

Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**Health of:**

Jason Inferrara, offered by Luba Bodulow

Memory of:

Olga Koss, offered by the Searfoorce family

Readings:

Romans 6:18-23 (*4th Sunday after Pentecost*)

Hebrews 13:7-16 (*Fathers*)

Matthew 8:5-13 (*4th Sunday after Pentecost*)

John 17:1-13 (*Fathers*)

Brethren, having been set free from sin, we have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once yielded your members to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now yield your members to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. But then what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore, let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

Saturday service:

Vespers – 6:30 PM

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

(Private Confession – After Vespers by appointment.)

(General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)

(Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School has ended for the school year.

Have a safe and blessed summer!

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

Announcements:

- There will be a meeting of the parish council Sunday July 28th, after coffee hour.
- **Memorial Plaque:** The \$25.00 donation for the submission of names has been extended until September 1, 2019. (Then it will return to \$100 per name.) There is now a sheet at the candle stand to submit names.

Special Announcements:

- Parishioners who would like to donate items for use in the kitchen, can check the blackboard downstairs for what is needed.
- **Please note** – If you are bringing food for coffee hour because you had a Pannikhida, or other special event, please notify Lore Stefy at 609 625-1184 in advance.

Reminders:

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org Upcoming bulletins can also be sponsored by using the signup sheet at the candle stand. **If using the signup sheet, please give two weeks' notice.**
- The Living Clean Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday from 8-9:15 pm downstairs in the community room.
- The Grey Book Step Meeting Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Tuesday from 7-8:00 pm downstairs in the community room.

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.

The Apostles’ preaching and the Fathers’ doctrines have established one faith for the Church.

Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, It defines and glorifies the great mystery of Orthodoxy!

Kontakion - Tone 8

To read more about the saints remembered today, see:

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2019/7/14>

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Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

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Glory to Jesus Christ

Glory Forever

Fathers of the First Six Councils

*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 Fathers of the First Six Councils – Tone 8

Today the Church remembers:

Fathers of the 1st Six Ecumenical Councils • Apostle Aquila of the Seventy (1st c.) • Ven. Stephen, Abbot of Mákhryshche (Vologdá—1406) • Martyr Justus at Rome (1st c.) • Ven. Ellius (Hellius), of Egypt (4th c.) • Ven. Onesimus of Magnesia (4th c.) • Repose of Ven. Nicodemus the Hagiorite (1809).

July 14, 2019

4th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tone 3 of the Octoechos