SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL



Icon of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicea

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

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Ascension Sunday May 16, 2021

THIS SUNDAY our parishioner Russell Chomiak will make a terrific presentation on certain cultural aspects of Ukraine. This special event will follow the 9 am Holy Liturgy. So plan to stay with us Sunday morning to learn about today's situation in Ukraine.

NEXT WEEKEND WE WILL CELEBRATE THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF Father Ronald. Both Saturday evening and Sunday morning we will hear a few words from the folks in Church, sing a few songs, share some treats and make some great memories. Be sure to be with us next weekend for this big event in our church history.

ON MEMORIAL DAY, Monday, May 31, we will gather at our beautiful Cemetery at 10 am to sing our Panachyda at the Altar and then visit individual graves upon request. Please tell all your friends and relatives about this most special event to pray for our beloved deceased.

THIS SUNDAY will mark the conclusion of our Sunday School's spring semester. We thank all our dear teachers and caring parents for making this program so successful in teaching our youth about our Lord Jesus and His Holy Church. God bless all of you for this beautiful program.

THIS WEEKEND we will livestream our Holy Liturgy on Sunday at 9 am. Be sure to inform all your neighbors and friends about this great service for all our Faithful, both near and far, young and old. Next weekend we will send out our Holy liturgy on Saturday, May 22, at 6 pm via livestream on YOU TUBE.

WE ARE SO VERY PROUD of this year's graduates. Our list to date includes: Anna Marie Berezovsky, Olivia Rotondo, Irene Naida, Nicholas Mychalczuk, Eber Noriega and Nellie Noriega. Please inform Father of any grads in your family so we can congratulate them from our Parish.

OUR PARISH AND PASTOR ARE SO APPRECIATIVE AND THANKFUL FOR ALL THE generous folks who have sent in their donations this week to keep our Church alive and well. We thank the faithful in church and those afar for their love for our Lord and His Holy Church.

SERIOUSLY CONSIDER getting your Corona Vaccination, if you have not done so to date. It's free and fairly easy and just might save your life!

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm Sunday, 9 am +John Berkizczuk (Wife Jeannie) +Eva, Philip Zolondek (Bill, Bridget)

Saturday, May 22, 6 pm Sunday, 9 am, May 23

+Anna Sokol Burns (Timbario Fam.)
+Olga Chaplynsky (Karen Dolga)

ASCENSION TROPAR:

God, inspiring your Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, You blessed and assured the Disciples, for You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of all the world.

GLORY TO THE FATHER AND...

ASCENSION KONTAK:

O Christ, you carried out the plan of Providence and reconsiled heaven and earth, today we celebrate Your Glorious Ascension. However You did not abandon us but are always present among us, saying: "I am always with you to the very end of the world."

ASCENSION PROKIMEN:

Be you exalted above the heavens, O God, and Your Glory over all the earth.

Cove, Fr. Conny