

| | BREAD OF HOLY OBLATION | FELLOWSHIP HOUR |
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| 20 Sept | Elias & Elizabeth Hage Michael & Dorothy Mage Friends of Renee Moorad | Friends & Young Adults of Saint John the Divine in memory of Renee Moorad |
| 27 Sept | OPEN | FESTIVAL |
| 04 Oct | The Eways Family 40-day Memorial for Mudallaleh Fareed Eways | The Eways Family 40-day Memorial for Mudallaleh Fareed Eways |
| 11 Oct | Lorna Malooley | Lorna Malooley |
| 18 Oct | Joanne Demchok | Joanne Demchok |

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.

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

Deacon
Dn. Christian Manasseh
DnChristian@peterpaulpotomac.org

COUNCIL
Chairman
Gary Farha
Vice Chairman
George Salem
Secretary
Suzanne Hermes

Treasurer
Richard Mahan
Members
Rida Boulos
Abdallah Daoud
Paul Debs
Lina Eid
Anita El-Araj
Bassem Haddad
David Jackson
Maha Jweied
Wayne Parr
Steve Simon
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Choir Director
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

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, SEPTEMBER 20, 2015 **SUNDAY AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY** **CROSS**

GREAT-MARTYR EUSTATHIOS AND HIS FAMILY; VENERABLE-MARTYR HILARION OF ST. ANNE SKETE ON ATHOS; VENERABLE JOHN OF CRETE; MARTYRS MICHAEL, PRINCE OF CHERNIGOV, AND HIS COUNCILOR THEODORE

APOLYTIKION OF THE RESURRESTION (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 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (Tone 1)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. EUSTATHIOS AND HIS FAMILY (Tone 4)

Thy Martyrs, O Lord, in their courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

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 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (Tone 4)

Do Thou, Who of Thine own good will was lifted up upon the Cross, O Christ our God, bestow Thy bounties upon the new Nation which is called by Thy Name; make glad in Thy might those who lawfully govern, that with them we may be led to victory over our adversaries, having in Thine aid a weapon of peace and a trophy invincible.

Sensing the Reality of God: Elements of Christian Formation in Family, Community, and Church **Fr. Isaac Crow**

"A man who from his childhood can remember good things, righteous actions and sound example is saved for the rest of his life."

The Elder Zossima (The Brothers Karamazov)

Faith is a great mystery, and yet faith is a certainty embodied in the matrix of our everyday life. Christian faith is a certainty and a reality experienced, taught, learned, and nurtured within the collective body of the Christian community. No Christian as a unique person is created in isolation. Each individual lives, grows, and develops by mutual and reciprocal relationships within their total world, that is, within their mutual human and divine environment.

The Christian life is founded and anchored on solid bedrock. The first foundational building block of the Christian community is the sacred unit of the Christian family. Children are initiated into and discover the life in Christ through a direct and formal teaching, but primarily by experiencing the reality of the living community within the womb of the family.

The family is therefore the basis of the larger "gathering" of the community or the "body of salvation." The Church (Ecclesia) is where life in community is shared and joined to its source, God the Father, on the model of the life of the Holy Trinity. The family itself is a small church and thus a sanctioned vehicle for the work of salvation. The family functions as the sacred location where the Christian faith is planted and nurtured, the place where the Christian certainty is learned, emulated, and enacted.

The mystery of the Christian family as a micro-community is the mystery of how faith is taught, which can also be described as the process of how each soul senses the reality of God. This reality or truth is enacted anew and handed over from generation to generation. Such a process is not a quantitative handing down of inert factual knowledge, but rather a luminous and unified way of life: seen, heard, and experienced.

Such a way of life also creates and opens up new opportunities for the working of divine grace on a variety of different levels. Serving as a central arena of inter-personal, social, and communal experience, the Christian family is endowed with a great and fearsome responsibility, but also with an equally great potential for the working of grace.

It is from this triad of sacred spaces and opportunities, family, community, and Church that the vital building up and formation of the Christian person begins its movement and journey towards sensing the reality of God. This journey is a long and arduous one involving what Saint Paul calls "a labor in birth until Christ be formed within" (Galatians 4:19). It involves the whole human person in a process of learning and training, which must be assumed by a conscious and freely chosen effort. As an integral part of this sacrificial and redemptive task, the Christian seeks to bring the role of human choice into conformity with the will of God. It is here, in the two-fold path of cooperation between God and man, that the human will is opened to the mercies of divine grace. Without this ongoing synergy, this common work of God and man together, no real or lasting Christian formation is possible.

Part 1 of a series

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church News

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our first day of Sunday School is **September 20th** this year. Classes begin after communion and end at 12:30. We welcome all students from 3 years old (must be potty trained) to seniors in high school. Please use the following link to register your child/children for Sunday School. We ask that all families register each year to provide us with the most up to date information. <http://goo.gl/forms/Kltz6A3Zcp>. We will have a registration table set up each Sunday after liturgy until September 20th to assist parents in registering their child and to answer any questions about the programs.

The Sunday School Staff is excited for our upcoming year

ABJADIYAH LANGUAGE WORKSHOPS

Have been scheduled for 2015-2016 starting Saturday, October 3, 2015 through Saturday, June 4, 2016, 10:00am—12:30pm. Exceptions are noted on the website calendar.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Calling all Church members...

Stop by our Membership table, which will be up every second Sunday of each month after Church in the Fellowship hour hall, to:

Drop off your business card

Smile for our camera

Fill out your membership form

Fill out your annual pledge form

Sign up to work with us!

The Stewardship committee's mission is to inspire our Parish members to give of their time, talent and resources.

"Give and it will be given to you" Luke 6:38

TEEN SOYO

Sept. 20 — Meeting for the Election of Officers.

Please attend to either run for office, vote for officers, or both.

Sept. 25-27 — Teen SOYO will help assist the Sunday School, Hospitality Committee, and 50/50 Raffle at the Bazaar.

Oct, 16-18—Diocese Delegates Meeting @Antiochian Village

Samer Laham Talk on "The Crisis in Syria"

On Thursday, October 1, 2015, at 7:00pm our Parish will host a talk by Mr. Samer Laham, director of the office of Development of the Patriarch of Antioch entitled "The Crisis in Syria." In partnership with the IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) his organization is very active in providing aid and material assistance to the Christians of Syria. The talk will be preceded by the Service of Supplication to the Mother of God at 6:00pm in the Church and followed by a fellowship hour. This event is open to the public and will seek donations for Syrian relief work via the IOCC.

Simon Shaheen & The Qantara Ensemble

On Saturday, October 24, 2015 at 7:00pm, our Parish will host a benefit concert for the children of Gaza and Palestine organized by the non-profit organization United Palestinian Appeal. The concert will feature Simon Shaheen and the Qantara Ensemble (the leading classical Arabic music group in America) and is entitled "Music for Healing." Following the concert in the Church, a reception will follow in the Church Hall from 8:30pm – 9:30pm which will feature a children's art exhibit. Tickets for this charity fund raising event are available from helpuppa.org/concert (\$50.00/adult and \$25.00/student).

Peter & Paul Parishioner & Vietnam, 2015 War Hero, Everett Alvarez, to Speak at October 24 Ceremony

On Oct. 24, 2015 Everett Alvarez will be a featured speaker at a Montgomery County Government special event honoring Vietnam veterans. The event will take place at 10:30am at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville, MD.

Upcoming events...

Sept 20—Start of Sunday School

Sept 20—Teen SOYO Meeting for Election of Officers

Sept 20—Hakim/Smith Wedding 3:00pm

Sept 24—Adult Ed Forum/Exploring our Faith/LL Conf. Rm/7:15pm

Sept 25-27—Ss. Peter & Paul Festival

Oct 1—Service of the Supplication to the Mother of God 6:00pm

Oct 1—Samer Laham talk "The Crisis in Syria" 7:00pm

Oct 3—Abjadiyah Language Workshop begins

Oct 18—Annual Parish Assembly to follow Liturgy in Sanctuary

Oct 22—Adult Ed Forum/Exploring our Faith/LL Conf. Rm/7:15pm

Oct 24—Simon Shaheen Ensemble/7:00pm/reception to follow.

THE EPISTLE

(For Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians. (2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the Law died to the Law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me.

THE GOSPEL

(For Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

A TREE IS KNOWN BY ITS FRUIT, A MAN BY HIS DEEDS. A GOOD DEED IS NEVER LOST; HE WHO SOWS COURTESY REAPS FRIENDSHIP, AND HE WHO PLANTS KINDNESS GATHERS LOVE.

ST. BASIL THE GREAT

Pan-Orthodox Christian Singles HIKE and/or DINNER

On September 20, 2015 there is a HIKE and/or DINNER (rain or shine) sponsored by Pan-Orthodox Christian Singles. The hike is at 2:00pm at Riverbend Regional Park, Great Falls, VA and dinner is 5:00pm at JP Gilbert's in McLean, VA. Please see green flyer on the Bulletin Board in the Book Store for more information and directions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Directors

Samia Zolnerowich
Jennifer Buchko

Teachers

Jumana Misleh
Susan Kozlov
Michelle Zook
Razan Abdallah
Christine Morin
Lara Bellone
Amber Bennett
Caroline Jarboe
Saleem Mokhiber
Stephen Zolnerowich
Anees Mokhiber

Men's Club

Sam Khalil

Antiochian Women

Kate Niewenhaus

Teen SOYO

Jamilee Bellone

Officers

Nicholas Zolnerowich
Rashid Haddad
Robert Bridenhagen
Thomas Zook
Danielle Bellone

Fellowship of St. John

Christine & Samer Korkor
Dn. Christian & Zeina Manasseh

Adornment

Shams Akkawi
Jamil Hermes

Facility Management

Nick Nahas
Bob Simon

Rental Coordinator

Barbara Abraham

Charities

Sam Sahouri Ghanem

Finance

David Jackson

Stewardship

Lina Eid

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 re-
member them in his kingdom always:
now and ever, and unto ages of ages

LIVING

Parishioners who remain in our prayers continually

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Margaret Ashley | Edmond Neam |
| May Fillah | Richie Kogok |
| Issa & Suad Shammas | Brian Briggs |
| Lulu & George Brown | Robert Simon |
| Bertha Aed | Isabel Thredek |
| Holly Dubois | |

| | |
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| Josephine Lofgren | Salwa Gabro |
| Elia Ghanem | Sally Ruffin |
| Nouha Aramouni | Andrew Gavin |
| Joan Lanciani | Bill Dora, Jr. |
| Claudia Garcia & Baby Makai | Linda Dora Elkanich |
| Jack & Patricia Bottash | Richie Ayoub |
| Catherine Bolus | Joyce Hamaty & Family |
| Cassis Family | The Eways Family |
| Robert Dubois | Joe & Donna Gavin |
| Thelma & Bob Badwey & Family | Michael & Dorothy Marge |
| Tammy & Everett Alvarez & Family | Lisa & Marc DeCandia & Family |
| Michael & Christina Marge & Family | The Marge Family |
| The Ferguson Family | The DeCandia Family |
| The Mike Family | The Neam Family |
| The Kogok Family | The Gabriel Family |
| The Friends and Family of Renee Moorad | |
| Terry & Michelle Mitchell | |

DEPARTED

Arch Priest Louis Mahshie
Victor Cassis
Nick Hamaty
Maurice Hyder
Mudallaleh Fareed Eways
Ann Kahlill
Shakir T. Ilyas
Roujina K. Ilyas
Sally Alvarez
Everett Alvarez, Sr.
Cecelia Sanchez
Julie Badwey
Sam Badwey
Don Shaheen
Yvonne Shaheen
Khalil & Victoria Marge
George, Elias, Delores, Gabriel, Olga,
Anna Marge
Zina, Edward, George, Catherine,
Mike, Helen, John Kunsevich
William, Mary, Walter Hladke
Ann Peters
Helen & Isabel Thomas
Josephine Gcha
Harriet Habib-Puca
Julie Rowady
Renee Moorad

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

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 Creed ~ p. 110
The Lord's Prayer ~ p. 118
The Communion Prayer ~ p. 121-122
The Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 125

HOLY BREAD OF OBLATION OFFERED BY:

The Friends and Young Adults of St. John the Divine for the 6-day Memorial for Renee Moorad
Elias & Elizabeth El-Hage for the Churching of Farid Elias El-Hage
Michael and Dorothy Marge

FELLOWSHIP HOUR OFFERED BY:

The Friends and Young Adults of St. John the Divine for the 6-day Memorial for Renee Moorad

The Falling Asleep of Renee Moorad

Today there will be a special 6-day Memorial Service following the Liturgy for Renee Moorad. Her friends and the young adults of St. John the Divine Fellowship will be offering Holy Bread and a Memorial Fellowship Hour.