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Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin

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HOLY MYSTERIES

VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM - If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is **UKR**.

EMERGENCY CALLS - Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

BAPTISMS - Celebrated by appointment.

CROWNING IN MARRIAGE - Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

BULLETIN DEADLINE - The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS - For the Needs of the Parish; 2nd Youth Ministry

May 31, 2020
Volume 56: Number 22
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of May 31 – June 7, 2020
Celebrating our 93rd year of Service to the Lord

ALL SERVICES ARE LIVE STREAMED ON FACEBOOK & WEBPAGE

Sunday, May 31 – Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council – Tone 6
9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful of All Three Parishes

Saturday, June 6 – Memorial Saturday
9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Departed

Sunday, June 7 – P E N T E C O S T – Green Sunday
9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful
Kneeling Prayers

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council – Matins: John 21:1-14; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18; 28-36; John 17:1-13
Monday - Acts of the Apostles 21:8-14; John 14:27-15:7
Tuesday - Acts of the Apostles 21:26-32; John 16:2-13
Wednesday - Acts of the Apostles 23:1-11; John 16:15-23
Thursday - Acts 25:13-19; John 16:23-33
Friday - Leave-taking of Ascension – Acts of the Apostles 27:1-44; John 17:18-26
Memorial Saturday – Acts of the Apostles 28:1-31; John 21:15-25; Departed: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; John 5:24-30
Pentecost – Trinity Sunday – Matins: John 20:19-23; Liturgy: Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11; John 7:37-52-8:12

FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

Today we commemorate the 318 Bishops who attended the first Ecumenical Council at Nicea in the year 325. This Council defined the timeless truth that Jesus Christ is both God and man. This Council is most important because it affirmed the divinity of Christ and laid the foundation of all subsequent definitions. The gathering of the Council was occasioned by a major controversy. Arius (280-336), an archpriest of Alexandria, taught that Son was not equal to the Father. In his teaching, Arius stated that the Son was not of the same essence with the Father nor was He infinite nor eternal. He was a creature; a

most perfect creature - the most perfect creature that God had created, but He was not God. Therefore, Mary, His mother, could not be called the Mother of God. Athanasius, Archbishop of Alexandria, opposed this heresy. He eloquently exposed the truth that Jesus, the Word of God, was indeed God in reality, and that through the Incarnation, He became a real man. "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:4). This controversy raged throughout the Roman Empire throwing it into a state of turmoil. Emperor Constantine decided to submit the matter to the judgment of the Universal Church, and so he called the First Ecumenical Council that convened in Nicea. Christianity stands or fails by this definition of the Council, that Jesus Christ is really God and is truly man. His humanity was not merely an appearance, but as truly human as we are, only without sin (Hebrews 4:15). It was at this Council that the celebrated Nicene Creed was drawn up: "We believe in one God, Father, Almighty, Creator of all things visible and invisible, and in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down, was incarnate, was made man. . ." Other decisions reached at this Council: It established the method of calculating the celebration of Pascha - the first Sunday, after the first full moon, after the vernal equinox which falls after the celebration of Passover.

318 Fathers of Nicea

The 318 fathers of the First Ecumenical Council have a special place in the heart of the Christian Church. These great bishops and theologians of the Orthodox East were called by the great emperor, Constantine, to gather in the city of Nicea to settle certain problems that faced the growing Christian Church.



Because of certain false teachings, there was a critical need to define and set down in precise language the Faith of the Orthodox Church. After months of discussion and debate, this matter was indeed resolved in a remarkable way. The venerable Nicene Creed was the result of this council and to this day, unchanged, it stands as the sole great statement of Faith for Orthodoxy. (Its

articles were completed at the Second Ecumenical Council at Constantinople).

There was also a need to set down in good form a number of matters that dealt with the practice of the Orthodox Church. There was, for instance, the date for the celebration of Pascha, the Resurrection of the Lord. And the Fathers did set

down definite guidelines and principles for the computation of this date – canons still adhered to by the Orthodox Catholic Church but largely disregarded by the rest of Christendom. Some twenty canons were passed dealing with disciplinary matters within the Church.

But the great victory of the 318 Fathers was over the Arian heresy which infected the Church. The dispute involved the Person of Jesus Christ. Finally, the Creed itself reflected the Orthodox victory: “I believe ...in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only-begotten of the Father, begotten not made, being one (consubstantial, or of one essence) with the Father through Whom all things were made...”

The great and the small took part in the deliberations of this historical council. There was the majestic figure of the Emperor himself, St. Constantine, so instrumental in the success of this meeting. There was Hosius of Cordova; Marcellus, Bishop of Ancyra; and most important of all, Archdeacon Athanasius of Alexandria, attending with his bishop, Alexander. When all was said and done, it was Athanasius who stood as the majestic theological figure of Nicea, and it is no wonder that in three months time, at the death of Alexander, it was Athanasius the Great who assumed the Episcopal throne. For nearly fifty years he held the see and fought against the tides of heresy in the Orthodox Church.

And so it is that each year on the Sunday before the feast of Pentecost, the Church turns its attention to the Fathers of the first council and honors their sacred memory. The Synaxarion says: *“Since the Church regards those divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the divinely-speaking Apostles, and confesses the same, it decreed that their memory be celebrated each year on this Sunday, for the glorification of God and His praise, and to honor and praise those Fathers for the establishment of the Orthodox Faith.”*

One of the Verses of this day speaks of the doctrinal difficulties of the times and of the victory over Arius: *“When You were asked, O Savior, who rent Your garment, You replied that it was Arius, who divided the headship of the Trinity, united in honor, into parts. For it was this same one who denied that You are One of the Most Holy Trinity. He it was who taught the transgressing Nestorius not to say that the Virgin is the Theotokos (Birth-giver of God). But the Nicene Council warned openly that You are the Son of God, equal in the throne to the Father, and to the Spirit also.”*

What an inspiring scene it must have been to see this awesome assembly of Bishops and theologians of the Church! Many still bore the marks of persecution and suffering for Christ on their bodies. And they came from far and near to witness to the Orthodox Faith entrusted to them. It behooves us to join in honoring the memory of the 318 Fathers.

BULLETINS OF YESTERDAY – Special thanks to John Cramer for his donation of these Bulletins. If you have any of our older Bulletins, please donate them back to the Church. Thanks!

In the June 1, 1969 Bulletin, Father Joseph Kreta offered sincere thanks to Mr. Sylvester Dalaski for undertaking the task of fabricating and installing our new outdoor flag pole. He also thanked the following for their assistance: Robert Rogers, Edward McDermott, Glenn Shepherd, Anthony Serednicki, Charles Needles and Paul Hrynshyn. The flagpole was the gift of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Kosowsky and the dedication took place on June 1st.

In the Sunday, May 24, 1970 Bulletin, Father Leonard Kuberski thanked the following men for repainting the Church basement: Anthony Serednicki, Chairperson, Michael Bilinski, Stanley Bolinski, John Cramer, Mark Davitti, Francis Lazarczyk, William Maciey, Glenn Shepherd, Sylvester Dalaski, Michael Tyrawsky and Paul Hrynshyn.

In the Sunday, May 30, 1972 Bulletin, Father Leonard Kuberski thanked the following men for coming out to paint the exterior of the Church: May 20 & 21: Paul Hrynshyn; May 22: Anthony Serednicki, John Cramer, Michael Bilinski, Thomas Hlywak, Charles Needles, William Maciey and Michael Tyrawsky.

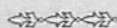
ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to the following: Mila Beaudean, 6/1; Daniel Nazarenko, 6/1; Alexander Smith, 6/1; Timothy Feleshchuk, 6/2; Daria Tigan, 6/2; Maria Duffy, 6/5; Miriam Krauthauser, 6/5; Linda Hnatow, 6/5; William Riggins, 6/6 & Mary Wardigo, 6/6. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy and blessed years!

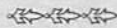
SOMETHING TO DO – during this stay at home time: gather your treasures for the UOL Flea Market which is still scheduled for Saturday, August 1st!!!!

PARISH BOARD MEETING – Tuesday, June 9th @ 6:30 PM (Zoom Meeting)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father Paul Bigelow, Father John Bohush, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Mark Leisure, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Victor Wronskyj, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Deacon Adrian, Pani Dobrodyka Lisa Weremedic, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Charles, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Michele, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Maria Borowenski Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, George Burns, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Celeste Heiser, Dolores Helms, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Anthony Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Sandra Kasch, Thomas Kasprzak, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Barbara Kirylic, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Paul Markow, Frederick McCarthy, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Linda Muldoon, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Maria Plumpton, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Alla Rudawsky, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Maria Russak, Anthony Saldutti, Dana Sargent, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Tatiana Szweg, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Anna Tur, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, & James Zook.



GONE . . . BUT NOT DEPARTED



Now is the time our Holy Church celebrates the FINAL event in our Lord's earthly journey: HIS ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN. The Gospels paint a simple, but beautiful picture of this miraculous happening. However, it does leave us yearning for an answer to one question: WHY DID THE LORD LEAVE? Why didn't He remain with His disciples?

- 1) Jesus ascended because His work on earth had been completed. He had come to save the lost. That work of salvation was done. Just as a worker completing his shift returns home, so now Christ, His work of saving mankind having been accomplished, returned home to His Father.
- 2) Christ ascended so that He could send the Holy Spirit. The Lord did not leave the Church orphaned. The Holy Spirit soon came to take up His dwelling within those who believed in the Resurrected Savior. It was foretold at the Last Supper.
- 3) The Lord ascended to prepare a place

for us. The night before giving up His Life, Jesus said to His followers: "I go to prepare a place for you. And I will come again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am you may also be."

4) Christ ascended to take His place at the Right Hand of the Father. The symbolic language in our Creed proclaims that the Lord is in a position to intercede for us before the Father.

5) Jesus ascended into Heaven to prepare for His glorious return on the Last Day of reckoning. Once again, our Creed puts it quite succinctly: "And He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead." Once He came in all humility -- now He shall come in all His glory.

As we relive the Ascension once more, may we join with the Apostles and rejoice at the "HOME-GOING" of our Lord. May God grant that, one day, we may be united with Him there.