

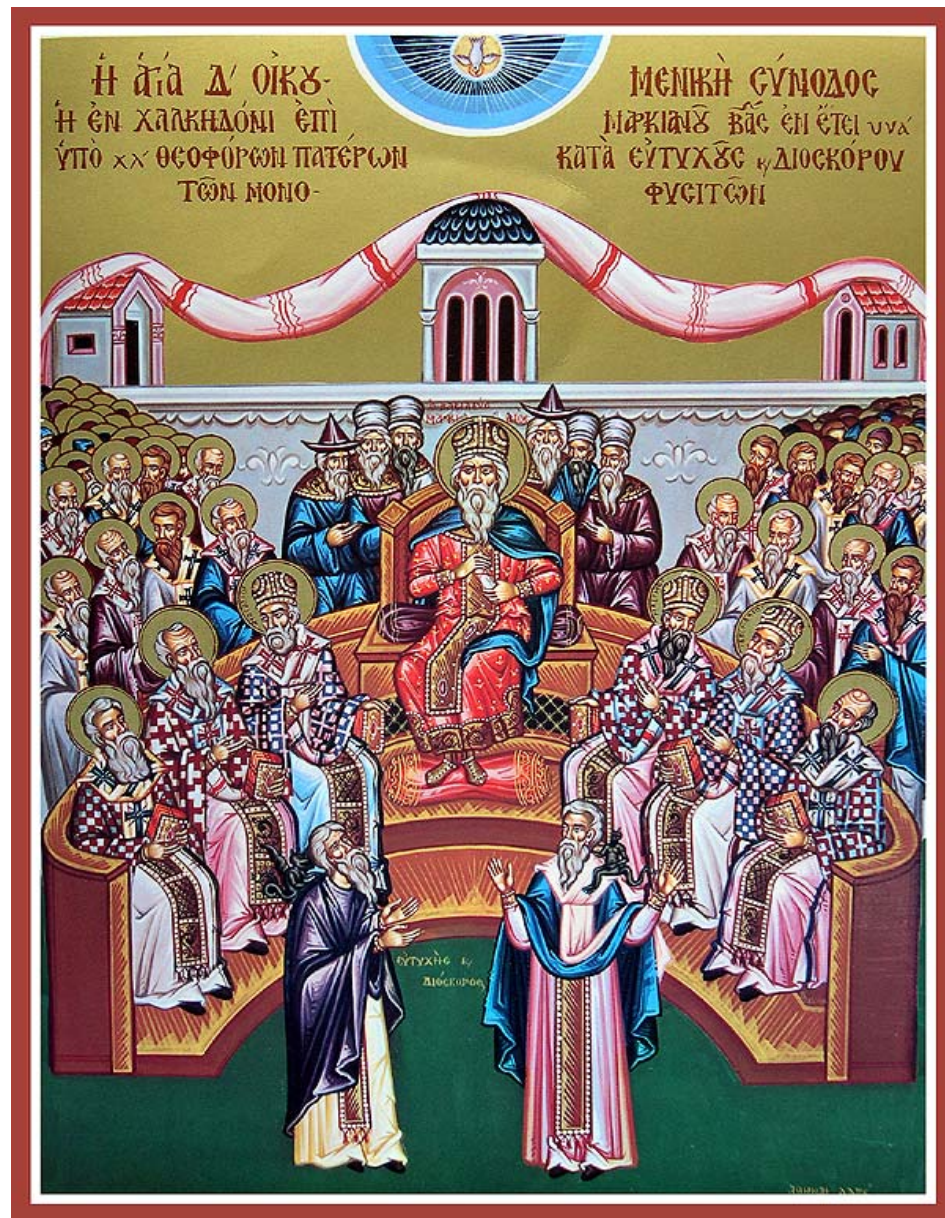
HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

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).

The Ecumenical Councils were always convened for a specific reason: to combat false opinions and heresies, and to clarify the Orthodox Church’s teaching. But the Holy Spirit has thus seen fit that the dogmas, the truths of faith, immutable in their content and scope, constantly and consequently are revealed by the conciliar mind of the Church, and are given precision by the Holy Fathers within theological concepts and terms in exactly such measure as is needed by the Church itself for its economy of salvation. The Church, in expounding its dogmas, is dealing with the concerns of a given historical moment, “not revealing everything in haste and thoughtlessly, nor indeed, ultimately hiding something” (St. Gregory the Theologian).

www.oca.org



HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD
PARMA, OHIO 44134

THE TRINITARIAN

Published Weekly by the
HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD, PARMA, OHIO 44134
CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 216-524-4859
CHURCH WEBSITE: <http://www.holy-trin.org>
V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

RECTORY: 963 John Glenn Drive, Seven Hills, Ohio 44131 Phone 216-524-8989

BULLETIN 37 - VOLUME LIV

TONE 5

JULY 16, 2017

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Six Œcumenical Councils
Hieromartyr Athenogenes, Bishop of Hercleopolis, and his ten disciples;
Martyrs Paul and two sisters, Chionia and Alevtina, at Cæsarea in Palestine;
Martyr Antiochus, Physician of Sebaste;
Virgin Martyr Julia of Carthage

“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 VIII

Holy Glorious Prophet Elijah ***Thursday, July 20***

“That angel in the flesh and cornerstone of prophets, that other forerunner of the coming of Christ, the glorious Elijah, sent Elisha grace from on high to dispel disease and cure the scourge of leprosy. And in the same way, today, he brings healing to those who honor him.”

Troparion, Tone IV

TODAY’S EPISTLE: ROMANS 12:6-14
HEBREWS 13:7-16

TODAY’S GOSPEL: MATTHEW 9:1-8
JOHN 17:1-13

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Saturday, July 22

5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, July 17

I Corinthians 5:9-6:11

Matthew 13:54-58

Tuesday, July 18

I Corinthians 6:20-7:12

Matthew 14:1-13

I Corinthians 7:12-24

Matthew 14:35-15:11

Wednesday, July 19

Galatians 5:22-6:2

Luke 6:17-23

Thursday, July 20

James 5:10-20

Luke 4:22-30

Friday, July 21

I Corinthians 7:24-35

Matthew 15:12-21

I Corinthians 7:35-8:7

Matthew 15:29-31

Saturday, July 22

Romans 12:1-3

Matthew 10:37-11:1

COMING EVENTS

JULY:

- 22, Saturday 7:00 p.m. IOCC Night at Progressive Field
- 26, Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers celebrating St. Panteleimon Ministry feast day
- 30, Sunday Parish Picnic

AUGUST:

- 14, Monday 12:30 p.m. St. Elizabeth Book Circle
- 18, Friday 6:00 p.m. St. Panteleimon Bowling Event

PARISH PICNIC:

Plan to spend the last Sunday in July at our Parish Picnic! It will begin shortly after the Divine Liturgy concludes. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for the number of family members attending and the food you will bring. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and buns are provided. If you would like to help out with set-up, clean-up, or in any other way, please contact Katie Griebel; email k.s.griebel4@gmail.com or phone 216-409-2420.

BOOK CIRCLE:

The St. Elizabeth Book Circle will meet on Monday, August 14, at 12:30. We will finish The Joy of the Holy (St. Seraphim) by reading his spiritual instructions in Appendix B, pages 123-163. Our next book is The Joy to Serve by Julianna Schmemann. Please pick up a copy. We will begin by reading pages 1-39. We may not get to discussing this book in August, or we may begin discussion, so read what you can. All are welcome.

COFFEE HOUR:

Donors are always needed and appreciated. Dates that remain open in August are August 20 and 27. A sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.

FLOWERS:

The flowers today are offered by Marge Molnar in memory of Bob Molnar.

BASEBALL NIGHT:

The IOCC is hosting a Baseball Night at Progressive Field on Saturday, July 22. The game is at 7:10, and the first 12,500 people through the gates will receive a Jason Kipnis bobblehead. Fireworks will follow the game. Tickets are \$30 for mezzanine seats. See Paula Svilar to purchase tickets.

ST. PANTELEIMON FEAST DAY:

All are invited to celebrate the feast day with the St. Panteleimon Ministry on Wednesday, July 26, at 6:00 p.m., with a Great Vespers service at St. Nicholas Church, 2101 Quail St. in Lakewood.

BOWLING:

The St. Panteleimon Ministry invites all to their Bowling Event on Friday, August 18, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at Yorktown Lanes in Parma Hts. Adults are \$15; children are \$10; includes bowling, pizza and soda (shoe rental at bowler's expense). Proceeds benefit the organization, which has been ministering to those in nursing homes since 2010.

TRINITARIAN COVERS:

The covers today are offered by Michael and Clare Skor.

WEDDING BANNES:

Gabrielle Hatch will marry Alan Draper on Saturday, July 29, at 1:00 p.m.

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, JULY 9	\$ 3098.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	76.00
BUILDING FUND	61.00
MORTGAGE FUND	96.00
CANDLES	89.00
ORTHODOX SEMINARIES	30.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Bulletin 37 – Volume LIV

July 16, 2017

#

REFLECTIONS ON ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS - III

The Epistle to the Romans is a theological gold mine, containing some of St. Paul's most important ideas. One notable Biblical scholar put it this way: "Romans overwhelms the reader by the density and sublimity of the topics with which it deals, the gospel of the justification and salvation of Jew and Greek alike by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, revealing the uprightness and love of God the Father" (Joseph Fitzmyer).

It is not surprising that this epistle has been the default source for theologians throughout the centuries as they tackled the challenges of elucidating fundamentals of Christian doctrine. However, to think that the Epistle to the Romans is exclusively about "academic" theology is to seriously misunderstand it. Christian theology, if it is *genuine* theology, is never an "academic" end-in-itself (like the proverbial and comical idea that theology is about discussing "how many angels can dance on the head of a pin"). Theology has everything to do with the way we live, or rather how we should be living, every day in the most ordinary of circumstances. St. Paul's epistles differ somewhat from each other, depending on to whom and for what purpose they were written; but they all share the quality of being accessible and applicable for us and for our benefit, so that we would "live in harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus" (Romans 15:5).

St. Paul hopes that "every one who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved," but he realizes that not all are believers. In his preaching and oral presentations, he addressed non-believers, encouraging them to become faithful Christians, but his written epistles are specifically directed to those of the "household of faith." The Epistle to the Romans in particular is to members of the Christian community in Rome, and for them the Apostle has certain instructions about organization. It is here that we find his famous description of a Christian community as a body, which he uses elsewhere.

For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them (Romans 12:4-6).

This Pauline image of the Church as the "Body of Christ" became a standard Christian concept often used in conversation. The image perfectly describes the Church in which every member is integral and indispensable. At the same time, every member is unique with special talents and therefore special responsibilities. The unifying element is, of course, love. With the grace of God's love, given to us through Jesus Christ, we are able to effectively pray and work together, never losing zeal, but "on fire with the Spirit, we serve the Lord, rejoicing in our hope, patient in tribulation and constant in prayer" (Romans 12:11).

Fr. Alexander Garklaus