

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council

October 8th, 2023

Assigned Readings

2 Corinthians 9:6-11, Hebrews 13:7-16

Luke 7:11-16, John 17:1-13

Today's Commemorations:

Today the Church remembers the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council. The Synod of 787, the second to meet at Nicea, refuted the Iconoclast heresy during the reign of Empress Irene and her son Constantine VI. The Council decreed that the veneration of icons was not idolatry, because the honor shown to them is not directed to the wood or paint but passes to the prototype, or the person(s) depicted. It also upheld the possibility of depicting Christ, Who became man and took flesh at His Incarnation. The Father, on the other hand, cannot be represented in His eternal nature, because "no man has seen God at any time."

Saint Pelagia the Penitent was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa. Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution. One day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression on her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her asking the Deaconess Romana to serve as her sponsor.

Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor. After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem. She lived there in a cell, disguised under the name of the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. After three years of severe ascetic struggle, she passed from this life and was buried in her cell.

Announcements

September/October Charity is dedicated to the Shipley family, of St. Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church in Chico CA. Matushka Priscilla recently passed away, and there are many expenses related to medical bills, funeral arrangements etc. The OCA and the Diocese have both made requests for care and support to be rendered at this time. Please keep the family in your prayers. May the Lord make Matushka Priscilla's memory to be eternal.

Our fall pierogi sale is set for Monday, October 9th, with sales to start at 3pm. Pierogis will be sold boiled and fried for \$12 a dozen, first come first serve. Thank you to all who have come out and made pierogis this week.

Archbishop Mark is scheduled to be in Olyphant at All Saints on November the 12th. Father Paul has invited us to come and celebrate together with His Eminence.

Parish Council meeting following coffee hour today.

Upcoming Services:

October 14th – Great Vespers – 5 pm.

October 15th – Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am.

Contact Information:

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Troparion and Kontakion of the Day

Tone 1 – Troparion (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom!//
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

Tone 8 – Troparion (Fathers)

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God,
Who 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!

Tone 1 – Kontakion (Resurrection)

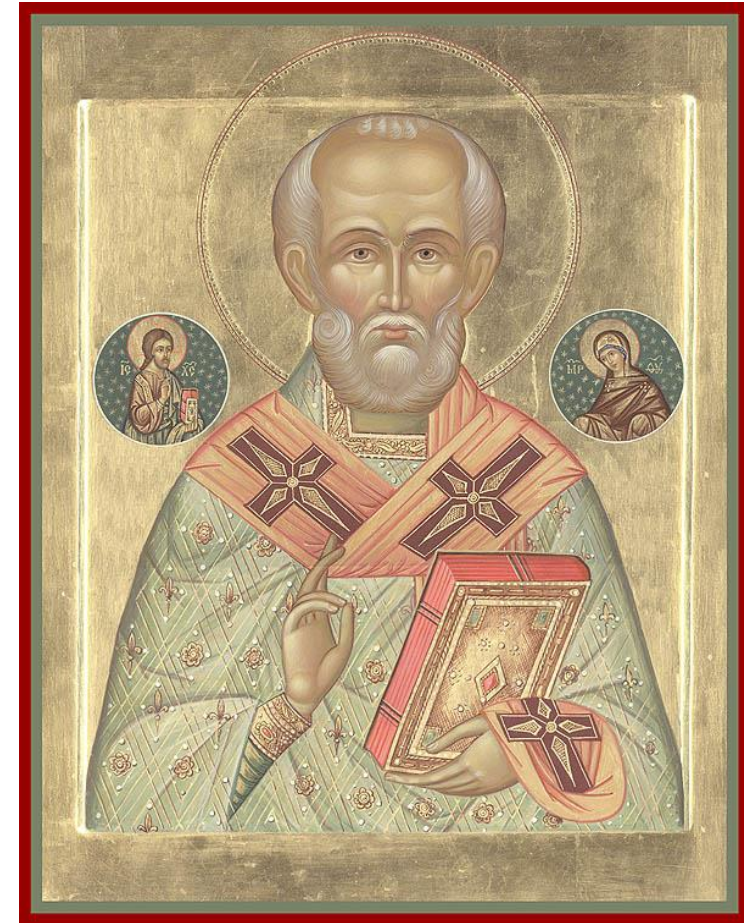
As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,
raising the world with Thyself.
Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.
Adam exults, O Master!
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://
“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Tone 6 – Kontakion (Fathers)

The Son Who shone forth from the Father
was ineffably born, two-fold in nature, of a woman.
Having beheld Him, we do not deny the image of His form,
but depict it piously and revere it faithfully.
Thus, keeping the True Faith,//
the Church venerates the icon of Christ Incarnate.

Prayers for the Sick:

Archpriest Vladimir	Thom
Priest John	Julie
Priest James	Joan
Matushka Gloria	Vera
Matushka Myra	Marie
Matushka Nancy	Dimitrios



St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

OCA Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania
Archbishop Mark – Hierarch

Fr. Nathan Clausson – Acting Rector
Fr. John Nightingale – Attached
Mark Howanetz – Choir Director
Rick Cesari – Parish President