

Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**For the health, of:****Linda and Richard** on their Anniversary**Gabrielle** Guides on her name day, offered by her Godmother Athanasia (Trudy)**All our Graduates** offered by Holly and Sub Deacon Edward**For eternal memory of:****Olga Koss**, offered by her family

(Our parish is also praying for: Archpriest **Vincent**, Matushka **Patricia**, the child of God, **Kira**, and for the recovery of **Linda Jankowski**)

Readings:

- Romans 10:1-10
 - Matthew 8:28-9:1
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BRETHREN, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

At that time, when Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM**Sunday service:****Hours – 9:40 AM****Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM****Private Confession – Half hour before any service.**

See Fr Matthew for other times.

General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month**Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month**

Coffee hour – after Liturgy, downstairs in the Community Room
(Church School has ended for the school year.)

We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy for Coffee hour.

Announcements:

- The next **meeting of the Parish Council** will be Sunday, July 27th, after coffee hour.

Special Announcements:

- Special Announcements for the bulletin can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org
 - Volunteers are needed to clean the church. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, downstairs, to indicate when you can help.
 - Upcoming bulletins can be sponsored; this can be done with the signup sheet at the candle stand.
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St. Maximus says: "In no way can the sinner escape the judgment to come unless he takes on here below voluntary hardships, or involuntary afflictions." In our imperfect state, we (humanity) often suffer BECAUSE of our imperfect state. How do we handle this suffering? With Faith in God, or do we blame God?

Fathers of the First Six Councils:

The **Sunday of the Fathers of the First Six Councils** is a feast held the Sunday falling from July 13 to 19. The Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils are honored by the Church because, based upon the preaching of the Apostles, they have established one faith for the Church. Guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit and accepted by the Church, the Ecumenical Councils are the highest canonical and dogmatic authority in the Church.

In the Ninth Article of the Nicea-Constantinople Symbol of Faith proclaimed by the holy Fathers of the First and Second Ecumenical Councils, we confess our faith in “One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church.” By virtue of the catholic nature of the Church, an Ecumenical Council is the Church’s supreme authority, and possesses the competence to resolve major questions of church life. An Ecumenical Council is comprised of archpastors and pastors of the Church, and representatives of all the local Churches, from every land of the “oikumene” (i.e. from all the whole inhabited world).

The Orthodox Church acknowledges Seven Holy Ecumenical Councils:

The First Ecumenical Council (Nicea I) (May 29, and also on seventh Sunday after Pascha) was convened in the year 325 against the heresy of Arius, in the city of Nicea in Bithynia under StConstantine the Great, Equal of the Apostles.

The Second Ecumenical Council (Constantinople I) (May 22) was convened in the year 381 against the heresy of Macedonias, by the emperor Theodosius the Great.

The Third Ecumenical Council (Ephesus) (September 9) was convened in the year 431 against the heresy of Nestorius, in the city of Ephesus by the emperor Theodosius the Younger.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council (Chalcedon) (July 16) was convened in the year 451, against the Monophysite heresy, in the city of Chalcedon under the emperor Marcian.

The Fifth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople II) (July 25) “Concerning the Three Chapters,” was convened in the year 553, under the emperor Justinian the Great.

The Sixth Ecumenical Council (Constantinople III) (January 23) met during the years 680-681, to fight the Monothelite heresy, under the emperor Constantine Pogonatos.

The fact that the **Seventh Ecumenical Council** (Nicea II) is not commemorated today testifies to the antiquity of today’s celebration. The Seventh Council, commemorated on the Sunday nearest to October 11, was convened at Nicea in the year 787 against the Iconoclast heresy, under the emperor Constantine and his mother Irene.

The Church venerates the Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils because Christ has established them as “lights upon the earth,” guiding us to the true Faith. “Adorned with the robe of truth,” the doctrine of the Fathers, based upon the preaching of the Apostles, has established one faith for the Church. The Ecumenical Councils, are the highest authority in the Church. Such Councils, guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and accepted by the Church, are infallible.

The Orthodox Church’s conciliar definitions of dogma have the highest authority, and such definitions always begin with the Apostolic formula: **“It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us...”** (Acts 15: 28).

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God*"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

Founded 1966

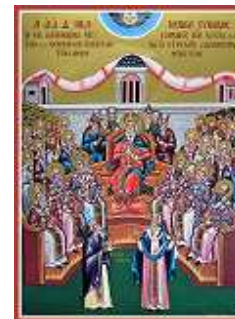
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Fathers of the 1st Six
Ecumenical Councils

Glory to
Jesus Christ

Glory
Forever

*You are most glorious, O Christ our God!
You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth!
Through them you have guided us to the true faith!
O greatly Compassionate One, glory to You!*

Troparion— Tone 8

Today the Church remembers:**Fathers of the 1st Six Ecumenical Councils**

- Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel ● Ven. Stephen of St. Sabbas’ Monastery (794)
 - St. Julian, Bishop of Cenomanis (Le Mans) in Gaul (1st c.)
- Martyr Serapion (2nd-3rd c.) ● Martyr Marcian of Iconium (258) ● Icon of the Most-holy Theotokos “AXION ESTIN” (“IT IS TRULY MEET”).

July 13, 2014**5th Sunday after Pentecost****Tone 4 of the Octoechos**