

THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

May 28, 2023

Fathers of the 1st Council

Saint of the Day: Eutyches, Bishop of Melitene; Nikitas, Bishop of Chalcedon

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS!!!

Thank you for worshipping with us!!! Please join us for fellowship immediately following The Divine Liturgy. For those visiting an Orthodox Church for the first time, please be aware that Holy Communion is a sign of unity of faith which is only offered to Baptized or Chrismated Orthodox Christians. All present are welcome, and encouraged, to receive the antidoron (bread given to those who do not/are not able receive Holy Communion) which is distributed at the end of the service. For those interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, please feel free to speak with Fr. Demetri after the service.

WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO FOLLOW ALONG AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE LITURGY WITH THE BOOKS PROVIDED!!!

WEEK IN PREVIEW

Sun, May 28

Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Mon, May 29

Memorial Day *Pine Grove*

Cemetery Memorial Day Prayers 8:30am

Office Closed

Tue, May 30

Library Memory Project Photo ID by Zoom 7pm

Wed, May 31

Memorial Tiropita Session starts 8am Sun, June 4

Orthros 8:45am Divine Liturgy 10:00am

THE LORD'S PRAYER ON PENTECOST SUNDAY

The Lord's Prayer during The Divine Liturgy on Sunday, June 4 will be prayed in as many languages as possible.

We ask that all who know a foreign language to please be with us on this day and either say the prayer from memory or bring the text with you.

Hymns Chanted Following the Small Entrance

Resurrectional Hymn in the Plagal of the Second Tone.

Άγγελικαὶ δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνῆμα σου, καὶ οἱ φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ ἵστατο Μαρία ἐν τῷ τάφῳ, ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα. Ἐσκύλευσας τὸν ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὑπήντησας τῆ Παρθένῳ, δωρούμενος τὴν ζωήν. Ὁ ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the dead, glory to You!

Anthem for the Feast in the Fourth Tone

Ανελήφθης ἐν δόξη, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, χαροποιήσας τοὺς Μαθητάς, τῆ ἐπαγγελία τοῦ ἁγίου Πνεύματος, βεβαιωθέντων αὐτῶν διὰ τῆς εὐλογίας, ὅτι σὰ εἶ ὁ Υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ, ὁ Λυτρωτὴς τοῦ κόσμου.

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world

Anthem for the Fathers in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Ύπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ φωστῆρας ἐπὶ γῆς τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν θεμελιώσας, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν πρὸς τὴν ἀληθινὴν πίστιν, πάντας ἡμᾶς ὁδηγήσας πολυεύσπλαγχνε, δόξα σοι.

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

Anthem of St. George in the Fourth Tone

Ώς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτής, καὶ τῶν πτωχῶν ὑπερασπιστής, ἀσθενούντων ἰατρός, βασιλέων ὑπέρμαχος, Τροπαιοφόρε Μεγαλομάρτυς Γεώργιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Liberator of captives and defender of the poor, physician of the sick and champion of kings, oh Trophy-bearer and Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, that our souls be saved.

Seasonal/Kontakion Hymn in the Plagal of the Second Tone

Τὴν ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πληρώσας οἰκονομίαν, καὶ τὰ ἐπὶ γῆς ἑνώσας τοῖς οὐρανίοις, ἀνελήφθης ἐν δόξῃ, Χριστε ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, οὐδαμόθεν χωριζόμενος, ἀλλὰ μένων ἀδιάστατος, καὶ βοῶν τοῖς ἀγαπῶσί σε Ἐγώ εἰμι μεθ' ὑμῶν, καὶ οὐδεὶς καθ' ὑμῶν.

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, * and united things on earth with the things in heaven, * You were taken up thither in glory, O Christ our God, * going not away from any place, * but continuing inseparable, * and to them that love You crying out: * "I am with you, and there is, therefore, none against you."

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 20:16-18,28-36

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

Πραξεις 20:16-18,28-36

Έν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκείναις, ἔκρινεν ὁ Παῦλος παραπλεῦσαι τὴν Ἔφεσον, ὅπως μὴ γένηται αὐτῷ χρονοτριβῆσαι ἐν τῆ Ἀσία· ἔσπευδεν γάρ, εἰ δυνατὸν ἦν αὐτῷ, τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς γενέσθαι εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα. Ἀπὸ δὲ τῆς Μιλήτου πέμψας εἰς "Εφεσον μετεκαλέσατο τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς ἐκκλησίας. Ώς δὲ παρεγένοντο πρὸς αὐτόν, εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, προσέχετε οὖν ἑαυτοῖς καὶ παντὶ τῶ ποιμνίω, ἐν ὧ ὑμᾶς τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἄγιον ἔθετο ἐπισκόπους, ποιμαίνειν τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ κυρίου καὶ θεοῦ, ήν περιεποιήσατο διὰ τοῦ ἰδίου αἵματος. Έγὼ γὰρ οἶδα τοῦτο, ὅτι εἰσελεύσονται μετὰ τὴν ἄφιξίν μου λύκοι βαρεῖς εἰς ὑμᾶς, μὴ φειδόμενοι τοῦ ποιμνίου· καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν ἀναστήσονται ἄνδρες λαλοῦντες διεστραμμένα, τοῦ ἀποσπᾶν τοὺς μαθητὰς όπίσω αὐτῶν. Διὸ γρηγορεῖτε, μνημονεύοντες ὅτι τριετίαν νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν οὐκ έπαυσάμην μετά δακρύων νουθετών ένα έκαστον. Καὶ τὰ νῦν παρατίθεμαι ὑμᾶς, άδελφοί, τῷ θεῷ καὶ τῷ λόγῳ τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ, τῷ δυναμένῳ ἐποικοδομῆσαι, καὶ δοῦναι ὑμῖν κληρονομίαν ἐν τοῖς ἡγιασμένοις πᾶσιν. Ἀργυρίου ἢ χρυσίου ἢ ίματισμοῦ οὐδενὸς ἐπεθύμησα. Αὐτοὶ γινώσκετε ὅτι ταῖς χρείαις μου καὶ τοῖς οὖσιν μετ' έμοῦ ὑπηρέτησαν αἱ χεῖρες αὖται. Πάντα ὑπέδειξα ὑμῖν, ὅτι οὕτως κοπιῶντας δεῖ ἀντιλαμβάνεσθαι τῶν ἀσθενούντων, μνημονεύειν τε τῶν λόγων τοῦ κυρίου Ίησοῦ, ὅτι αὐτὸς εἶπεν, Μακάριόν ἐστιν μᾶλλον διδόναι ἢ λαμβάνειν. Καὶ ταῦτα είπών, θεὶς τὰ γόνατα αὐτοῦ, σὺν πᾶσιν αὐτοῖς προσηύξατο.

John 17:1-13

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made.

"I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

Ιωαννην 17:1-13

Τῶ καιρῶ ἐκείνω, ὁ Ἰησοῦς, καὶ ἐπῆρε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ εἶπε· πάτερ, έλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα· δόξασόν σου τὸν υἱόν, ἵνα καὶ ὁ υἱός σου δοξάση σε, καθὼς ἔδωκας αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν πάσης σαρκός, ἵνα πᾶν ὁ δέδωκας αὐτῷ δώση αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. αὕτη δέ ἐστιν ἡ αἰώνιος ζωή, ἵνα γινώσκωσί σε τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν Θεὸν καὶ ον ἀπέστειλας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν. ἐγώ σε ἐδόξασα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὸ ἔργον ἐτελείωσα ο δέδωκάς μοι ἵνα ποιήσω· καὶ νῦν δόξασόν με σύ, πάτερ, παρὰ σεαυτῷ τῆ δόξη ἡ εἶχον πρὸ τοῦ τὸν κόσμον εἶναι παρὰ σοί. Ἐφανέρωσά σου τὸ ὄνομα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου, σοὶ ἦσαν καὶ ἐμοὶ αὐτοὺς δέδωκας, καὶ τὸν λόγον σου τετηρήκασι. νῦν ἔγνωκαν ὅτι πάντα ὅσα δέδωκάς μοι παρὰ σοῦ ἐστιν· ὅτι τὰ ῥήματα ἃ δέδωκάς μοι δέδωκα αὐτοῖς, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλαβον, καὶ ἔγνωσαν ἀληθῶς ὅτι παρὰ σοῦ έξῆλθον, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν ὅτι σύ με ἀπέστειλας. Ἐγὼ περὶ αὐτῶν ἐρωτῶ· οὐ περὶ τοῦ κόσμου ἐρωτῶ, ἀλλὰ περὶ ὧν δέδωκάς μοι, ὅτι σοί εἰσι, καὶ τὰ ἐμὰ πάντα σά ἐστι καὶ τὰ σὰ ἐμά, καὶ δεδόξασμαι ἐν αὐτοῖς. καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ οὗτοι ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἰσί, καὶ ἐγὼ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι. πάτερ ἅγιε, τήρησον αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου ὧ δέδωκάς μοι, ἵνα ὦσιν ε̈ν καθὼς ἡμεῖς. ὅτε ἤμην μετ᾽ αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, ἐγὼ ἐτήρουν αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου· οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐφύλαξα, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπώλετο εἰ μὴ ὁ υἱὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας, ἵνα ἡ γραφὴ πληρωθῆ. νῦν δὲ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι, καὶ ταῦτα λαλῶ έν τῶ κόσμω ἵνα ἔχωσι τὴν χαρὰν τὴν ἐμὴν πεπληρωμένην ἐν αὐτοῖς.

SATURDAY OF SOULS: JUNE 3, 2023

Following the Liturgical cycle of the Church, the day before Pentecost Sunday, the Church remembers those who have fallen asleep (just as the three Saturdays of Souls that fall during the Triodion). This Saturday of Souls will take place on Saturday June 3, beginning with Orthros at 8:30am and The Divine Liturgy at 9:30am. On these Memorial Saturdays commemoration is made on behalf of all those who have fallen asleep unknown or who have been otherwise remembered, as well as for all the faithful departed in Christ. Our faith teaches that not until the Second Coming of our Lord and His Final Judgment, will final retribution be made to every man according to his works, and that meanwhile the souls of the faithful departed are benefited by the prayers of the living, especially when offered in conjunction with the Divine Liturgy.

Below you will find a commemoration slip on which to write the first name (Christian name <u>NO</u> Nicknames) of your deceased loved ones so that they may be remembered at the special Memorial Service to be held on June 3. (please print names clearly).



For the repose of the souls of the servants of God.



Υπέρ αναπαύσεως των ψυχών τών δούλων τού Θεού.

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CREAT PEOPLE CREAT **GREAT MUSI**

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

- MUSIC BY -

THE SALONICA BOYS
LETTE STADIUM'S PUTNAM CLUB LOUNGE

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT

\$25 ONLINE UNTIL JUNE 8

boston.goarch.org/gno

\$40 FROM JUNE 8 & AT THE DOOR
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30PM | 21+
ENTRY INCLUDES PARKING & APPETIZERS

Daughters of Penelope



Invite you & a guest to join us for dinner

Wednesday, the 14th of June @ 6pm Filotimo Restaurant 1279 South Willow Street Manchester, NH

Buffet Dinner

Greek Salad Keftedes Chicken & Pork Souvlaki Greek Potatoes Rice Pilaf Mixed Vegetables

Raffles

Kindly RSVP by June 5[™] to Toula Barber 603-785-4540 or Jenn Hughen 603-703-7129 Payment s30.00/pp cash or check

GLENDI 2023 Cooking Schedule 9am start time

June 12 Stuffed Peppers June 16 Dolmathes June 19 Pastichio June 26 Meatballs

Schedule will be updated as new dates are confirmed.



Saturday, June 10, 2023 9am to 3pm 650 Hanover Street, Manchester, NH

Last day to drop off items for sale is Thursday June 8.





PRAYER LIST

Pondering on the words of St. Paul, "Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's wellbeing. (I Cor. 10:24).

Give rest to the weary, visit the sick, support the poor, for this is also worship. Aphahat

For any prayer concern (salvation, health, employment, stress and anxieties, etc.) please send baptismal names only to: office@stgeorgenh.org

We may not be able to help others materially or medically, but God does hear our prayers and always asks us to pray for each other and so build up the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:11-16).

For health, recovery from illness and surgery: Fr. Nicholas, Fr. Peter, Leah, Thomas, Tom, Soultana, Nick, Maura, Ernie, Dean, Vasilios, Rigley, Zachary, Rachel, Daniel, Kathy, Helen, Elanie, Andrew, Jamie, Megan, Stephanie, Katherine, Christos, Maureen, Vasiliki, Maria, Faye, Emily, Nicole, Olivia, Georgia, Mark, Maryann, James, Vasilios, Maria, Anna, Efthimios, Christopher, Katerina, Debra, Pavlos, Ken

For comfort, spiritual help & strengthening of faith: Pres. Patricia and family, Pres. Diane, Pres. Sophia, Pres. Dianthe, Barbara, Nancy, Amantha and Family, Maddie, Dino, Nick, Connie, Amy, Christopher, Joanna

For couples, parents and their families: Neal and Elena, Paul – Kristin & Michael Francis, Penelope & Florence, Teddy, Tracy & family, Christina & Casey, Melanie and Michael, Alex

For those engaged to be married: Karleigh and Stavros, Katerina and Dennis

For conceiving of children:

For childbearing:

For those in the Armed Forces: Benjamin, Michael, Gabriel, Felipe

For those travelling abroad: John, Patrick

For those seeking employment: Lia, Jillian, Sophia, Gary, Nick



*** DEADLINE FOR ADS IS JUNE 30! ***

For quarter-, half-, and full-page ads, please send ads by email to beth@stgeorgenh.org in PDF, TIFF, JPG, or Word format.

Option 4: Full-page ad \$300.00 Dimensions are 7.5" wide by 10" high.

Option 3: Half-page ad \$150.00

Dimensions are: 7.5" wide by 4.75" high OR 3.5" wide by 10" high.

Option 2: Quarter-page ad \$75.00 Dimensions are 3.5" wide by 4.75" high.

Option 1: Patron List \$25.00

This option lists your name on the Patrons page. Write as legibly as possible how you would like your name to appear on the page on this line:

Please make checks payable to:

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral 650 Hanover Street Manchester, NH 03104-5306

Contact Name:	
Phone number:	
Email:	

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral Tax ID 02-0230366

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>MEMORIAL DAY PRAYERS AT PINE GROVE CEMETERY</u> - On Memorial Day, May 29 at the Pine Grove Cemetery, there will be a Trisagion Service that will take place. The Service will begin at 8:30am.

<u>MEMORIAL TIROPITA</u> - Join us on Wednesday May 31 starting at 8am as we make Tiropita for memorial coffee hours. All are welcome.

<u>SATURDAY OF SOULS</u> - Final Saturday of Souls for this Liturgical year will take place on Saturday, June 3. Matins 8:30am Divine Liturgy (memorials to follow) 9:30am. See attached form in this Bulletin with more information.

EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY JUNE 11- This is a call to ALL who are High School Seniors. This is a day in which all those who are graduating from High School will be recognized following the Divine Liturgy. We ask that those who are graduating provide your name, a little write up about yourself including which high school you are graduating from or if home schooled, a recent picture, your plans for the future, and your community involvement here at St. George or elsewhere.

In order to have these names appear in the Weekly Bulletin on this day, we need all the information by Sunday, June 4. If we do not have your name and this information, you will not be able to be acknowledged as a graduate in the printed weekly bulletin. Please take the time and give our office a call or better yet, send an e-mail to beth@stgeorgenh.org with all the information we are asking!

The scholarship awards program will take place in our community center following coffee hour.

<u>2023 METROPOLIS AWARD RECIPIENT</u> – We are pleased to announce that this year's St. George recipient is **Diane LaRoche.** The awards banquet will be on Sunday June 11, at Gillette Stadium, Foxboro, Ma. Congratulations to Diane and we thank her for many years of service to our Cathedral!

<u>ASSUMPTION GREEK SCHOOL GRADUATION CELEBRATION</u> – Everyone is welcome to attend the Graduation Celebration that will take place on Sunday, June 11 at 1pm in the Assumption Church Hall.

<u>GOYA MEETING</u> - The next GOYA meeting will be on June 11 following the scholarship awards. It will NOT be long.

VACATION CHRUCH CAMP – Our St. George Family is looking for individuals to help lead this wonderful 4-day event in the life of our community. This has been done for many years and we would like to continue this tradition. Activities include morning prayer, crafts, snacks, music, discussion, play time and lunch. The hours have been from 8:30am until 12:30pm. If you or a loved one would like to help champion this, please contact the Church office office@stgeorgenh.org

<u>UPCOMING MEMORIAL SERVICES</u> – June 11: George & Zoitsa Kitsis (1 year); June 25: Tom Dionis (1 year), Stamatia Malatras (1 year)

<u>GLENDI COOKING SCHEDULE</u> – June 12: Stuffed Peppers, June 16: Dolmathes, June 19: Pastichio, June 26: Meatballs

<u>BIBLE STUDY ON SUMMER BREAK</u> - Bible Study will resume in September after a summer break.

A GATHERING OF THE "SPIRITUALLY ELITE"

or nearly three centuries, the Christian Church was forced to endure ridicule and persecution from the pagan Roman Emperors. The blood of Christian martyrs flowed freely in the early days of the Church's existence. When Christianity was finally deemed acceptable, and, indeed, proclaimed to be the OFFICIAL RELIGION of the Byzantine Empire by Constantine the Great, it was hoped that these faithful communities of believers would find the peace and contentment for which they longed.

But it was not to be so! The Church now had to contend with an "enemy" from within: an Alexandrian priest named Arius, who was spreading a teaching that Christ was CREATED by God the Father, and, therefore, was NOT EQUAL to Him. The Church was shaken by this heretical teaching, which quickly gained widespread acceptance.

In an effort to combat this heresy, an unprecedented gathering of bishops, priests and other ecclesiastical dignitaries was convened in the city of Nicaea in the year 325 A.D. The list of the Church Fathers present was a "who's who" of early saints! St. Nicholas was there, as was St. Spiridon, St. Athanasius, St. Eustathius of Antioch, St. Eusebius of Caesarea and many others.

After heated deliberations - which saw an enraged St. Nicholas actually strike Arius -- the Council condemned the works of this heretical cleric. This Council also definitively confirmed the Symbol of Faith (the Creed), which was later expanded upon at the Second Ecumenical Council.

The First Ecumenical Council also established the guidelines for determining the date of Pascha, set the date of September 1 as the beginning of the liturgical year and decreed that celibacy should not be imposed upon the clergy.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral

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Fr. Demetrios Costarakis, Cathedral Dean

Father's E-mail: frdcostarakis@stgeorgenh.org

Lord's Day (Sunday) Services: Orthros/Matins: 8:45 a.m. Divine Liturgy: 10:00 a.m.

An electronic copy of this bulletin is available on the website.

The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

Sunday, May 28, 2023

Volume 11, Issue 22

A Ministry of the Orthodox Christian Network



Pray for our Church!

Do your parents ever go to meetings?

Sometimes you might wonder what they do at all these meetings. Well, usually they probably meet with other people so they can discuss things, and work out something important.

Did you know the bishops of our Orthodox Church have important meetings too? Yes, they have had important meetings ever since the very beginning of the Church. Today, we celebrate one of the very most important meetings that ever happened in our Church. It



The Holy Fathers

was a council that happened 1,700 years ago. The bishops talked about who Jesus Christ is (some people had some mixed-up ideas about Him!) They talked about celebrating Easter (Pascha). They talked about baptism. They talked about other things too. That meeting lasted a whole month long!

Did you know the priests and bishops of our Orthodox Church meet together sometimes? And your church has a parish council, a group of people who meet together to make decisions for your church. Our church leaders talk about many things so that our Church family can stay close to Christ. In the Gospel today, we hear about how our Lord, Jesus Christ, prayed for His followers. He prayed, "Holy Father, keep them in your name...that they may be one, even as we are one." Let's pray too! We can pray that our Orthodox Church will be one strong Church, close to our Lord!

WORD SEAR Can you find these 0 0 Χ Ν G words in the jum-Α Ν Т N ble? Ζ T Ε D C Х R Q K Chlotilda Christian Т D Н Ν Council D France 0 Holy Fathers K O C Meetings One Church Prayer Η

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Here is another icon of the first council, the first big meeting of the bishops.

Do you know who is in the middle (with the crown)? It's Saint Constantine! He's the emperor who called the meeting!



SAINT CHLOTILDA

QUEEN OF FRANCE

Did you ever wonder how the

Christian Church grew and grew? The world is a big place, of course! Well, some people became Christian after they heard the good news of Jesus Christ from the apostles. Other people heard about Him from missionaries. But other people became Christian because their kings or queens became Christian first! They were really leaders in the faith!

Saint Chlotilda was queen of France about 1,500 years ago. Her husband was Arian (he didn't believe that Jesus is God), but Chlotilda convinced her husband to believe the truth of the Holy Trinity-Father,



Saint Chlotilda



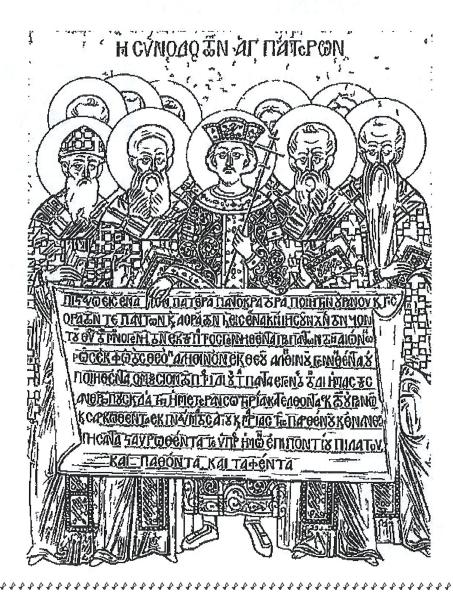
A statue of the saint in France

Son, and Holy Spirit. They baptized their children in the name of the Holy Trinity. Then, after that, more people in France followed their king's beliefs too.

When Chlotilda grew old, some of her children fought about who would be in power in France. But Chlotilda tried to stay away from these sad fights. She tried to grow closer to God too. She spent lots of time in prayer. She gave lots of money to build churches and monasteries. Saint Chlotilda, pray for us!

We remember St. Chlotilda on Saturday, June 3rd (OC: June 16th).

The First Council



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.