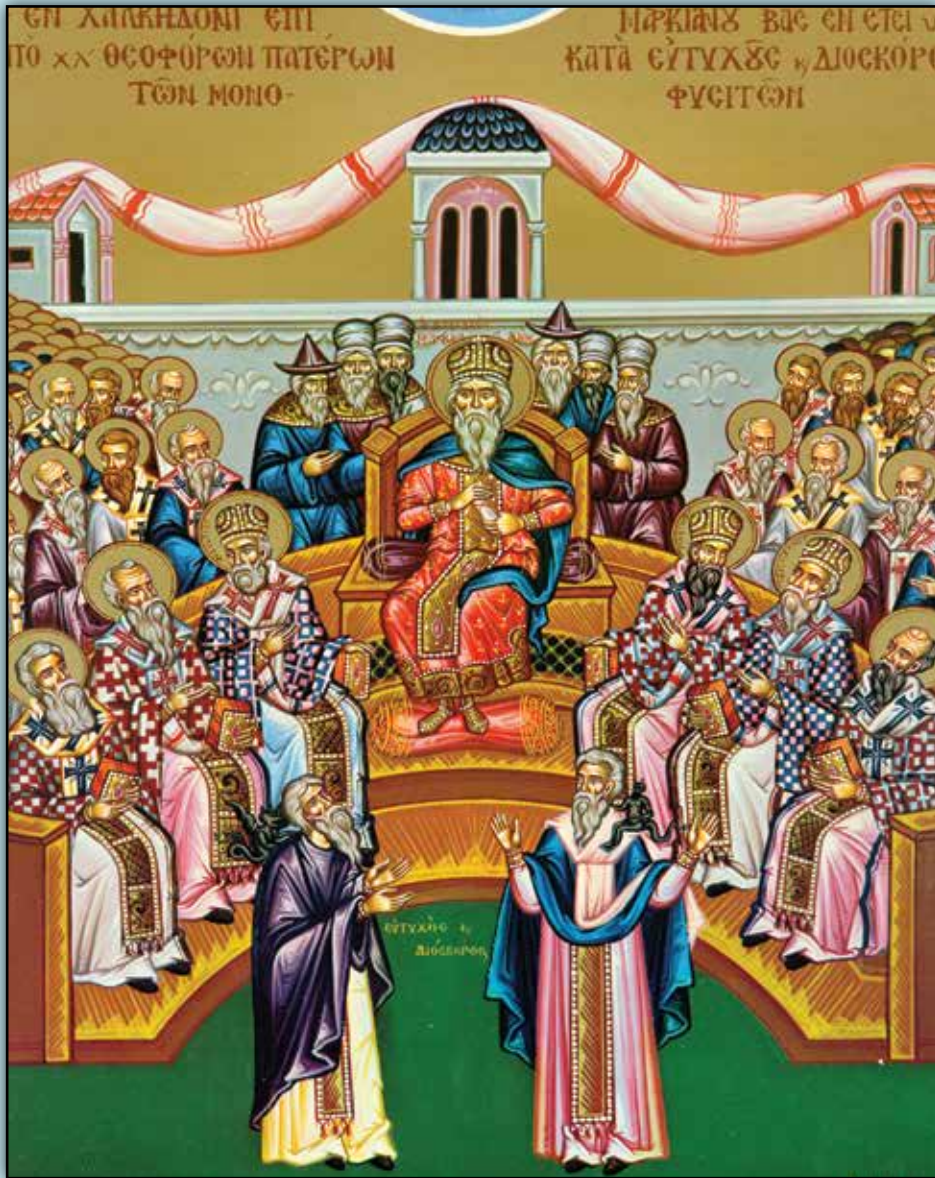


SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS



Icon of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

July 16, 2023: Fathers of the 6 Ecumenical Councils

Epistle: Heb. 13: 7-16

Gospel: Jn. 17: 1-13

Mon., July 17	9:00	+ Margaret & Frank Evanitsky (Daughter, Michaelene)
Tues., July 18	9:00	+ Roman Kushner (Laurie Masters)
Wed., July 19	9:00	+ Joanne Bodnar Burch (Family)
Thurs., July 20	9:00	+ Mildred Gongliewski (Daughter, Mary Beth)
Fri. July 21	9:00	+ John Sereditch (Howard Smith)
Sat., July 22	No Morning Divine Liturgy 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm For Our Parishioners	
Sun., July 23	10:30	+ Marlene Nestrick (John & Mary Ann Turko)

FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

“Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith.”

Today we remember the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils, those pastor-bishops who met in various gatherings from the fourth to the seventh century to combat heresies and formulate canons, or rules, to guide the Church in holy living. We honor these Fathers – indeed, we honor all the saints – because they are friends of Christ, because they show us Christ. The Fathers committed their lives, many of them as martyrs, to teach-

ing clearly and faithfully the word of God. And so, we are called to consider carefully the outcome of their life and to imitate their faith. We are to follow their examples in never neglecting to do good and to share what we have, for such is the way of the fathers, the way of the saints, and such sacrifices are well-pleasing to God.

One of the reasons our Churches are filled with icons is to aid us in this task. In worship we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, a tremendous company of those who teach us in word and deed the way of Christ. Many of them were mistreated by the world.



Like their Lord Christ, they met their end in dishonor, “dying outside the city,” far removed from fame or fortune. For here they had no lasting city, but rather they sought a city which is to come. As a community of faithful we are to remember them, we cling to their relics, we venerate their icons, because we know that they’re not simply dead and gone, buried and forgotten. We know that in Christ they live! Dwelling in the fullness of His presence, they are in a certain profound sense more alive than we are in our present struggles.

And so we ask their prayers, that our lives may become more deeply rooted in the life and love of Christ, just as theirs are. We remember them this day and every day. In the words of St. John of Damascus, who wrote in the eighth century: “Let us carefully review the life of these men, and let us emulate their faith and love and hope and zeal and way of life, and endurance of sufferings and patience even to (the shedding of) blood, in order that we may be sharers with them in their crowns of glory.” Amen

ST. CYRIL'S SUMMER RAFFLE

Congratulations to the winners in our Summer Raffle. They are: 1st Prize (\$500.00): Kathleen Radle; 2nd Prize (\$300.00): Julia Beckage; 3rd Prize (\$200.00): Lauren Lowe. We also ex-

tend our thanks to everyone who helped to support this annual Fund Raiser, whether by sponsoring the tickets, selling the tickets or by purchasing the tickets! Thank you for your generosity.

BEWARE OF THE SCAM

It has come to my attention that someone is using my name to solicit Apple Cards for cancer patients. THIS IS A SCAM.

I am not collecting Apple Cards. If you should receive such a bogus text, please just delete it and do not respond to it.

A SPECIAL REQUEST

At the conclusion of our Divine Liturgy, please close all Liturgy books and/or hymn books/brochures and return them to their proper place. Also, please do not leave any church bulletins or other reading material in the pews. Why not pass them on to someone you know?

Also, don't forget to take your water bottles with you. Let us all do our part to be true stewards of our parish church by helping to keep the pews clean and neat. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

IT IS SUMMER TIME!!!

Summer is here and I'm sure we're all thinking about vacations, relaxing, lots of sunshine, a slower lifestyle, ball games, visits to the zoo and amusement parks, short trips to places of interest, working around the house, gardening, summer sports leagues, and more...

It seems to me that regardless of the time of year, we all have much for which to thank God, and as His creations, therefore we need to worship

our Creator. As you begin to fill the calendar with activities, try not to let Sunday Divine Worship fall by the wayside!

For all of us summer should be less stressful which should, in turn, enhance our participation in the Divine Liturgy. What we see happening in our parishes is that summer means for some "a vacation from God."

This is a strange concept for me,

which you would probably expect me to say, given my priestly ministry in the Church. I like to think of my summer vacations as an adventure, and visiting different Ukrainian Catholic or Eastern Catholic Churches can be part of this adventure. The different types of architecture, icons, music, vestments, etc. still point to a Church with the same beliefs. Our Divine Worship is timeless, regardless of the time zone, continent, or jurisdiction in which it is offered.

When you plan to travel remember to visit the following websites: www.byzcath.org/index.php/find-

[aparish-mainmenu-111](#), or www.parishesonline.com; to find lists of all parishes, regardless of jurisdiction.

Finally, here is a prayer that you can offer before you begin your travels:

Lord Jesus Christ my God, be my Companion, guide and protector during my journey. Keep me from all danger, misfortune and temptation. By Your divine power grant me a peaceful and successful journey and safe arrival. In You I place my hope and trust and You I praise, honor and glorify, together with Your Father and Holy Spirit now and forever and ever. Amen.

REASONS I NEVER ~~GO TO MASS~~ SHOWER

A priest in Ireland got tired of listening to people explain why they don't go to mass on Sundays. He wrote this in the bulletin:

1. I was forced to shower as a child.
2. People who shower are hypocrites. They say they are cleaner than everyone else.
3. There are so many different kinds of soap, I could never decide which one was right.
4. I used to shower, but it got boring so I stopped.
5. I shower only on special occasions, like Easter and Christmas.
6. None of my friends shower.
7. I'm still young. When I'm older

and have gotten a bit dirtier, I might start showering.

8. I really don't have time to shower.

9. The bathroom is never warm enough in the winter or cool enough in the summer.

10. People who make soap are only after your money.

(There's More)

- I get along very well without showering.

- I work hard all week and I'm too tired to take a shower on the weekend.

- The first bar of soap I ever used gave me a rash, so I haven't gone near soap since.

A VERY FAITHFUL WOMAN

An elderly lady was well-known for her faith and for her boldness in talking about it. She would stand on her front porch and shout "PRAISE THE LORD!"

Next door to her lived an atheist who would get so angry at her proclamations he would shout, "There ain't no Lord!!"

Hard times set in on the elderly lady, and she prayed for GOD to send her some assistance. She stood on her porch and shouted "PRAISE THE LORD. GOD I NEED FOOD!! I AM HAVING A HARD TIME. PLEASE LORD, SEND

ME SOME GROCERIES!"

The next morning the lady went out on her porch and noted a large bag of groceries and shouted, "PRAISE THE LORD." The neighbor jumped from behind a bush and said, "Aha! I told you there was no Lord. I bought those groceries, God didn't."

The lady started jumping up and down and clapping her hands and said, "PRAISE THE LORD. He not only sent me groceries, but He made the devil pay for them. Praise the Lord!"

OLYPHANT RESIDENTS (AGE 65+) SAVINGS

Olyphant Residents are paying \$12.00 per month fee for removal of their garbage and this fee is reflected on their Olyphant Electric Bill, a total of \$144.00 per year. The Olyphant Borough Council authorized a savings for Olyphant's Senior Citizens age 65 +.years old. You must meet the requirements to get the credit of \$72.00 on your RESIDENT/ Home electric bill per year. You must register for this savings.

You need to show your Photo I.D./ Pennsylvania Driver's license, age 65+

years old, your name is on the Olyphant Electric Bill for the past 12 months and paid up to date, etc. (it is NOT BASED on your income for the credit of \$72.00 per year) You will be notified as your information is approved for this savings.

For additional information please contact the Olyphant Borough Building, Electric Department at 570-489-2135 and 570-489-3001 or stop by Olyphant Borough Building, 113 Willow Street, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

CHICKEN DINNER

Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will hold a Chicken

Dinner as their "Why Cook Wednesday Dinner" for July. The dinner will be on

Wednesday, July 19, 2023 in their school hall on the corner of North River and West Chestnut Streets, near the General Hospital Parkade in Wilkes-Barre. This dinner will be Take-Out Only and Pre-Orders are strongly encouraged. Dinners will be \$15 and will include; a brined and

roasted half-chicken, baked potato, corn, macaroni salad, roll and dessert. Place your order by calling the School Hall Kitchen (570) 829-3051. Pick-Ups will be from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Tickets will also be sold for a Basket Raffle. Remember...When Baba Cooks, Everybody's Happy!

ANNUAL UKRAINIAN SEMINARY DAY

The Clergy and faithful of the South Anthracite Deanery of Pennsylvania will host the 89th Annual Ukrainian Seminary Day on Sunday, July 30, 2023 at St. Nick's Picnic Grove in Minersville, PA. All funds raised will

go to support St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington, D.C. We encourage all our faithful to go and observe 89 years of celebrating our Ukrainian Catholic Faith, culture and heritage. You will have a good time!

22ND ANNUAL LEBANESE-AMERICAN FOOD FEST

Dates: August 11,12,13, 2023

Time: Fri. Aug 11 4 - 9pm; Sat. Aug 12 4 - 9 pm; Sun. Aug 13 1 - 7pm

Location: St. Joseph Melkite Greek-Catholic Church
130 N. St. Frances Cabrini Ave (off lower Jackson St)
West Scranton, PA

Brief Description: Great Lebanese Food and pastries, Local picnic food favorites, variety baskets.

For more info: Web: melkitescranton.org; Facebook.com/melkitescranton;

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of July 2023 is Team #3: Marlene Zelno, Dorothy Zinsky, and Cheryl Matuszewski.

Sunday Collection for July 8 & 9, 2023: \$

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451 Fax: 570-489-6918



Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net

Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Authority of the Council - Authority of the Church

The authority of the Councils is based also on their ecclesiological grounding. A council is not an independent, autonomous body, additional, coming from outside, acting unilaterally. It is not the product of accidental circumstances in history and imposed afterwards. It is closely, or rather organically, related with the very essence of the Church. This body of Christ is a living organism, destined to grow, to face difficulties during this process, to be implanted in other regions of the world needing inculturation and a certain adaptation. Such embodiment and multifaceted ministry creates problems, tensions, even divisions and in spite of the good will of the local bishop and pastors, the convocation of as a major

assembly is considered as a natural instrument, salutary and indispensable. The official voice of the catholicity and the *koinonia* of all the other sister churches, in harmony and guided by the Spirit, would only provide the new assessments, possible remedies and solutions. The functioning of such a council was such that the opinions and requests at issue found expression from the very womb of the Church. Once the decision was made, the people had a part in receiving it and publicizing it (Acts 15:22) as is seen in the first assembly of Jerusalem.

Metropolitan Emilianos

For books on Eastern Christianity, visit www.ecpubs.com
To view over 300 videos, visit www.oltv.tv