

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE  
FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL



*Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council*

## **WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS**

- Sat, May 20th:**        **The Martyr Thalaleus and His Executioners Asterius and Alexander**  
6:30 pm: Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for Health and God's Blessings on Michael Wetherill, by Family
- Sun, May 21st:**        **The Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea; of the Emperor Constantine and Empress Helen, Equal to the Apostles**  
9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Ukr.); Intention for +Katherine Goletz, by the Goletz Family.
- Mon, May 22nd:**      **The Martyr Basilicus**  
9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for +Bohdan Kulchysky, by Mary Luzhnycky.
- Tue, May 23rd:**      **The Hierarch and Confessor Michael of Synnada**  
9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for Health and God's Blessings on Adam Yenca, by Maria and Mike Wetherill  
*6:30 pm: Moleben to the Mother of God for Peace in Ukraine, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton, PA.*
- Wed, May 24th:**      **The Venerable Father Simeon**  
9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for Health and God's Blessings on Nick Leporati, by Maria and Mike Wetherill.
- Thu, May 25th:**      **The Commemoration of the 3rd Finding of the Head of John the Baptist**  
9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for +John Zallie, by Anonymous.
- Fri, May 26th:**        **The Apostle Carpus**  
NO DIVINE SERVICES SCHEDULED.
- Sat, May 27th:**        **All Souls Saturday/Sorokousty (V)**  
9:00 am: Matins for the Deceased  
6:30 pm: Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom; Intention for Health and God's Blessings on Michael Wetherill, by Family.
- Sun, May 28th:**        **Pentecost Sunday**  
9:00 am: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom (Eng.); Intention for God's Blessings on Our Living and Deceased Parishioners.

### **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. The Annual Remembrance of Our Veterans and Deceased of St. Josaphat Parish will take place rain or shine on Memorial Day, May 29th, 2023, at 10:30 am at St. Josaphat Cemetery. A Panachyda for the deceased of our parish and honors from the color guard of the Ukrainian-American Veterans Post 42 of the Lehigh Valley will take place at the cemetery cross with the blessing of graves to immediately follow.
2. Members of UAV Post 42 will be participating in a remembrance of all Ukrainian-American Veterans at the Ukrainian American Veterans monument at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Bound Brook, NJ, on Memorial Day, May 29th, 2023 at 1:00 pm. All veterans and family members of our parish are invited to attend.

3. ATTENTION VIETNAM ERA VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES: 2025 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. Ukrainian American Veterans Post 42 would like to honor you for your service. If you had honorably served in the US Armed Forces at any time between 11/01/1955–05/15/1975, regardless of your location, you, or the spouse of a deceased eligible veteran, are eligible to receive the Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin on behalf of a grateful Nation. We need your name, address, branch of service, dates of service, phone and email. Please contact either Matt Koziak 610-867-4052 or Jerry Kindrachuk 610-730-3265 or by email to [uavpost42@gmail.com](mailto:uavpost42@gmail.com) no later than May 30. The date and time of presentation of the lapel pins will be announced shortly.
4. ST. JOSAPHAT'S PARISH NEEDS YOUR HELP! We need a few group of volunteers to help with the cleaning of St. Josaphat Church as well as for changing vestments and are scheduling days for this purpose. A sign up sheet is in the vestibule of the church. This is an excellent opportunity for high school students to get service hours. For more information, contact St. Josaphat Rectory.
5. The St. Josaphat Tryzub Association is planning to have it's annual Iron Pigs Family Day on Sunday, June 4th, 2023 at Coca Cola Park, Allentown, PA, at the Party Porch by 3rd Base. Game time starts at 1:35 pm; tickets include admission to the Party Porch, with food, soda, and water. Tickets are \$40.00 each; please see any member of the Tryzub Association for tickets; this event is open to Holy Ghost Parishioners—to order tickets, please contact St. Josaphat Rectory.
6. The Ukrainian Catholic/Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood of the Lehigh Valley will have their next weekly Moleben for Peace in Ukraine on Tuesday, May 16th, 2023, at 6:30 pm, at Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, West Easton, PA. All are encouraged to come and pray with us.
7. The Ukrainian Catholic Metropolia of the United States is having its 5th All-American Youth Pilgrimage at Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church, Parma, OH, from June 16th-18th, 2023. For more information, please contact St. Josaphat Rectory.

**Weekly Stewardship Information for St. Josaphat's Bethlehem**

**Collection Income for the Weekend of 05/13—05/14/2023:**

Sunday Collection: \$1591.00

Easter Sviachene: Ticket Sales \$650.00, Money Raffle/Basket Auction \$1240.00

Total Income: \$3481.00

**Thank you and may God bless you for your generosity!**



***Please remember to pray for the sick, for those who are shut-in, and for all those who have requested, or are in need of, our prayers:***

Anna Kapustiak	Amelia Balandovich	Ethel Bednarchek	Bob Silvert
Slava Harasymovych	Oleh Balaziuk	Mike Wetherill	Rev. John Ciurpita
Rev. Paul Wolensky	John Zallie	Bohdan Vasyliw	
The Family of Rev. +Ihor Bloschynskyy		All Our Archeparchial Seminarians	
The Missionary Sisters of the Mother of God			

*If anyone knows of someone in need of our prayers, or who is sick or shut in and cannot make it to church, please contact Father Paul via email or telephone as listed on the cover of this bulletin if you wish to have their name added to our prayer list. Thank you and God bless you!*

*Please don't leave this bulletin in the pew or in the trash when you are finished. We kindly ask you share this bulletin with your loved ones. Let your family & friends know of the spiritual treasure that God has for all people here at St. Josaphat's, Bethlehem, PA!*

**Sunday Propers:**  
**The Sunday of the Fathers of the**  
**1st Ecumenical Council of Nicaea**

**First Antiphon:** All you peoples, clap your hands; shout to God with cries of gladness. Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear; great King over all the earth. Through the prayers ...

He subdues peoples under us, and nations under our feet. Through the prayers ...

God ascends amid shouts of joy; the Lord ascends amid sounds of trumpets. Through the prayers of...

**Third Antiphon:** Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim God, our Savior. Son of God, who ascended 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, who ascended in glory, ...

For God is the great Lord and the great king over all the earth. Son of God, who ascended in glory, ...

**Entrance Hymn:** Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ. Son of God, who ascended in glory, ...

**Troparion (6):** Angelic powers were upon Your tomb and the guards became like dead men; Mary stood before Your tomb seeking Your most pure body. You captured Hades without being overcome by it. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord risen from the dead, glory be to You!

**Troparion (8):** O Christ our God, You are most glorified, for You established our fathers as lights upon the earth. Through them You led us to the true faith. O most merciful Lord, glory be to You!

**Troparion (8):** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.* After seeing the Image of Your cross in the heavens, O Lord, and receiving like Paul the summons that was not from men, your apostle among kings entrusted into Your hands the imperial city. Always save it in peace by the prayers of the Mother of God, only Lover of mankind.

**Kontakion (8):** *Now and for ever and ever:*

**Тропарі і Кондаки:**  
**Неділя Святих Отців Першого**  
**Вселенського Собору у Нікеї**

**Антифон 1:** Усі народи, заплещіть руками, кликніть до Господа голосом радості. Молитвами Богородиці, Спасе, спаси нас.

Бо Господь Всевишній, могутній Владар по всій землі. Молитвами Богородиці, ..

Він підкорив людей нам, і народи під ноги наші. Молитвами Богородиці, ...

Зійшов Бог під оклики веселі, Господь - під голос сурми. Молитвами Богородиці, ...

**Антифон 3:** Прийдіте, радісно заспіваймо Господеві, воскликнім Богу, Спасителєві нашому. Спаси нас, Сину Божий, що вознісся у славі, співаємо Тобі: Аلیلіа.

Прийдім з похвалами перед обличчя Його, і псалмами воскликнім Йому. Спаси нас, Сину Божий, ...

Бо Бог великий Господь, і цар великий по всій землі. Спаси нас, Сину Божий, ...

**Малий Вхід:** Прийдіте, поклонімся і припадім до Христа. Спаси нас, Сину Божий, ...

**Тропар (6):** Ангельські сили на гробі Твоїм, і сторожі омертвіли; Марія ж стояла при гробі, шукаючи пречистого тіла Твого. Полонив Ти ад і непереможений від нього, зустрів Ти Діву, даруючи життя. Воскреслий з мертвих, Господи, слава Тобі!

**Тропар (8):** Препрославлений Ти, Христе Боже наш, що на землі Отців наших по явив світилами і ними навів усіх нас на істинну віру. Багатомилосердний, слава Тобі!

**Тропар (8):** *Слава Отцю, і Сину, і Святому Духові.* Хреста твого образ на небі побачивши і, як Павло, покликання не від людей прийнявши, між царями твій апостол, Господи, царюючий город у руку твою положив. Спасай нас завжди в мирі, молитвами Богородиці, єдиний Чоловіколюбче.

**Кондак (8):** *І нині, і повсякчас, і на віки вічні.*

*Amen.* The preaching of the apostles and the decisions of the fathers have established the true faith of the Church which she wears as the garment of truth, fashioned from the theology on high. She justly governs and glorifies the great mystery of worship.

**Prokimenon (4):** Blessed are You, and praise-worthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is Your name.

**Verse:** In all that You have done Your justice is apparent.

**Epistle (Acts 20,16-18;28-36):** In those days, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus in order not to lose time in the province of Asia, for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if at all possible, for the day of Pentecost. From Miletus he had the presbyters of the church at Ephesus summoned. When they came to him, he addressed them, "You know how I lived among you the whole time from the day I first came to the province of Asia. Keep watch over yourselves and over the whole flock of which the holy Spirit has appointed you overseers, in which you tend the church of God that he acquired with his own blood. I know that after my departure savage wolves will come among you, and they will not spare the flock. And from your own group, men will come forward perverting the truth to draw the disciples away after them. So be vigilant and remember that for three years, night and day, I unceasingly admonished each of you with tears. And now I commend you to God and to that gracious word of his that can build you up and give you the inheritance among all who are consecrated. I have never wanted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. You know well that these very hands have served my needs and my companions. In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive'." When he had finished speaking he knelt down and prayed with them all.

**Alleluia Verse:** The God of gods, the Lord, has spoken and summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Verse:** Summon before Me, My people who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.

**Gospel (Jn 17,1-13):** At that time, Jesus raised

*Амінь.* Проповідування апостолів і догмати Отців утвердили Церкви єдину віру, носячи ризу істини, виткану з вишнього богослов'я, вона право править і славить велике таїнство благочестя.

**Прокімен (4):** Благословенний Ти, Господи Боже Отців наших, і хвальне й прославлене ім'я Твоє повіки.

**Стих:** Бо Ти праведний у всьому, що вчинив Ти нам.

**Апостоль (Ді 20,16-18;28-36):** Тими днями, Павло вирішив плисти попри Ефес, щоб не баритися в Азії; поспішав бо, щоб по змозі, на день П'ятидесятниці бути в Єрусалимі. З Мілету він послав у Ефес і прикликав пресвітерів Церкви. Коли ж вони прийшли до нього, він до них промовив: "Ви знаєте, як з першого дня, коли я вступив у Азію, увесь час поведився з вами. Зважайте на самих себе й на все стадо, над яким Дух Святий поставив вас єпископами, щоб пасли Церкву Божу, що її він придбав кров'ю власною. Я знаю, що по моїм відході ввійдуть поміж вас вовки хижі, які не щадитимуть стада. Та й зпоміж вас самих повстануть люди, що говоритимуть погубні речі, щоб потягнути за собою учнів. Тому чувайте, пригадуйте собі, що я три роки, ніч і день, не переставав кожного з вас із сльозами наводити на розум. А тепер передаю вас Богові і слову його благодаті, що може збудувати й дати вам спадщину між усіма освяченими. Ні срібла, ні золота, ані одежі я не вимагав ні від кого. Ви самі знаєте, що моїм потребам і тих, які зо мною, служили оці руки. У всьому я показав вам, що, так працюючи, треба допомагати слабосильним і пам'ятати слова Господа Ісуса, що сам сказав: 'Більше щастя - давати, ніж брати.'" Промовивши це, він упав на коліна і з усіма ними почав молитися.

**Апостольські Стих:** Бог Господь прорік, покликав землю від сходу сонця до його заходу.

**Стих:** Зберіть Мені Моїх побожних, які над жертвою союз зо Мною учинили.

**Євангелія (Ів 17,1-13):** Того часу, Ісус,

his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people, so that he may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began. I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you gave me is from you, because the words you gave to me I have given to them, and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me, because they are yours, and everything of mine is yours and everything of yours is mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are. When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me, and I guarded them, and none of them was lost except the son of destruction, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you. I speak this in the world so that they may share my joy completely."

**Instead of *It is truly right* . . . :** O my soul, extol the Lord, Who, in glory ascended bodily into heaven. We, the faithful, with one accord extol you, O Mother of God; for, in a manner beyond our understanding and expression, you gave birth in time to the Lord, Whom time cannot contain.

**Communion Verse:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting. Alleluia (3x).

**Instead of *We have seen the true light* . . . :** Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and let Your glory be over all the earth.

**Instead of *May our mouths be filled* . . . :** Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and let Your glory be over all the earth. Alleluia (3x).

підвівши очі свої до неба, проказав: "Отче, прийшла година! Прослав свого Сина, щоб Син твій тебе прославив, згідно з владою, що її ти дав йому над усяким тілом: дарувати життя вічне тим, яких ти передав йому. А вічне життя у тому, щоб вони спізнали тебе, єдиного, істинного Бога, і тобою посланого - Ісуса Христа. Я тебе на землі прославив, виконавши те діло, яке ти дав мені до виконання. Тепер же прослав мене, Отче, у себе - славою тією, що її мав у себе перед тим, як постав світ! Я об'явив твоє ім'я людям, яких ти від світу передав мені. Вони були твої, ти ж передав мені їх, і зберегли вони слово твоє. Нині збагнули вони, що все тобою дане мені - від тебе; слова бо, тобою мені дані, я їм дав, і сприйняли вони їх, і справді збагнули, що від тебе я вийшов, і увірували, що ти мене послав. Молю ж за них: не за світ молю, лише за тих, яких ти передав мені, бо вони - твої. І все моє твоє, твоє ж - моє, і в них я прославився. Я вже більш не у світі, а вони у світі, і я до тебе йду. Отче Святий! Заради імени твого бережи їх, тих, що їх ти мені передав, щоб було одно, як ми! Бувши з ними у світі, я беріг їх у твоє ім'я; тих, яких ти передав мені, я їх стеріг, і ніхто з них не пропав, лише син загибелі, щоб збулося Писання. Тепер же іду до тебе, і кажу те, у світі бувши, щоб вони радощів моїх мали у собі щцерьть."

**Замість *Достойно* . . . :** Величай, душе моя, Господа, що тілом у славі на небеса вознісся. Тебе, матір Божу, що понад усяке розуміння і слово неказанно в часі породила Вічного, ми, вірні, однодумно величаємо.

**Причасний Стих:** Хвалить Господа з небес, хваліте Його на висотах. Радуйтеся, праведні, в Господі, правим належить похвала. (Зр).

**Замість *Ми бачили світло* . . . :** Вознесися на небеса, Боже, і по всій землі слава Твоя.

**Замість *Нехай сповняться* . . . :** Вознесися на небеса, Боже, і по всій землі слава Твоя. Аلیلія (Зр).

## **ADVERTISE WITH US!**

Would you, or a business you patronize, like to help fund the costs of printing our parish bulletin and social media? Then why not place an advertisement with our bulletin and website as a sponsor!

Your ads can appear like this:

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Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic  
Church pyrohy sale needs help next  
month on June 6th and 7th. Come  
help and have fun with us!

**YOUR AD CAN APPEAR HERE TOO!**

The cost to run an ad in our bulletin and our web media is \$100.00 for a year. If you are interested in sponsoring an ad for your company/organization and helping to support our bulletin and social media outreach, contact St. Josaphat Rectory via email or telephone as listed on the front page of this bulletin.

That awkward moment when  
You accidentally start rapping  
The epistle:



### **Hey! Don't You Know? Ukrainian Catholic Trivia**

Some of the rules formulated at the 1st Ecumenical Council of Nicaea include:

1. Forbidding kneeling at Sunday Divine Liturgies and all the days of Pentecost (from Easter Sunday through Pentecost Sunday).
2. Priests who are to become bishops are to be consecrated by three bishops present.
3. The method of calculating the date when Easter Sunday falls in a given year (see the article on the 1st Council of Nicaea on the last page of the bulletin).

## GUIDELINES FOR OUR FAITHFUL, GUESTS, AND FRIENDS

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:** Membership at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church benefits **YOU** as it enables you to participate in stewardship of your church and enjoy a fuller spiritual life. To join St. Josaphat's Church as a registered member, email or telephone Father Paul at St Josaphat's Rectory (contact information is listed on the cover of the bulletin).

**THE MYSTERIES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, HOLY EUCHARIST):** Those who wish their children to receive the Mysteries of Christian Initiation must contact St. Josaphat Rectory at least 6 weeks in advance of the desired Baptismal date; at least one parent must be an active registered parishioner of St. Josaphat's Church when requesting this Sacrament. Sponsors (Godparents) must provide a letter of suitability from the pastor of the Catholic Church they attend if they are not registered members this parish. Non-baptized adults who wish to be received into the faith should contact Father Paul to arrange for receiving Catechetical instruction in preparation to receive the Mysteries of Christian Initiation.

**THE MYSTERY OF CONFESSION:** Confessions are offered to all the faithful 1/2 hour before each scheduled Divine Service, or you may make an appointment with Father Paul at any time.

**THE MYSTERY OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST:** The reception of the Most Holy Eucharist is reserved only for Baptized Catholic Christians whose consciences are free from mortal sin. If you are not Catholic, or if you have not made a Confession and are bound by mortal sin, you may come ask for a blessing from Father.

**THE MYSTERY OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK** can be administered anytime there is a case of serious illness, injury, or disease. Contact Father Paul at any time to arrange for the reception of this Sacrament. Please do not wait until your loved one is in danger of death!

**THE MYSTERY OF MATRIMONY:** Couples who wish to marry at St. Josaphat Church should contact the Rectory Office at least 6 months in advance of the desired wedding date (or as soon as they are engaged).

**FUNERALS:** Active parish membership and participation is mandatory if one desires an ecclesiastical funeral within the Church; otherwise, the funeral service will be conducted at the funeral home or the home of the deceased.

Viewings in the Church are discouraged as this is traditionally reserved for consecrated monastics or clerics. If an in-church viewing is desired, a separate facility use fee will be assessed by St. Josaphat Church equivalent to the prevailing funeral home facility rates in the Lehigh Valley.

Also, the Church teaches us to avoid cremation (except only for dire circumstances) due to the sanctity and holiness of the human body that was created in the image and likeness of God. If a cremation is insisted on, the family of the decedent must make every attempt to schedule the funeral service before cremation of the body takes place if an ecclesiastical funeral is desired.

For inquires regarding burial in St. Josaphat's Cemetery, contact the Rectory via email or telephone.



### THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

#### The Emperor Constantine and His Mother Empress Helen, Equal to the Apostles Sunday, May 21st, 2023

*Compiled from Various Sources; Edited for the Bulletin; For Local Use Only.*

Saint Constantine was born circa 272-274 AD. He was the son of Caesar Constantius Chlorus, ruler of the western part of the Roman Empire, and his mother, Saint Helen, a Christian of humble birth. During the time of his youth, the Roman Empire was split into two halves, east and west. These halves of the



empire were ruled by two independent emperors who were titled equally as "Caesar".



In 294, Constantius divorced Helen in order to further his political ambition by marrying a woman of noble rank. After he became emperor, Constantine showed his mother great honor and respect, granting her the imperial title "Augusta." The future ruler of all the whole Roman Empire, Constantine was raised to respect Christianity. His father did not persecute Christians in the lands he governed. This was at a time when Christians were persecuted throughout the Roman Empire by the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and his corulers Maximian Galerius (305-311) in the East, and the emperor Maximian Hercules (284-305) in the West.

After the death of Constantius Chlorus in 306, Constantine was acclaimed by the army at York as emperor of Gaul and Britain. Shortly after, the pagan rulers Maxentius of the West and Maximian Galerius of the East had joined against him, he marched on Italy. It was there that, on the eve of a decisive battle outside Rome, he saw in the sky a radiant Cross with the words "In this sign conquer." He ordered that a battle-standard be made bearing the image of a cross and inscribed with the Name of Jesus Christ. The following day he and his forces attacked and won a spectacular victory at the Battle of the Milvian Bridge. He entered Rome in triumph and in 312 was proclaimed "Emperor of the West" by the

Senate. (His brother-in-law Licinius ruled in the East.) Soon thereafter in 313, he issued his "Edict of Milan," whereby Christianity was officially tolerated for the first time, and persecution of Christians ceased. It is thought his mother, Augusta Helen, may have influenced him in this decision. Thus, after three hundred years of persecution, Christians could finally practice their faith without fear.

Licinius, though he pretended to accept the Edict, soon began persecuting Christians in his domain. In response, Constantine fought and defeated him in 324, becoming sole Emperor of the entire Roman Empire. In 324 he laid the foundations of a new capital in the town of Byzantium; in 330 he inaugurated the new capital city, naming it "New Rome" and "Constantinople." Constantine was deeply convinced that only Christianity could unify the immense Roman Empire with its diverse peoples. He supported the Church in every way. He recalled Christian confessors from banishment, he built churches, and he showed concern for the clergy.

The emperor deeply revered the victory-bearing Sign of the Cross of the Lord, and also wanted to find the actual Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified. For this purpose he sent his own mother, the holy Empress Helen, to Jerusalem, granting her both power and money. Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem and Saint Helen began the search, and through the will of God, the Life-Creating Cross was miraculously discovered in 326, and continues to be commemorated to this day on September 14th, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross.

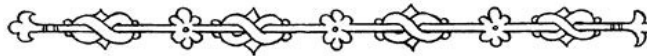
While in Palestine, the holy empress did much of benefit for the Church. She ordered that all places connected with the earthly life of the Lord and His All-Pure Mother, should be freed of all traces of paganism, and she commanded that churches should be built at these places. Because of her great services to the Church and her efforts in finding the Life-Creating Cross, the empress Helen is called "the Equal of the Apostles" alongside her son.

The peaceful state of the Christian Church was disturbed by quarrels, dissensions and heresies which

had appeared within the Church. Already at the beginning of Saint Constantine's reign the heresies of the Donatists and the Novatians had arisen in the West. They demanded a second baptism for those who lapsed during the persecutions against Christians. These heresies, repudiated by two local Church councils, were finally condemned at the Council of Milan in 316. Particularly ruinous for the Church was the rise of the Arian heresy in the East, which denied the Divine Nature of the Son of God, and taught that Jesus Christ was a mere creature. These heresies threatened the new unity of the empire by creating divisions among the faithful along political lines; thus, by order of emperor Constantine, the First Ecumenical Council was convened in the city of Nicea in 325.

318 bishops attended this Council. Among its participants were confessor-bishops from the period of the persecutions and many other luminaries of the Church, among whom was Saint Nicholas of Myra in Lycia. (The account about the Council is found under May 29). The emperor was present at the sessions of the Council. The heresy of Arius was condemned and a Symbol of Faith (Creed) composed, in which was included the term "consubstantial with the Father," at the insistence of the Emperor, confirming the truth of the divinity of Jesus Christ, Who assumed human nature for the redemption of all the human race.

After the Council of Nicaea, Saint Constantine continued with his active role in the welfare of the Church. He accepted holy Baptism on his deathbed, having prepared for it all his whole life. Saint Constantine died on the day of Pentecost in the year 337 and was buried in the church of the Holy Apostles, in a crypt he had prepared for himself.



### **St. Josaphat Calendar of Events – Mark Your Planners!**

<b>May 27th/28th:</b>	1st Confessions, St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church
<b>May 29th:</b>	Memorial Day Remembrance of Veterans/Blessing of Graves
<b>May 31st:</b>	Change Altar Vestings/Church Cleaning (Alternate Date June 2nd)
<b>June 4th:</b>	St. Josaphat Family Day – Coca Cola Park, Allentown, PA (Game time: 1:35pm)
<b>June 5th:</b>	<i>Apostle's Fast (Petriivka) Begins</i>
<b>June 5th:</b>	St. Josaphat Tryzub Meeting (7:00 pm, Church Hall)
<b>June 6th-7th:</b>	Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church Pyrohy/Noodle Prep and Sale
<b>June 17th:</b>	Summer Theology on Tap (after the 6:30 pm Liturgy, location TBD)
<b>June 16th-18th:</b>	5th All-American Youth Pilgrimage, Parma OH (See Flyer in Vestibule)
<b>June 29th:</b>	<i>Feast of the Preeminent Apostles Sts. Peter and Paul (Holy Day of Obligation; Apostle's Fast/Petriivka Ends)</i>
<b>June 30th:</b>	Change Altar Vestings/Church Cleaning
<b>July 3rd:</b>	St. Josaphat Tryzub Meeting (7:00 pm, Church Hall)
<b>July 4th:</b>	Independence Day
<b>July 9th:</b>	Holy Ghost Noodle Sale (No Pyrohy)
<b>July 22nd:</b>	Summer Theology on Tap (after the 6:30 pm Liturgy, location TBD)
<b>July 24th-28th:</b>	TENTATIVE-Holy Ghost Children's Summer Camp
<b>August 6th:</b>	<i>Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, Jesus Christ (Holy Day of Obligation)</i>

## **THE COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF NICAEA**

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On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ.

Persecution of Christians ceased during the fourth century, but heresies arose within the Church itself. One of the most pernicious of these heresies was Arianism. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, was a man of immense pride and ambition. In denying the divine nature of Jesus Christ and His equality with God the Father, Arius falsely taught that the Savior is not the Son of God who is consubstantial with the Father, but is only a divine being created by the Father.

A local Council, convened with Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria presiding, condemned the false teachings of Arius. However, Arius would not submit to the authority of the Church. He wrote to many bishops, denouncing the decrees of the local Council. He spread his false teaching throughout the East, receiving support from certain Eastern bishops. Investigating these dissensions, the holy emperor Constantine consulted Bishop Hosius of Cordova, Spain, who assured him that the heresy of Arius was directed against the most fundamental dogma of Christ's Church, and so he decided to convene an Ecumenical Council. In the year 325, 318 bishops representing Christian Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicaea.

Among the assembled bishops were many confessors who had suffered during the persecutions, and who bore the marks of torture upon their bodies. Also participating in the Council were several great luminaries of the Church: Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, Saint Spyridon, Bishop of Tremyfia, and others venerated by the Church as holy Fathers. With Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria came his deacon, Athanasius, who later became Patriarch of Alexandria. He is called "the Great," for he was a zealous champion for the purity of his faith.

The emperor Constantine presided over the sessions of the Council. In his speech, responding to the welcome by Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea, he said, "God has helped me cast down the impious might of the persecutors, but more distressful for me than any blood spilled in battle is for a soldier, is the internal strife in the Church of God, for it is more ruinous."

Arius, with seventeen bishops among his supporters, remained arrogant, but his teaching was repudiated and he was excommunicated from the Church. In his speech, the holy deacon Athanasius conclusively refuted the blasphemous opinions of Arius. The heresiarch Arius is depicted in iconography sitting on Satan's knees, or in the mouth of the Beast of the Deep.

The Fathers of the Council declined to accept a Symbol of Faith (Creed) proposed by the Arians. Instead, they affirmed the orthodox Symbol of Faith that formed the creed which we now recite at every Divine Liturgy.

In the Nicene Creed, the holy Fathers set forth and confirmed the Apostolic teachings about Christ's divine nature. The heresy of Arius was exposed and repudiated as an error of haughty reason. After resolving this chief dogmatic question, the Council also issued Twelve Canons on questions of church administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Easter. By decision of the Council, Holy Pascha should not be celebrated by Christians on the same day with the Jewish Passover, but on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox (which occurred on March 22 in 325).

## St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church "Where Faith and Tradition Meet"

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Rev. Paul J. Makar, Pastor  
Mrs. Carol Hanych, Cantor  
Ms. Kimberly McGowan, Parish Secretary



### **Glory to Jesus Christ! Слава Ісусу Христу!**

*We welcome you to our parish family and invite you to worship with us in a most ancient Church of the Christian East. We are happy to have you with us, and we are honored to share our Ukrainian Catholic tradition of prayer and spirituality with you, your family, and your friends. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to bring them to Father Paul or one of our parishioners. Our doors and our hearts are open to you. May God's blessings be with you always!*

### *Love One Another*

"I give you a new commandment," said Jesus, "love one another." ... He showed the newness of His command and how far the love He enjoined surpassed the old conception of mutual love by going on immediately to add: "Love one another as I have loved you." To understand the full force of these words, we have to consider how Christ loved us. Then it will be easy to see what is new and different in the commandment we are now given.

Do you not see what is new in Christ's love for us? The law commanded people to love their brothers and sisters as they love themselves, but our Lord Jesus Christ loved us more than Himself. He who was one in nature with God the Father and His equal would not have descended to our lowly estate, nor endured in His flesh such a bitter death for us, nor submitted to the blows given Him by His enemies, to the shame, the derision, and all the other sufferings that could not possibly be enumerated. Nor, being rich, would He have become poor, had He not loved us far

more than Himself. It was indeed something new for love to go as far as that!

Christ commands us to love as He did, putting neither reputation, nor wealth, nor anything whatever before love of our brothers and sisters. If need be we must even be prepared to face death for our neighbor's salvation as did our Savior's blessed disciples and those who followed in their footsteps. To them the salvation of others mattered more than their own lives, and they were ready to do anything or to suffer anything to save souls that were perishing.

The Savior urged us to practice this love that transcends the law as the foundation of true devotion to God. He knew that only in this way could we become pleasing in God's eyes, and that it was by seeking the beauty of the love implanted in us by Himself that we should attain to the highest blessings.

*St. Cyril of Alexandria*

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