

FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION

	BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
24	Zeina Manasseh	NO FELLOWSHIP HOUR
29	Mary Misleh	
Jan 5	Jarboe/Rados	Jarboe/Rados
12	Saah family	Saah family
19		
26	The Emads	The Emads
Feb 2		
9		

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

www.peterpaulpotomac.org

All Things Are Possible to Him Who Believes

Matins: Sundays 9:30am

Divine Liturgy: Sundays 10:30am

Confessions: call to schedule



Sunday

December 22, 2013

The Sunday Before the Nativity of Christ (Known as the Sunday of the Genealogy)

On this day, we commemorate: Great-martyr Anastasia and her teacher the Martyr Chrysogonos

TROPARION of the Resurrection (Tone 1)

The stone being sealed by the Jews, and thy pure body being guarded by the soldiers, thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. Wherefore, the heavenly powers acclaimed thee, O Giver of life, crying, Glory to thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to thy kingdom! Glory to thy gracious providence, O thou only Lover of mankind.

TROPARION of the Forefeast (Tone 4)

Make ready, O Bethlehem; for Eden hath been opened for all. Prepare, O Ephratha; for the Tree of life hath blossomed forth in the cave from the Virgin; for her belly did appear as a supersensual paradise in which is planted the divine Plant, whereof eating we shall live and not die as Adam. Verily, Christ shall be born, raising the likeness that fell of old.

TROPARION of the ForeFathers (Tone 2)

Great are the accomplishments of faith; for the three holy youths rejoiced in the fountain of flames as thou at waters of rest. And the Prophet Daniel appeared a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, Have mercy upon us.

TROPARION of Ss. Peter & 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 Preparatory for the Nativity (Tone 3)

Today the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth in an ineffable manner to the Word before the ages. Rejoice, therefore, O universe, when thou hearest, and glorify with the angels and shepherds him who shall appear by his own will as a new babe, being God before the ages.

Priests

Very Reverend
Fr. George Rados
frgeorge@peterpaulpotomac.org
Very Reverend
Fr. Isaac Crow
frisaac@gmail.com

COUNCIL

Chairman
George Salem
Vice Chairman

David Jackson

Secretary
Caroline Emad

Treasurer

Norma Najjar

Members

Frank Abdow

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Jerry Audi

Leila Ayoub

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Ziad Deeb

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Maha Jweied

Lorna Malooley

John Misleh

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John Slanta
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Chanters

Wayne Parr
George Tannous

Ushers

Jerry Audi
Michael El Araj
Abraham Fannoney
Sam Khalil

ALTAR

Manager
Peter Aburdeineh
Servers
Captains -
Robert Bridenhagen
Nicholas Zolnerowich

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

CATECHISM

from Fr. Isaac

STEWARDSHIP AS CREATION CARE

By Dr. John Chryssavgis

PART II: THE SIN OF NEGLECT AND THE ARROGANCE OF DOMINATION

It is no wonder, then that our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew surprised the theological and secular worlds alike when he identified carelessness or indifference to the natural environment as tantamount to sin.

It is plainly wrong to regard sin as the negative impact of our behavior on other people, whether individually or collectively, while disregarding the ecological and cosmological consequences of our actions (or inaction). As His All-Holiness remarked at Santa Barbara in 1997:

For human beings to cause species to become extinct and to destroy the biological diversity of God's creation, for humans to degrade the integrity of the earth by causing changes in its climate, stripping the earth of its natural forests, or destroying its wetlands...for humans to contaminate the earth's waters, its land, its air, and its life with poisonous substances—all these are sins.

The vocation and covenant to cherish and care for the creation is the principal reason for which God placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15), namely "to till and keep it" – a phrase I like to translate (based more closely and literally on the Greek translation of the Septuagint) as "to serve and preserve it." It has not of course, helped in the least that we have also misconstrued the Biblical term

"dominion" (Genesis 1:28 & Psalm 8:5-8) as "domination" in an unashamedly self-centered and self-serving manner; after all, "dominion belongs only to the Lord." (Psalm 22:28) Any authority over creation implies ruling in accordance with the love, peace, and justice of the Creator. Whether for fear of pagan idolatry or out of a sense of arrogant selfishness, there is no doubt that—over the centuries and in our own lives—we have overemphasized the unique role of humanity.

Anthropocentrism is the "original sin" – albeit an entrancing temptation—to which we are all guilty of succumbing at one time or another, and which has detrimentally burdened our perspective and practice. "The whole of creation has been groaning together in pain until now, inwardly awaiting its liberation by the children of God." (Romans 8:22-23)

LOOKING AHEAD Upcoming events...

Dec 22 - Baptism of Amar Choueiri @ 12:15pm
Dec 22 - Christmas Concert @ 1pm
Dec 24 - Christmas Liturgy @ 7:30pm
Dec 26 - Baptism of Kaia McFadden @ 1pm
Dec 28 - Baptism of Alexa Asfaw @1pm
Dec 29 - Baptism of Noura El-Hage at 1pm
Dec 30 - Baptism of Mireille Leong at 12pm
Jan 4 - Arabic Liturgy @ 5pm
Jan 5 - Celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany & Great Blessing of the Water
Jan 5 - 6-Month Memorial for Kh. Jacqui Rados
Jan 7 - Adult Education Forum @7:15pm
Jan 11 - Un-decorate the church @ 7am
Jan 14 - Parish Council Meeting @7pm
Jan 18 - Baptism of Grace Sanchez @11am

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Today from 1:00 to 1:45pm in the sanctuary, *La Camerata Nuove*, a choral group led by our former choir director, Francisco De Araujo, perform a Christmas concert of holiday cheer and Christian love. Admission is FREE. Have a snack at Fellowship Hour and come enjoy this musical treat!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Join us for The Nativity of Our Lord, Liturgy Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

EXPLORING OUR FAITH

Adult Ed class will meet again on January 7th at 7:15pm in the lower level conference room. All are welcome, with a special invitation to young adults. For more information, contact Fr. Isaac at frisaac@gmail.com.

UNDECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, please help take down and properly store for next year our beautiful Christmas decorations on Saturday, January 11th from 8:30am to 12:00pm. Men and women are needed to help in this endeavor. Please volunteer and give as much of your time to your church as you can.

PROJECT ROOTS

Project Roots is a Christian endeavor to help all Americans of Lebanese descent to register their Births and Marriages in

Lebanon to obtain status in Lebanon. This process of Lebanese registration is free of charge and is an important part of preserving the Christian presence and heritage in Lebanon and the Middle East. For information contact Janet Doumit Barakat at 240-463-2421 or janodoumit@yahoo.com and go to www.projectroots.net.

MISSION DINNER

The Metropolitan DC Orthodox Mission and Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Mission dinner at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, Falls Church, VA, February 9th, at 4:30pm. To benefit the OCMC, the Orthodox Christian International Orthodox Mission and Evangelization organization, Fr. Luke Veronis presents "Capturing the Spirit of Missions: Kenya, Albania and the World." Fr. Luke is a former missionary to Africa and Albania. The schedule includes Vespers at 4:30pm, hors d'oeuvres at 5:00pm, dinner and presentation at 6:00pm. Tickets are \$55 for adults over age 22, \$30 and for those under age 22, free for children under age 6. To make your reservation by February 4th contact Dr. John Demakis at demakis9931@gmail.com, Skip Mersereau at 301-229-0878 or jwmster@gmail.com, or Betty Slanta at 703-354-3242 or slanta@verizon.net. Make your check payable to "St. Katherine Greek Orthodox", note: "Mission Banquet" in the memo line and mail to: St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Rd, Falls Church, VA 22041.

Epistle Hebrews 11:9-10; 17:23, 32-40 (Sunday Before Nativity of Christ)

Deacon: Let us attend.

Reader: Blessed are you, O Lord, God of our Fathers. For you are just in all you have done.

Reader: The reading is St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews

Deacon: Let us attend.

BRETHREN, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated - of whom the world was not worthy, wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 (Sunday Before Nativity of Christ)

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram and Aram the father of Ammin'adab, and Ammin'adab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Bo'az by Rahab, and Bo'az the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uri'ah, and Solomon the father of Rehobo'am, and Rehobo'am the father of Abi'jah, and Abi'jah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzzi'ah, and Uzzi'ah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezeki'ah, and Hezeki'ah the father of Manas'seh, and Manas'seh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josi'ah, and Josi'ah the father of Jechoni'ah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation of Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoni'ah was the father of Sheal'ti-el, and Sheal'ti-el the father of Zerub'babel, and Zerub'babel the father of Abi'ud, and Abi'ud the father of Eli'akim and Eli'akim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eli'ud, and Eli'ud the father of Elea'zar, and Elea'zar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. So all generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emman'u-el" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Nicole Kyriakos
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook

Jennifer Montgomery

Ranya Eid
Leila Taweel

Hala Paskaleva

Razan Abdallah

Caroline Jarboe

Anthony Eid

Stephen Zolnerowich

Anees Mokhiber

Men's Club

Bill Zook

Ladies Auxiliary

Ann Marie Moses

Teen SOYO

Robert Bridenhagen

Layla Najjar

Nick Zolnerowich

Sarah Salem

Phillip Allen

Reema Guegel

Fellowship of St. John

Christine & Samer Korkor

Christian & Zeina Manasseh

Adornment

Shams Akkawi

Facility Management

Bob Simon,

George Rados Jr

Nick Nahas

Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

Cultural

Sami Najjar

Educational

Gabriel Habib

Finance

David Jackson

Stewardship

Lorna Malooley

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 enter the sanctuary quietly during the Divine Liturgy.

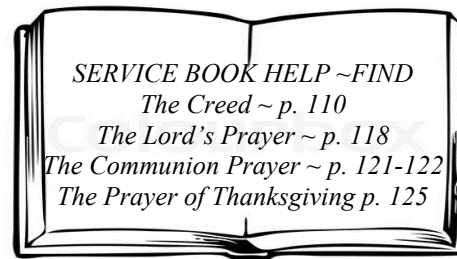
PLEASE DO NOT ENTER OR EXIT THE SANCTUARY AS

- 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 IS OFFERED BY: JJ Coury & family

9-Day Memorial for Evelyn T. Coury, JJ's mother

40-Day Memorial for Fadel Elias Taweel

JELLOWSHIP HOUR IS OFFERED BY: JJ Coury & family

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

George Brown

Asma Ayoub

Kathy Habib

Abe & Lulu Brown

Issa Shammass

LIVING

JJ Coury & family

Nabeeha Ayoub & family

Khattar Philip Rahbany

DEPARTED

Evelyn T. Coury Dec 11

Dolores Marge Dec 11

Jeane Athena Saah Dec 5

Fadel Elias Taweel Nov 16

Harry Hier

Charlie, Abdallah & Sandra Ayoub