
THE SYNAXARION

On May 28 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the Hieromartyr Eutychios, bishop of Melitene; and Martyr Heliconis of Thessalonica.

On this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the first Ecumenical Council of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, which took place in Nicaea in Bithynia.

Verses

*O ye light-bearing stars of the spiritual firmament,
enlighten my mind with your rays.*

Verses Against Arius

*Calling the Son a stranger to the Father's essence,
Arius proved to be a stranger to God's glory.*

Arius, the notorious heretic, began to blaspheme against God and His Son the Word, saying that the latter was not God consubstantial with the Father, but that He was created as a stranger to the Substance of the Father and His glory. Alexander, the Archbishop of Alexandria, tried to constrain Arius from disturbing the faithful with this teaching; even though Alexander excommunicated him, Arius did not cease his blasphemy, which spread throughout the Church in all nations. Thus, Emperor Constantine the Great called the First Ecumenical Council, which gathered bishops and teachers in the Church from all lands. They all proclaimed, as by one mouth, the equality of the Son of God with the Father in Substance, thus laying down the noble Confession of Faith, *The Creed*, which we Orthodox Christians recite to this day. The Church regards these divine Fathers as preachers of the Faith next to the holy Apostles.

By the intercessions of the 318 God-bearing Fathers, O Christ God, have mercy on us. Amen.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed art Thou, O Lord, the God of our Fathers.

For Thou art just in all Thou hast done to us.

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (20:16-18, 28-36)

In those days, Paul was determined to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening, if possible, to be at Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the priests 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 bishops, to shepherd the church of the Lord and God, which He purchased with His own blood. For I know that after my departure ravenous wolves will enter 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, remain watchful, remembering that for three years I did not cease to admonish every one, night and day with tears. And now, brethren, 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 such laboring we ought to help the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down on his knees with them all, and prayed.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (17:1-13)

At that time, Jesus lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Thy Son that the Son may glorify Thee, since Thou hast given Him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom Thou hast given Him. And this is eternal life, that they know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ Whom Thou hast sent. I glorified Thee on earth, having accomplished the work which Thou gavest Me to do; and now, Father, glorify Thou Me in Thy own presence with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was made. I have manifested Thy Name to the men whom Thou gavest Me out of the world; Thine they were, and Thou gavest them to Me, and they have kept Thy word. Now they know that everything that Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from Thee; and they have believed that Thou didst send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom Thou hast given Me, for they are Thine; all Mine are Thine, and Thine 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 Thee. Holy Father, keep them in Thy Name, which Thou hast given Me, that they may be one, even as We are one. While I was with them, I kept them in Thy Name, which Thou 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 Thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves."



ST. MICHAEL HAPPENINGS

WEEKLY BULLETIN CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE

ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND HIS CHURCH

Women's Group In-House Bake Sale – SUN, May 28: Treat your guests this Memorial Day weekend by purchasing home baked items prepared by our Women's Group. This is our annual bake sale to support Women's projects. Thank you as always for your continued support.

Catechesis-of-the-Good-Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Level 1 Formation Training

Part 2

May 29-June 2, 2023

Memorial Day through Friday of the same week

M-F 8:30am-5:30pm

St. Michael the Archangel Antiochian Orthodox Church

62 Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635



The tuition for Level 1 Formation Part 2 is \$400. For those in Orthodox Churches, a discounted rate of \$250 is available. Registration is limited to 12 people.

For more information email our course coordinator:

Kh. Yvonne Butts at yborthodox@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

- June 9-11 - Middle Eastern Festival at St. George Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester
- July 7-9 - PLC at Cape Codder Hotel
- July 23-30 - Archdiocesan Convention, Arizona