natour  
**Officers**  
Tia Saah  
Nick Shahin  
Tala Natour  
Rylee Isaac

## **YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP**

Amal Michael

## **FACILITY MANAGEMENT**

Sam Berberian  
Alex Cox

## **RENTAL COORDINATOR**

Barbara Abraham  
George Rados

## **CHARITIES & ST. IGNATIUS**

Sam Khalil

## **FINANCE**

Salim Habayeb

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Zeina Manasseh

## **GIFT SHOP**

Alma Jean Zaki  
Gail Bailey  
Meghan Zoto  
George Zoto

# Commemorations

**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.

**SERVICE BOOK HELP ~FIND**  
 The Service starts on p. 91  
 The Creed ~ p. 110  
 The Lord's Prayer ~ p. 118  
 The Communion Prayer ~ p. 121-122  
 The Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 125

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**

Rt. Rev. Fr. Elias Bitar	Rt. Rev. Daniel Griffith
Kh. Rebecca Alford	Kh. Ann Anderson
Ann Marie Moses	Kevin Pinkstaff
Isabel Thredch	Nabecha Ayoub
Joyce Hamaty	Barbara Mullin
Holly Dubois	Suad Shammass
Sophie Neam	Miriam Yazge
George & Joan Abraham	Lulu Brown
Michael Buchko, Sr.	Edward Rizkallah
Leila Khoury	Shoke George
Bob & Shirley Neri	Douglas Kalesh

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**  
 Fr. George Rados  
 Edward Khourey  
 Roulina Ilyas  
 Shakir T. Ilyas

**LIVING**

Archpriest Isaac & Kh. Dolly	Anastacia Lampathakis	Ramona Dora
Yeorgos Lampathakis	Brian Briggs	Fred & Sherrie Zacharia
Ibrahim Mazen Saah	Ted Milkovich	Joe Malooley
Sami Korban	Paula Massouh	Mitody Tilev
Ceffen Franus	Vilma Bellone	Halim & Hayat Barakat
Audree Yacoub	George Ellis	Cindy Hyder
Ricky M. Ayoub	Lidia, Ghassan, Adeeb, Farah & Hiba & their families	Edward, Ritamarie, Emilia & Viviana Saa
Everett & Tammy Alvarez & Family	Thelma & Bob Badwey & Family	Michael Piechocinski

**HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:**  
 Lorna Malooley  
 For the Health of Fr. Isaac, Barbara Abraham, Fred Zacharia, & Michael Piechocinski

**ST. BARBARA CELEBRATORY WHEAT OFFERED BY:**  
 Sam & Margo Ghanem for the health of Barbara Abraham

**FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:**  
 Everett & Tammy Alvarez

**BLANKET & COAT DRIVE FOR SYRIAN REFUGEES**  
 Through December 15 Fairfax County, VA is participating in a coat and blanket drive. For more information see Janet Metz or their website <http://novareliefcenr.org>.

**2019 COOKIE WALK/December 15, 2019**  
 The Antiochian Women will be selling their homemade cookies during the St. Ignatius Fellowship Luncheon on December 15. Proceeds will benefit The Children's Relief Fund. So grab a box, grab a glove, walk the walk, and select your cookies. Then weigh your box, pay the cashier, wrap it up & ENJOY!

**DONATIONS FOR THE POINSETTIAS**  
 The Ladies Auxiliary will again be collecting donations this Christmas season for the Poinsettias Project offered for the health of or in memory of your family and/or friends. Please see Thomaseena Cox or Leila Ayoub or any Ladies Auxiliary Member in the Church Hall with your donation. All donations must be received by **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**.