

	Bread of Holy Oblation	Fellowship Hour
11 Dec	David & Dolly Browning	St. Ignatius Luncheon
18 Dec	Dr George Malouf SR	Dr George Malouf SR
24 Dec	Bill Barbari, Katie & Daniel Nassif, Zeina Manasseh	No Fellowship
01 Jan	Mary Misleh	open
08 Jan	Daoud Family	Daoud Family

#### 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

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016**

**TONE 8/EOTHINON 3**

## SUNDAY OF FOREFATHERS (ANCESTORS) OF CHRIST

VENERABLE DANIEL THE STYLITE; LUKE THE NEW STYLITE OF CHALCEDON; NIKON "THE DRY" OF THE KIEV CAVES; VENERABLE LEONTIOS OF ACHAIA; MARTYR BARS-ABBAS OF PERSIA

### APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRECTION (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 THE FOREFATHERS (Tone 2)

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and she it was who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

### 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*\*\*)

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave where she will give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word Who is before all the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest it heralded: Glorify Him, with the angels and the shepherds, Who chose to be seen as a new-born babe, the God Who is before all the ages.

**"He who holds possessions as the gifts of God and knows that what he possesses is for the sake of others is blessed by God and poor in Spirit. And Blessed are the poor in Spirit for their is the Kingdom of Heaven."**

*Clement of Alexandria*

### POINTSETTA FLOWER DONATIONS

The Antiochian Women are collecting donations for the Poinsettias displayed in our Church during the Christmas Holiday. If you would like to make a donation for the health of or in memory of your loved ones, please complete the form available in the vestibule. Completed forms can be returned to the Antiochian Women attention of Thomaseena Cox or Leila Ayoub, Thomaseena Cox – [cox1903@aol.com](mailto:cox1903@aol.com) or Leila Ayoub – [layoub@finmarc.com](mailto:layoub@finmarc.com) or fax 301-497-9472. Completed forms need to be returned no later than Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD

The Teens will continue to collection donations for the Parish Christmas card every Sunday through the end of December during the Fellowship Hour. Donations provide much needed financial support to a variety of charities and allows them to put special programs and activities together. The suggested donation is \$30.00. You can also mail your donation to the Church, Attn. Jamilee Bellone/Teen SOYO.

#### Priest

Very Reverend  
Fr. Isaac Crow  
[friasac@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:friasac@peterpaulpotomac.org)  
(401) 300-8238 cell  
(240) 489-3494 home

#### Deacon

Dn. Christian Manasseh  
[DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org)

#### Priest Emeritus

Very Reverend  
Fr. George Rados  
[frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org)

#### COUNCIL

##### Chairperson

Suzanne Hermes

##### Vice Chairman

Gary Farha

##### Secretary

Steve Simon

##### Treasurer

Richard Mahan

##### Members

Alex Cox

Abdallah Daoud

Paul Debs

Lina Eid

Anita El-Araj

Samer Korkor

Justin Misleh

Tony Moussa

Wayne Parr

Metody Tilev

George Zaki

#### Church Secretary

[office@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:office@peterpaulpotomac.org)

#### Choir Director

John Slanta  
[choir@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:choir@peterpaulpotomac.org)

#### Chanters

Wayne Parr

George Tannous

Zeina Manasseh

#### Ushers

Jerry Audi

Michael El Araj

Abraham Fannoney

Sam Khalil

#### ALTAR Manager

Peter Aburdeineh

#### Servers

Captains -

Rashid Haddad

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

**Matins:** Sundays 9:30am

**Divine Liturgy:** Sundays 10:30am

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His Eminence  
The Most Reverend  
Metropolitan **JOSEPH**



Archbishop of New York and  
Metropolitan of  
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE  
OF NORTH AMERICA**

**December 11, 2016**

### Choir and Chanter Appreciation Sunday

"I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live:  
I will sing praise to my God while I have my being" Psalm 104:33

Beloved in Christ:

Greetings to you and your families as we prepare to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to the flesh.

As is the custom in our Archdiocese, the second Sunday of December is dedicated to our choirs and chanters who work so hard to make our divine services beautiful throughout the year. Our choirs in the Archdiocese resemble our families and parishes. Some are large and strong; some are small and need help. Some have many polished and professional singers; others depend on the goodwill of volunteers with little or no musical training. Some have weekly practices and others less often. The common thread is that they all do what they do out of a love for the divine services and a desire to praise the All-Holy Trinity.

Under the direction of our full-time chairman of the Department of Sacred Music, Mr. Paul Jabara of Montreal, Quebec, the Archdiocese continues to expand and upgrade the music our choirs use and make it more accessible. The latest manifestation of their work is a joint effort with the Department of Liturgics to add links to the music each week to the *Online Liturgical Guide* so that when choir directors look ahead to plan, they will have instant access to the music by clicking on the link. The faithful should start seeing these links in the very near future.

The Department also continues to train and teach our choir directors and chanters through the annual Sacred Music Institutes held each year at the Antiochian Village and elsewhere. In order that each parish, including small parishes and missions, might be able to send a representative to this important Institute, I have asked all of our parishes to take a special collection on this day to help give scholarships to those parishes that cannot afford to pay for their choir directors to attend this important learning experience. Please give generously so that all of our parishes, from large to small, might be able to have a good choir.

Wishing you all a blessed remainder of the Nativity Fast and, in advance, a joyous feast of our Lord's Nativity, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

### +JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

358 Mount= Road, P.O. Box 5238, Englewood, NJ 07631-5238  
(201) 871-1355 T [Archdiocese@andochian.org](mailto:Archdiocese@andochian.org) (201) 871-7954 F

# Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News and Events

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have classes for children 3 years old through 12th grade and meet following Communion. Registrations are handled online at <http://tinyurl.com/registerSunSchool>. We are in need of snacks & drinks for the kids. Individually wrapped snacks, juice pouches, flavored water pouches in the 4oz-6oz & small 8oz bottles for water. We ask each family to contribute throughout the year. **We are looking for one more teacher for this school year. Please contact peterpaulsunday@gmail.com.**

**Sun. Dec. 11** — The Christmas Sunday school play followed by St. Ignatius Luncheon and a special visitor.

**Sun Dec. 18, 25, Jan 1** — No Sunday school

## TEEN SOYO

### Now thru - Dec. 31

Teens collecting donations for the parish Christmas card during Fellowship. After Dec. 18 please mail to the Church Attn: Jamille Bellone/Teen SOYO

### Jan 8

\*Teen SOYO monthly mtg./12:30p LL Conf. Rm.

## YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

All young adults in the parish (20-40 years of age) are encouraged to participate in this important ministry of the church. The fellowship is planning a number of activities for the new year including resumption of its study group meetings, potluck dinners, and Orthodoxy-on-Tap get togethers. For more information contact Jad Ibrahim Jr. at [jad.ibrahim.jr@gmail.com](mailto:jad.ibrahim.jr@gmail.com), Lizzy Cassar or Dn. Christian Manasseh at [dnchristian@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto:dnchristian@peterpaulpotomac.org).

### Dec. 15

\*Orthodoxy on Tap at 7:30pm. Barrel & Bushel, 7901 Tysons One Pl, Tysons Corner, VA/Jad Ibrahim will lead the discussion

## MEN'S CLUB

### Jan 7, 2017

Take down Church decorations

### Jan 29, 2017

Falafal Lunch

### Feb 11, 2017

Valentine Dinner Dance (more details to follow)

### Jun 14, 2017

Golf Tournament

### Jun 25, 2017

Ss. Peter & Paul Picnic/Bretton Woods Rec Ctr (more details to follow)

## ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE NEWS

**Antiochian Village News:** Winter Camp registration is now open! Winter Camp will be February 17-20, 2017. Please go to [www.avcamp.org](http://www.avcamp.org) for more information. The session will likely fill up quickly so please don't delay if you would like to send your child!

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

"Exploring Our Faith" will meets every other Thursday evening from **7:15pm to 8:30pm** in the lower level conference room. The next meeting is **Thursday, December 15, 2016**. 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](mailto:frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org) or Kate Nierenhous at [handmaidens20854@gmail.com](mailto:handmaidens20854@gmail.com) for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME..

## SS. PETER & PAUL OUTREACH VISITATION MINISTRY

Our Parish is starting a new outreach ministry 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 ([georgezaki@gmail.com](mailto:georgezaki@gmail.com) or [ajmzaki@gmail.com](mailto:ajmzaki@gmail.com)), Alex Cox ([alexcoxells@gmail.com](mailto:alexcoxells@gmail.com)) or Fr. Isaac ([frisaac@peterpaulpotomac.org](mailto: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

Dec 11	*Christmas Sunday School Play (to follow Liturgy) *St. Ignatius Luncheon (to follow Sunday School Play)
Dec 15	*Young Adult Fellowship/Orthodoxy on Tap (see above under Young Adult Fellowship) *Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p (see above for more details)
Dec 18	*Ss. Peter & Paul Choir Concert directly following the Liturgy.
Dec 23	*9:00a/Royal Hours of the Nativity
Dec 24	* Feast of the Nativity * 6:00p/Matins 7:00p/Divine Liturgy
(Please note: there are no services on Sunday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day)	
<b>2017</b>	
Jan 01	*Feast of the Circumcision of Christ & St. Basil the Great
Jan 05	Thursday *9:00a/Royal Hours of Theophany *6:00p/Orthros *7:00p/Divine Liturgy for The Feast of Theophany
Jan 07	*take down Church decorations
Jan 08	*The Sunday after Theophany/Great Blessing Of the Waters
Jan 10	*Parish Council Mtg./7p
Jan 12	*Adult Education Forum LL Conf. Rm. @7:15p (see above for more details)
Jan 15	*Issa Saleh Baptism/1:30p
Jan 29	*Falafal Lunch (in lieu of Coffee hour)

## THE EPISTLE

(For the Holy Forefathers)

*Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.*

*For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us.*

## The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Colossians. (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

## THE GOSPEL

(For the Holy Forefathers)

## The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (14:16-24)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

## Ss. Peter & Paul Church Choir Concert

On Sunday, December 18, as part of our preparation for the Feast of the Nativity, our church choir will offer a short concert of Nativity Hymns and Christmas Carols. The concert will take place directly following Liturgy and will be followed by the Fellowship Hour. Please plan on being in attendance.

## 2017 Church Calendars

The Church Calendars for the New Year 2017 have arrived and are available in the Narthex (Church Entrance). Please take only **ONE** per family or household. May the coming New Year be a blessing to all our Parish Family.

## Ss. Peter & Paul Church Library & Learning Center

Work has begun on setting up the new Parish Library and Learning Center in the lower level of the Church. Donations are still needed to support this important educational and informational resource center for the Parish. Please send all donations to St. Peter & 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 Nierenhous for more information.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Directors

Samia Zolnerowich

Jennifer Buchko

### Teachers

Jumana Misleh

Susan Kozlov

Michelle Zook

Christine Morin

Lizzy Cassar

Caroline Jarboe

Chrissy Mackoul

Anees Mokhiber

Philip Allen

AJ Wood

Jennifer Montgomery

Dina Saah

Stephen Zolnerowich

### Men's Club

Sam Khalil

### Antiochian Women

Carol Laham

### Teen SOYO

#### Advisor

Jamilee Bellone

#### Officers

Danielle Bellone

Kinda Callas

Maya Saah

Joud Al-Kallas

Juliana Natour

### Young Adult Fellowship

Jad Ibrahim, Jr.

Lizzy Cassar

### Adornment

Shams Akkawi

Jamil Hermes

### Facility Management

Sam Berberian

Nick Nahas

Bob Simon

### Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

### Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

### Finance

Gary Farha

### Stewardship

Lina Eid

### *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.

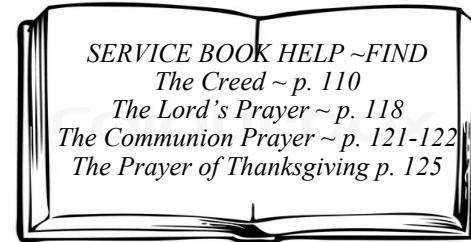
### *Welcome to Ss. Peter and Paul*

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.



### HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

David & Dolly Browning

### FELLOWSHIP OFFERED BY:

St. Ignatius Luncheon

# 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  
Holly Dubois  
Edmond & Sophie Neam  
George & Joan Abraham  
Barbara Abraham  
Everett Alvarez

Brian Briggs  
Isabel Thredes  
Thelma Badwey  
Tlesia Yonkers  
Lulu Brown  
Mary Smith

### LIVING

Leena Haddad	Debbie Brown
Dr. Eyad Hamameh	Janice
Mary Shahid	Joyce Kogok
Madelyn Nader	Muna Miller
Bill Efdimas	Mona Ayoub & Family
David, Dolly & Gaelle Browning	Nagib Azkoul & Family
Glen & Reba	

### **May God Crown them with Glory and Honor**

Today prayers are offered to Hikmat & Julia Nasr on their 50th wedding anniversary. May the Lord continue to bless them and grant them good health and many years.

### STEWARSHIP CORNER

Theology of Giving Series – Week 50 – December 11, 2016

**Word, November, 2005, Fr. John Adbalah, referencing remarks by Metropolitan Philip to the 2005 General Assembly of the Antiochian Archdiocese in Detroit, Michigan ...** “Tithing, like praying and fasting, puts God first and teaches us to trust Him, rather than ourselves, as our leader. When we tithe, God is given the first part, the first tenth of the gifts that He gave to us. When we tithe, we enter into His ministry at a serious level that will allow the parish and the Archdiocese to minister as they should. Only when the parish and the Archdiocese operate at a level pleasing to God, can the people receive the ministry that God wants them to have. Contributing tithes to the Church is different than making a pledge. Tithes are based on what God has given us, not what we think the local parish needs to operate. Tithes also represent the first part, not what is left over after we pay our bills and have our recreation. Tithing represents a significant shift in thinking. That is why tithing, like praying and fasting, is a spiritual gift that deepens our relationship with God and changes our life.”

What does this message from God require from me, His loyal and obedient servant?

What must I change in my life to be able to follow this teaching in both word and in deed?

Select the link to read the entire *Theology of Giving* series on our website blog: <https://www.peterpaulpotomac.org/stewardship-corner>

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**

May Fillah  
Irfan Shahid  
Hanna Saba  
William Dora, Sr.  
Mufid Ayoub  
Fouad & Salwa Azkoul  
Wayne & Ophelia Browning  
Ghazi Aad