

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Ann
Archimandrite Irenei	Stefan
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Travis
Archpriest Eugene	Anna
Archpriest Seraphim	John
Priest Alexander	Vivian
Reader Aleksei	Jung Sook
Virginia	Cheyenne
Kapitolina	Nancy
John • Jacqueline	Randall
Euphrosynos	Rose
John	Don
Samuel	Kristie
Catechumen Rebecca	

The repose and salvation of –

Priest Vladimir (May 14)

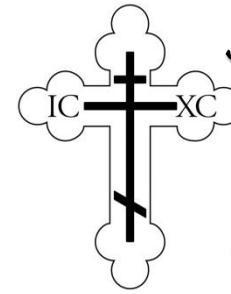
Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

THIS SATURDAY, JUNE 18: 5:30 PM Vespers & Litya

**THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 19: 9:10 AM Hours, Divine
Liturgy & Kneeling Vespers for Holy Pentecost**

THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 26: PARISH COUNCIL

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,
Orthodox Church in America*



**ST TIKHON ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, June 12, 2016



The Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council



The First Ecumenical Council by Vasily Surikov

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck
Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

The seventh Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Orthodox Church as the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. This day commemorates the 318 God-bearing Fathers who gathered in Nicaea in 325 at the request of the Emperor, Saint Constantine the Great, to address the heresy of Arianism together with other issues that concerned the unity of the Church.

Arius was a protopresbyter of the Church of Alexandria, and in 315, he began to blaspheme against the Son of God saying that He was not the true God, consubstantial with the Father, but rather a work or creation of God and different from the essence and glory of the Father. He also taught that the Son of God had a beginning. These teachings shook the faithful at Alexandria. The Bishop of Alexandria, Alexander, attempted to correct Arius through admonitions, cut him off from communion, and finally deposed him in 321 through a local council. Arius continued with his heretical teachings, creating controversy and division in the churches of other cities, which led to a theological and ecclesiastical crisis throughout the Christian Church.

Moved with divine zeal and concern for unity, the Emperor Constantine the Great, equal to the Apostles, summoned the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, a city of Bithynia. It was in this place that the bishops of the Church gathered in 325. All of them, with one mouth and one voice, declared that the Son and Word of God is one in essence with the Father, true God of true God. The Fathers composed the holy symbol of Faith, the Nicene Creed:

"We believe in one God. The Father Almighty. Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end." The Fathers also anathematized Arius for his heretical beliefs and teachings, cutting him off from the Church.

Recognizing the divine Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council as heralds of the Faith after the divine Apostles, the Church of Christ has appointed this present Sunday for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto the glory of God, unto their praise and honor, and unto the strengthening of the true Faith.

Also this week: *Martyr Aquilina of Byblos in Syria (June 13); Prophet Elisha (June 14); St Jonah, Metropolitan of Moscow; Bl. Augustine, Bp of Hippo (June 15); St Tikhon, Bp of Amathus in Cyprus (June 16); Martyrs Manuel, Sabel, and Ismael, of Persia (June 17); MEMORIAL SATURDAY; Martyrs Leontius, and with him Martyrs Hypatius and Theodolus, at Tripoli in Syria (June 18).*

** regular fasting this week; wine and oil allowed on Wednesday and Friday **

Epistle: Acts 20:16-18, 28-36

Gospel: John 17:1-13

Troparion – Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The angelic powers were at Thy tomb; / The guards *became* as dead men. / Mary stood by Thy grave, / Seeking *Thy* most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell, / Not *being* tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. ///
O Lord, Who didst rise from the *dead*: glory to Thee!

Troparion — Tone 4 (Ascension)

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, / Granting joy to Thy Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit. / Through the blessing they were assured / That Thou art the Son of God, /// The Redeemer of the world!

Troparion — Tone 8 (Fathers)

Most glorious art *Thou*, O Christ our God! / Thou hast established the *Holy* Fathers as lights on the earth. / Through them Thou hast guided *us* to the True Faith.///
O greatly compassionate *One*, glory to Thee!

Kontakion — Tone 8 (Fathers)

The Apostles' preaching *and* the Fathers' doctrines / Have established *one* Faith for the Church. / Adorned with the robe of truth, *woven* from heavenly theology; ///
Great is the mystery of *piety* which it defines and glorifies.

Kontakion — Tone 6 (Ascension)

When Thou didst fulfill the dispensation for our sake, / And *unite* earth to heaven: / Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God / Not being *parted* from those who love Thee, / But remaining with them and crying: ///
"I am *with* you, and no one will be against you!"