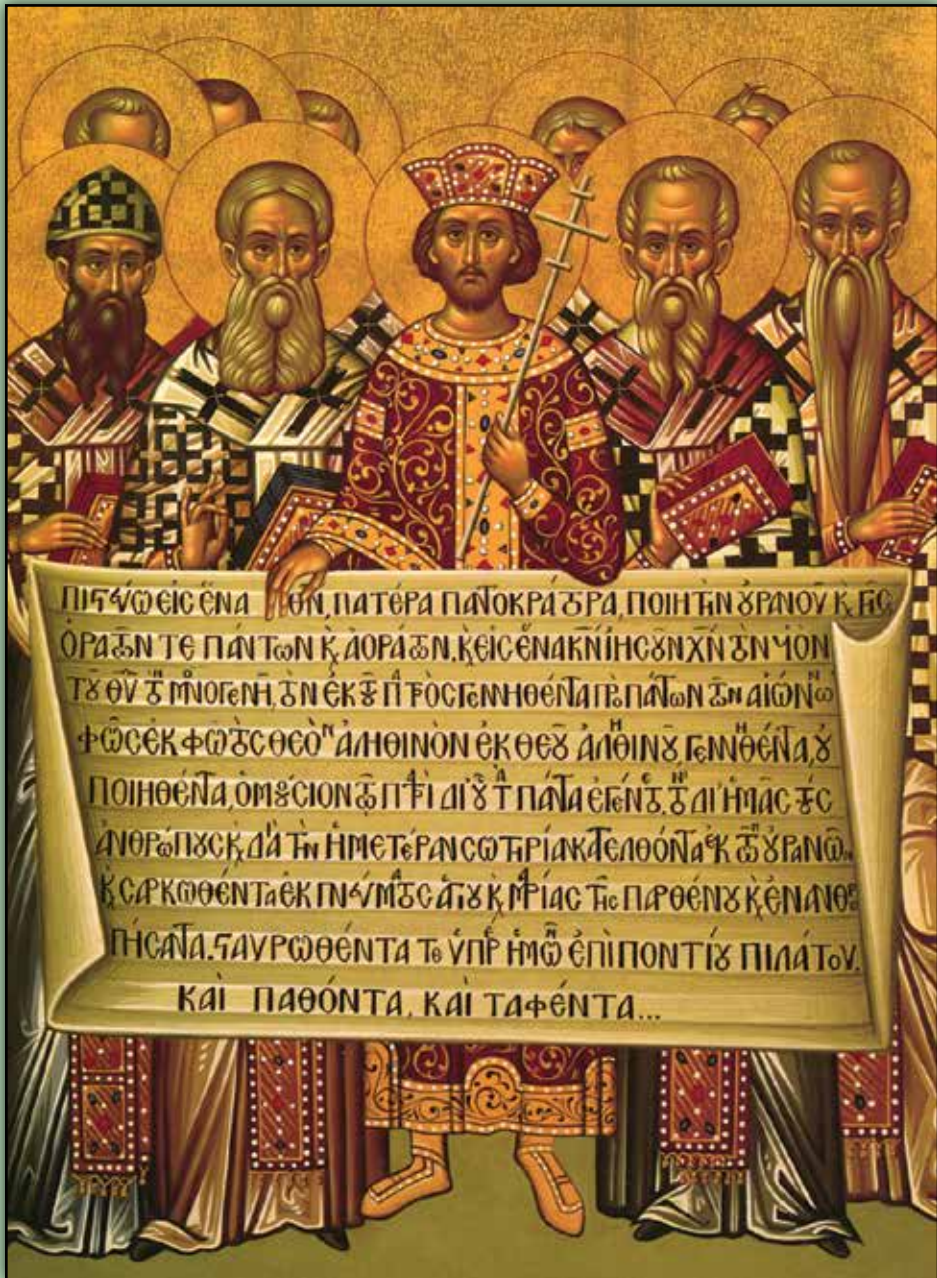


# SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



*Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea*



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

**Entrance**

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

**Hymn to the Mother of God**

**O** my soul, magnify the Lord who in glory ascended bodily into the heavens.  
O Mother of God,\* you transcended both mind and word,\* and in time,  
ineffably bore the Timeless One:\* it is you who, with one accord,\* we, the  
faithful, magnify.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens;\* praise Him in the highest.  
Rejoice in the Lord, O you just;\* praise befits the righteous.  
**Alleluia, alleluia,\* alleluia.**

*Instead of “We have seen the true light”  
and “Let our mouths be filled” we sing:*

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, above all the earth be Your glory.

**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF  
THE FIRST NICENE COUNCIL**

Three times a year we remember particularly the Holy Fathers who took part in the seven great Ecumenical Councils, which defined the teachings of our faith and regulated much of our Church practice. The Church is patristic, based securely on the teachings of the Holy Fathers, who in turn are based on what the Lord Jesus Christ revealed, what the Apostles proclaimed, and what the Church has received. By holding fast to the teachings of the seven great Ecumenical Councils, we maintain the True Faith in the One True God, the True Faith in Jesus Christ. Today

we honor the Holy Fathers of the First Council of Nicea. This Council took place in 325 A.D. The Council defined and proclaimed the Church's teaching that Jesus Christ is fully and absolutely True God and True Man. The Council of Nicea also canonized about two thirds of the Creed, which

today we call the "Nicene Creed," in honor of that Council. The First Council of Constantinople approved the rest. This Sunday recalls the victory of the true faith over its enemies and affirms the importance of the First Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea in 325 A.D.

### **SPRING CLERGY CONFERENCE**

Please be advised that Archbishop Borys has convoked all the priests of the Philadelphia Archeparchy for a Spring Clergy Conference, to be held from Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, through

Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. During this time, Father Nestor will be away. In the event of an emergency requiring the ministry of a priest, please contact any Catholic priest.

### **A THOUGHT FOR THE SUMMER ON CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

Do we apply the same standards of faithfulness to our Church activities that we expect in other areas of life? If your car starts one out of three times, do you think it's faithful? If the paper boy skips the Tuesday and Thursday editions, aren't they missed? If you fail to come to work four or five times a month — does your employer call you faithful? If your refrigerator quits for a day now and then, do you excuse it by saying,

"Oh, it works most of the time." If you miss two out of twelve mortgage payments a year, does the bank say, "Well, ten out of twelve isn't bad?" PUNCH LINE: If you fail to worship God in Church, one, two or more Sundays a month, can you be called faithful? If we expect faithfulness from other people and things... does not God expect the same — and more — from us, His people?

## CHURCH ETIQUETTE

1. Dress Appropriately.
2. Arrive a few minutes early – take a few minutes to pray and ready yourself for the Celebration of the Divine Liturgy.
3. Observe silence before the Divine Liturgy begins, people are trying to pray.
4. Please join the entire congregation by taking a seat, don't stand next to the confessionals. Also, please feel free to enter into the nave of the Church and not gather in the vestibule. Remember, you are a participant in the Divine Liturgy, not a spectator.
5. Before entering the pew, as a sign of reverence, bless yourself and bow to the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the Tabernacle.
6. Turn off all cell phones or any other electronic device that may disrupt the celebration.
7. Please do not chew gum in Church.
8. Did you fast one hour before receiving Holy Communion? Are you in a state of grace? Don't be afraid to approach the priest when receiving Holy Communion – he can only reach so far.
9. Don't talk to the priest when receiving Holy Communion – he is reciting a prayer.
10. Take a few moments after receiving Holy Communion to express your gratitude in private prayer. What are you saying to God if you leave Church as soon as you receive Holy Communion?
11. Pick up any tissue, cheerios, water bottles or wrappers that you may have left in the pew.
12. What's the rush? Stay until the royal doors are completely closed. Don't forget to take the bulletin (both pages) home with you!

## PIGS IN THE BLANKET DINNER

Shopa-Davey VFW Post 6082 will be sponsoring a "Pigs in the blanket dinner" (Halupki) at 123 Electric Street, Peckville, PA, on Sunday, May 17, 2028. Open to the Public. Starts at 11:00 a.m. and runs

until 3:00 pm (or until sold out). You can "sit in" at the Post House or "Take Out." Free Parking. Each dinner ticket is \$15.00. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase.

Veterans interested in joining the

VFW Peckville Post #6082, Contact Commander Puhulla. at 570-383-0501

## **HOMEMADE PORKETTA SANDWICH SALE**

VFW Post #6082, Peckville, is sponsoring a fundraiser on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, Election Day. They will be selling homemade porketta sandwiches, \$5.00 each. (Open to the Public) Available at the Post House 123 Electric Street, Peckville, from 10:00 a.m. until sold out, first-

come, first-served on 5/19/26 (Free Parking)

Pre-orders are appreciated ASAP (500 sandwiches available). Please call Peg at 570-335-1197 or stop by the VFW Post House at 570-383-0501.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

We warmly invite you to join us for the celebration of the 10:30 Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Cemetery Chapel, as we observe both Pentecost Sunday and Memorial Day Weekend. This is a special opportunity for our community to come together in prayer and to honor the memory of our depart-

ed loved ones.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a Panakhyda (memorial service) will be celebrated, after which we will proceed to bless individual graves. We encourage you and your families to attend as we remember and pray for those who have gone before us.

## **RUN4LIFE**

Registration is open for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Run4Life 5K Run & 1.5-Mile Fun Walk!

Join Pennsylvanians for Human Life, Scranton Chapter, on Saturday, May 30, at Nay Aug Park in Scranton for a morning of commu-

nity, purpose, and support for the dignity of every human life.

Whether you are a runner, walker, parent, grandparent, student, or friend of the mission, we would love to have you with us.

**Event Details:**

**Date:** Saturday, May 30

**Location:** Nay Aug Park, Schimelfenig Pavilion

Packet Pickup/Race-Day **Registration:** 8:00–9:15 AM

**Race/Walk Begins:** 9:30 AM

**Cost:** \$25 pre-registration / \$30 race day

**Children 12 and under:** Free

Online registration closes Thursday, May 28 at 11:59 PM.

Register here: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Scranton/PennsylvaniansforHumanLifeRun4Life>

Thank you for helping us stand together for life.

**BUS TRIP TO ATLANTIC CITY**

On Saturday, June 13, the Friends of the Valley Community Library will be hosting a bus trip to Atlantic City! The bus will be leaving the library at 7:30 a.m., will be dropping attendees off at Resorts Casino at about 11:00 a.m., and will return to the library at approximately 10:30 p.m. that night.

Tickets are \$60 a person (\$63 for credit) and payment is needed to reserve your space on the bus.

The ticket cost includes the bus and driver's tip. No rebates. Signup is available at the Library at 739 River Street, Peckville. For more information, please contact Ann at 570-479-0806 or [valleylibraryfriends@outlook.com](mailto:valleylibraryfriends@outlook.com).

The Valley Community Library, a member of the Lackawanna County Library System, is located at 739 River St., Peckville, and serves residents in the valley area.

**COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of May 2026 is Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Mi-

chaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

**Sunday Collection for May 9 & 10, 2026: \$**

*Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity.*

## **Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church**

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-291-4451

Web Site: [stcyrils.weconnect.com](http://stcyrils.weconnect.com)

E-Mail: [olyphant@ukrcatholic.org](mailto:olyphant@ukrcatholic.org)

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*