

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea

May 13, 2018: Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council

E pistle: Acts 20: 16-18 & 28-38

Gospel: Jn. 17: 1-13

Mon., May 14	8:00	+ Rosalie Namiak (Friends & Family)
Tues., May 15	8:00	+ Johanna Dutka (Shirley Romanovitch)
Wed., May 16	8:00	+ Frank Evanitsky (Daughter, Michaelene Davis)
Thurs., May 17	8:00	+ Anna Stracka (Mary Ann Spryn)
Fri., May 18	8:00	+ Virginia Halenda (Gile & Jean Morgan)
	6:30	Moleben to the Mother of God
Sat., May 19	No Morning Divine Liturgy	
	10:30	Confessions
	2:00 pm	Confessions
	4:00 pm	+ Raymond Dench (Dad & Mom)
Sun., May 20	9:00	+ Joseph Chmil (Robert, Barbara & Hilary Spryn)
	11:30	For Those Buried in Our Cemetery

First Antiphon

Clap your hands, all you peoples;* sing to God a song of gladness.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, Save us.*

For the most high Lord is awesome;* He is a mighty King over all the earth.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, Save us.*

He subjects many peoples under us, bringing nations below our feet.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, Save us.*

The Lord God ascends with acclamation,* amidst the sound of trumpets.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, Save us.*

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Third Antiphon

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord, let us acclaim God, our Savior.

Son of God, exalted in glory, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Let us come before His face with praise, and acclaim Him in psalms.

Son of God, exalted in glory, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth.
Son of God, exalted in glory, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Entrance Hymn

Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.
Son of God, exalted in glory, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Hymn to the Mother of God

Extol, my soul, the Lord exalted gloriously in the flesh above the heavens. All of us believers, with one accord, * proclaim your greatness as the Mother of God, * for in time you gave birth to the timeless One, * defying words and human understanding.

Communion Verse

Praise the Lord from the heavens; * praise Him in the highest.
Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones; * praise from the upright is fitting.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

A Reflection on Mothers' Day

Today, we give thanks to our mothers for their gift of life and nurture by remembering them especially in our prayers, and with acts of affection and goodness. We fondly and gratefully recall their living as bearers of light in our earthly life. Mothers give special witness as active bearers of the light of faith to their children, to their spouse, and to the entire family.

Jesus said that a person does not light a candle and then put it under a basket for no one to see. The gift of our faith, the light of our faith is meant to shine brightly. It is meant to be a source of rekindling the faith in others around us who may be struggling. Mothers seem to be blessed with a compelling grace to actively teach and model their life-giving faith to their children and to oth-

ers. They plant the early seeds of faith in Jesus Christ and nurture it throughout their lifetime. They do not surrender to being passive in the celebration of their faith for which all of us are so grateful. They are steadfast in their faith as witnessed by their steadfast participation in the Church.



Mothers' Day

The best testimony you and I can give to the gift of our mothers is to ourselves become bright bearers of the light of faith. Choose to nurture the seed of faith planted within you by your mother by learning more about your faith, your Church. Choose to actively share your faith with those whom you have been given to love and nurture in your life. Celebrate your faith energetically and enthusiastically, and without reservation, in imitation of your mother's gift to you. Choose to put aside your passivity! It only limits and constrains the gift so freely given to us by our mother.

The Blessed Mother of God gave her passionate and unconditional 'yes' to

celebrate God's plan through her. It led to a gift for all of us beyond our comprehension – God's saving plan for all of us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. The love and unconditional commitment of our earthly mother has given you and me opportunity to celebrate life and all its wonders as recipients of God's love. In testimony to our loving mothers, let us live as bright bearers of light!

God bless all of our mothers in ways only He can for many blessed and happy years! May the souls of our loving departed mothers be granted eternal peace with Jesus Christ!

-- *Archbishop-Emeritus Stefan Soroka*

Angels We Have Heard...

On this Mother's Day, we will have a special treat during the 11:30 Divine Liturgy. Our children will be singing the responses to the Divine Liturgy. And they say "those who sing, pray twice." There can be nothing

more touching and sweet and beautiful than hearing young voices lift up their prayers to God. We thank Cathy and Patrick Marcinko for helping to prepare the children for this special event.

From the Chancery

On Sunday, June 10, at 3 pm, in the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia, clergy, religious and faithful will gather together for a Moleben service in praise, gratitude and thanksgiving to God for blessing the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia with The Most

Reverend Stefan Soroka, Archbishop-emeritus and his dedicated years of service in the vineyard of the Lord. After the prayer service, everyone is invited to enjoy a social and reception in honor of Archbishop Stefan in the Cathedral Social Hall.

Kneeling in Our Church... A Clarification

During the Paschal Season the posture of prayer in the Ukrainian Catholic Church is

to stand for the entire Liturgy except for the infirm. It is, however, acceptable to sit when

the book so instructs, but to stand instead of kneeling. This is the practice until the Prayers of Kneeling are recited at Vespers on Pentecost or after the Sunday Divine Liturgy that day. Contrary to past custom we stand for the singing of “Heavenly King Comforter” at the beginning of the Liturgy on Pentecost Sunday.

Outside the Paschal Season it is the custom of the Ukrainian Catholic Church again to stand on Sunday through out the year because **every Sunday** commemorates the Resurrection of the Lord. It is a custom however, that has fallen into disuse. The practice of kneeling at the prescribed times at weekday Divine Liturgy is of relatively recent development; of Western theological influence. And, outside of the Paschal Season, again under Western influence, kneeling became the normal posture for prayer.

The Instruction of the Holy See in 1996

requests a return to the authentic traditions of our Ukrainian Catholic Church. The Pope seems to recognize the value of our Tradition better, at times, than we ourselves. Our fore bearers discarded some customs/traditions in hope of recognition. We now are re-claiming those customs/traditions because we understand their legitimacy. It is not a repudiation of belief; it is a refining of practice. Standing expresses the belief that through the Resurrection of Christ we have been released from the bonds and slavery of sin. No longer need we cower in shame but, stand, elated that we have been justified through His suffering and death. If we truly believe the things we pray, then truly we are in the Kingdom of Heaven and the Divine Liturgy and our posture of prayer is our expression of that belief. It is the forgiven that stand before God.

A Catholic Burial and Cremation

It is still the teaching of the Catholic Church, that even though a funeral is celebrated, and the body may be cremated, the cremains **MUST** be interred as would a body involving Christian Burial, that is, in the ground or mausoleum. It is inap-

propriate to scatter, dispose of, or save the cremains in any other way, then to have them properly interred immediately after the funeral thus maintaining a sense of decorum, respect and dignity for the human body.

May Devotions

The month of May is devoted to our heavenly Mother, Mary. A Moleben service will be offered on Fridays in May, at 6:30 pm. Come to

church, join us in honoring her, who God first honored, by choosing her to be the Mother of His Son.

Mark Your Calendars...

On Sunday, May 20, 2018, we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. As is the tradition in our

Parish, we will celebrate a Divine Liturgy in the Cemetery Chapel (weather conditions

permitting). Following the Divine Liturgy, a Panakhyda will be celebrated followed by the Blessing of the Graves.

On Pentecost only, **THE 9:00 DI-**

VINE LITURGY WILL BE IN ENGLISH; THE 11:30 DIVINE LITURGY WILL AT AT THE CEMETERY CHAPEL AND SUNG BY THE CHOIR.

Queen City Days

The Annual "Queen City Days" Carnival, sponsored by Eureka Hose Company No. 4, 717 E. Grant St., Olyphant, will be held Thursday, May 31st to Saturday, June 2nd at the Fern Hill Park. Several adult and children's rides will be featured. Local food vendors will offer food and refresh-

ments. Music will be provided each evening. Firemen's Parade on Friday at 7:00 p.m. and a giant Fireworks Display on Saturday. Any questions or to secure a spot on the midway, contact Mayor John Sedlak, Jr. at 570-383-1406.

L.U.C. Meeting

Father Walter Pasicznyk, pastor of Plymouth's SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, extends a warm invitation to the beautiful Prayer Service - Moleben to Christ, Lover of Mankind (Чоловіколюбець) - on Sunday, June 3, 2018 at 3:00 pm to be followed by a church sponsored meeting of our North Anthracite Council of the League of

Ukrainian Catholics (LUC). Plans for fund raising, the annual summer picnic and the October National Convention in Buffalo/Amherst, New York will be the primary agenda items. This is a public event of SS. Peter and Paul parish to which all parishioners and friends are welcome.

St. Cyril's at the Ball Park

Baseball tickets have been ordered for the Railriders game versus the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs on Thursday, June 21st at PNC Field. This game is scheduled to start at

7:05 pm. Tickets are \$11.00. Please see Father Nestor if you are interested in going to this game.

25 Year Celebration

A buffet luncheon to honor Fr. Nestor Iwasiw on his 25 years in the Priesthood will be held on June 24th at 3 PM at St.

George Family Restaurant, 304 Church St., Jessup.

Tickets are \$20 and will be available

to purchase after each Divine Liturgy, starting Saturday, May 19th and Sunday, May 20th, excluding the 11:30 Liturgy, (for we will be at the cemetery for Pentecost) and every weekend until June 17th

Unless Sold Out.

We regret that due to limited space only 100 tickets are available. Hope to see you there!

Rummage Sale 2018

With the success of our Rummage Sale 2017, we do plan on having a Rummage Sale on September 21, 22 and 23, 2018. At this time, we still own the school building. We have stored our racks, tables and books etc.... in the gym for 2018. It is early, but if anyone (friends, neighbors, family) are planning on redecorating, having an estate sale or downsizing, we will accept furniture NOW, and through out the next 5 months. All other merchandise will be accepted in the summer/fall of 2018. Contact Lauren Telep at 570-383-0319 concerning any furniture/merchandise donations. If the status of the school changes,

we will have the rummage sale earlier than planned.

As always, volunteers will be needed through out the upcoming months. We always need parishioner to help in picking up donations from the community with their cars, trucks and suv's. Please let us know that you can help us out in this area because if we don't pick up the donations, they can be thrown out to the garbage or donated to other organizations. Usually, we need the TRUCK, and have other people to load and unload the contents. We receive about 85% of our donations from the Mid-valley community.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of May 2018 is Team #1: Roger

Barren, Jerry Sereditch and John Sereditch.

Sunday Collection for May 5 & 6, 2018: \$

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for May 19 & 20, 2018

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Samuel Sczesniak -- Brett Lowe	Michael Shumek
9:00 am	Joseph Chylak -- Nicholas Chylak	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Thomas Radle -- David Slachtish	Pat Marcinko

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Knowledge of the True God Nurtures Us to Eternal Life

Are we saying that knowledge is eternal life? Are we saying that to know the one true and living God will suffice to give us complete security for the future without need of anything else? Then how is "faith apart from works dead?" When we speak of faith, we mean the true knowledge of God and nothing else, since knowledge comes by faith. The prophet Isaiah tells us this: "If you do not believe, neither shall you understand." But he is not talking about a knowledge that consists in barren speculations, which is entirely worthless. For one of the holy disciples said, "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe and shudder." What then shall we say to this? How is it that Christ speaks the truth when He says that eternal life is the knowledge of God the Father, the one true God, and with Him of the Son? I think, indeed, we must answer that the saying of the Savior is completely true. For this knowledge is life, laboring as it were in birth of the whole meaning of the mystery and

granting to us participation in the mystery of the Eucharist, whereby we are joined to the living and life-giving Word. And for this reason, I think, Paul says that the Gentiles are made fellow members of the body and fellow partakers of Christ, inasmuch as they partake in His Blessed Body and Blood. And our members may in this sense be conceived of as being members of Christ. This knowledge, then, which also brings to us the Eucharist by the Spirit, is life. For it dwells in our hearts, reshaping those who receive it into son-ship with Him and molding them into incorruption and piety toward God through life, according to the Gospel. Our Lord Jesus Christ, then, knowing that the knowledge of the one true God brings to us and promotes our union with the blessings of which we have spoken, says that it is eternal life. It is the mother and nurse of eternal life, being in its power and nature pregnant with those things that cause life and lead to life.

St. Cyril of Alexandria