

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council:

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council under the holy Patriarch Tarasius.

The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine Porphyrogenitos.

The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry, because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint, but passes to the prototype (the person depicted). It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time" (John 1:18).

In practice, the holy God-bearing Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council are commemorated on October 11 (if it is a Sunday), or on the Sunday which follows October 11. According to the Slavic MENAION, however, if the eleventh falls on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, the service is moved to the preceding Sunday.

Venerable Nicholas Sviatosha, wonderworker of the Kiev Caves:

In our church, rest relics of the holy **Venerable Nicholas Sviatosha, wonderworker of the Kiev Caves.** He is remembered by the church on **October 14.**

Saint Nicholas Sviatosha, Prince of Chernigov, and Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves, Near Caves, was a great-grandson of Great Prince Yaroslav the Wise and son of Prince David Svyatoslavich of Chernigov (+ 1123). Nicholas was the Prince of Lutsk, and he had a wife and children (his daughter was later married to the Novgorod prince St Vsevolod-Gabriel (February 11).

On February 17, 1106 the holy prince, left his family and was tonsured at the Kiev Caves monastery. Nicholas Sviatosha carried out his obediences with great humility. For three years he worked in the kitchen, for which he chopped wood and carried water. For the next three years, he was gatekeeper at the monastery. The saint had a garden around his cell. Out of his own means he built at the monastery the temple of the Holy Trinity and the infirmary church in the name of St Nicholas, his patron saint.

St Nicholas was the first of the Russian princes to accept monasticism, patiently enduring the reproaches of his brothers for his decision to lead a life of humble obedience. The saint's doctor, Peter, pointed out to the royal ascetic, that such exploits of obedience had injured his health. But suddenly the doctor himself fell sick, and was healed only by the prayer of St Nicholas. Then Peter himself was tonsured.

After he had progressed through various obediences, St Nicholas took upon himself the vow of silence. When the saint received money, he used it to beautify the church, and to procure books (because he loved reading), or he distributed it to the poor. St Nicholas was a zealous peacemaker, in 1142 he reconciled the Prince of Chernigov with the Great Prince Vsevolod.

Soon after the death of the saint, his brother Prince Izyaslav fell grievously ill. The igumen of the monastery sent the sick man the saint's hairshirt. Izyaslav put it on and was healed.

See us on the web at:

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Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Christ is in our midst!

He is and always will be!

*Most glorious are You, 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 - Holy Fathers

On this day the Church remembers:

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council • Martyr Longinus the Centurion, who stood at the Cross of the Lord (1st c.) • Ven. Lóngin the Gatekeeper of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th-14th c.) • Ven. Lóngin of Yarensk (1544-1545).

October 16, 2011

Tone 1 of the Octoechos.

18th Sunday after Pentecost
4th Sunday of Luke

Today's Bulletin Sponsors are:**For eternal memory of:**

Maria, mother of Matushka Galina, offered by Fr Boris and Matushka

For the health of:

Granddaughter **Michelle**, on her birthday, offered by Fr Boris and Matushka Galina.

Natalie Morris, on her birthday, daughter of Lore Stefy

Adam Romanofsky, on his birthday, offered by his family

Readings:

- Hebrews 13:7-16 (Fathers)
- John 17:1-13 (Fathers)
- **2 Corinthians 9:6-11**
- **Luke 8:5-15**

BRETHREN, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Summer Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM

Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM

(General Confession on the first Sunday of each month)

Church School - 9:30 AM

Coffee hour after Liturgy

(no classes 1st Sunday of each month)

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

Announcements:

- **Pannikhida Services** - The Church Council asks that all Pannikhida Services be restricted to the 3rd Sunday of each month. The Pannikhida, if requested, will be celebrated right after the Liturgy and before Coffee Hour. From ancient times it has been an established custom to remember the dead on the 3rd, 9th, and 40th day after their repose. The parish will still respect this tradition, but for the anniversary of death, or for the name day of our deceased loved ones, etc., we would like to have this service monthly on the same Sunday. (Arrangements can be made through Fr. Boris)
- **Church School will not meet on the first Sunday of each month** so that the students will be on time for General Confession.

Special Announcements:

- The Parish council encourages the support of **Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary**. Please visit their website: www.svots.edu/support
- **The Church School** is in need of a preschool teacher to work with our youngest students. The requirements are: the ability to arrive at Church by 9:30 for three out of four weeks a month (no Sunday School on the first Sunday of the month), patience with young children, and basic knowledge of our faith. **No home preparation will be necessary**, as all lesson plans will be prepared for you in advance. Please see Maribeth Romanofsky if interested.