

**Spiritual Book Club** – We are having our final meeting before summer. We'll be discussing the last 3 chapters of the book. Also, stay tuned for information regarding a dinner where we'll gather to discuss the book as a whole.

**Adult Bible Study - Monday, June 17th @ 7:00 pm.** Come join us and learn about the richness of our faith through scripture. Bring your bibles, we will be using the Orthodox Study Bible. For more information call the office at: (773) 334-4515 and speak to Father John.

**For our church festival this July, St. Andrew's PARISHIONERS BOUTIQUE** needs your help. Look around your house and in your closets. If you find anything that you can donate, please bring them to the church office. Check the pamphlet inside the Sunday Bulletin for more information or call Semi Karnezos at (773) 654-3450.



**Tuesday, June 18 - Dinner Night Out - Valley Lo Club in Glenview 6pm Cocktails, 7pm Dinner**

Mingling on the patio, delicious dinner with fellow Philoptochos members and friends... doesn't that sound like a wonderful evening? Make your reservations by calling Terri at 847-832-1631, or Vickie at 773-875-9044. Cash bar, appetizers, salad, and complimentary wine with dinner. Select your entree choice: Chicken Piccata with angel hair pasta and vegetables, or Maple Lacquered Roast Pork Loin with fingerling potatoes and vegetables. Make sure to save room for dessert - vanilla ice cream with chocolate syrup! While the food and atmosphere will be lovely - come for the fellowship, the chance to meet new members, and the opportunity to catch up with friends. Cost is \$40 per person. Please send checks made out to SAWPS to the St. Andrew Church office.

**Friday, June 21 - Sandwich Making for Sarah's Circle - In the kitchen from 10:30am-noon**

Stand side by side with other Philoptochos members and make these sack lunches for the women of Sarah's Circle.

**Friday, June 21 - St. Andrew Golf Outing - Chevy Chase Course in Wheeling, IL**

Golf, anyone?? Contact Fotine if you would consider playing.

**Saturday, July 6 - Soup Kitchen - First Presbyterian Church of Evanston 11:15am-1pm**

Put it on your calendar from now! Volunteers are needed during this "holiday weekend".

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday, July 12, 13, 14 - Edgewater Greek Fest (Our Church's Festival!)**

Please consider volunteering for this major fundraiser for our church. All areas will need your help! Additionally, we will be baking Greek and American pastries soon! Look for notices or contact Patty at: pattyharrison56@hotmail.com for more information.

**Wednesday Sept. 25 - Sunday Sept. 29 - Clergy/Laity/Philoptochos Assembly**

Hyatt Regency Bloomington-Minneapolis, Minnesota

At our Dinner Night Out, we will elect up to 3 delegates from our chapter to attend the Clergy/Laity/Philoptochos Assembly. If you are interested in being a delegate and representing St. Andrew Philoptochos, please email Fotine at fotine14@yahoo.com

*Welcome to Saint Andrew's Greek Orthodox Church*

*"Proclaiming Orthodoxy Since 1926"*

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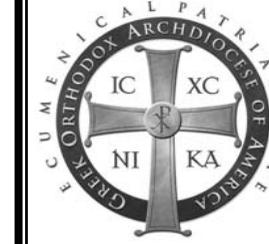
E-mail: [info@standreworthodox.org](mailto:info@standreworthodox.org)

Website: [StAndrewOrthodox.org](http://StAndrewOrthodox.org)

Fr. John N. Kalomas – Proistamenos

Fr. Athanasios Minetos - Associate Priest

Fr. John Kutulas – In Loving Memory



**SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019 ( Sunday of the First Ecumenical Council )**

*STEWARDSHIP QUOTE – "I Believe" Are The First Two Words That Emphasize What A True Orthodox Steward Is. Our Belief In One God, His Church, His Ministries, His Teachings. Following All Of The Above Allows Us To Follow The Proper Road In Being A Good Steward Of God's House.*

**MEMORIAL**

Katherine Kryl - 40 days

Konstantinos Tsakalis - 40 days

**May Their Memory Be Eternal!!!**

**Coffee Hour** is being sponsored by the Tsakalis Family in loving memory of Konstantinos.

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• **FOR NON-ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS:** We welcome those Christians not fully united with us. It is a consequence of  
• the sad divisions of Christianity that we cannot extend to you a general invitation to receive Holy Communion.  
• Orthodox Christians believe that the Eucharist is an action of the celebrating community signifying a oneness in  
• faith, life, and worship. Reception of the Eucharist by Christians not fully united with us would imply a oneness  
• which does not yet exist and for which we must all pray. We do however invite you to receive the blessed bread  
• that is given out to all at the end of service. Thank you for coming and worshiping with us.  
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# *Sunday Of The Fathers Of The First Ecumenical Council*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we hear our Lord pray in the Gospel today for the Father to “keep through Your own name those whom You have given me, that they may be one, as we are” (John 17:11).

Our Lord prays these words because He knows the attacks that the Church will undergo after His death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. He further confirms these struggles in the Gospel of Saint Matthew when he says, “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves” (Matthew 7:15).

The Church commemorates the fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, today, that were victorious over one of these wolves that attacked the unity of the Church. This attack came from a priest of the Church of Alexandria by the name of Arius. What Arius had taught was that our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ was a creature created by God, from nonexistence, when God created all of creation. In other words, Arius denied that the divinity of Christ was the same as His Father’s. There are many that still believe this today and many other false teachings about Christ and God.

These false teachings are stated the decisions of the Seven Ecumenical Councils. As a result of these false teachings, these councils affirmed the teachings of the Church regarding Christ and the All-Holy Trinity. To affirm the Church’s teachings about Christ, the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council formulated the first part of the Creed.

The Creed starts by confirming the person of God as Father. The Son of God taught us to pray to God with the following words: “Our Father, who art in heaven ...” (Matthew 6:9). This name of God and character of God was previously unknown to the world of the Old Testament. God was known in the Old Testament as God, Creator, Lord, King and Judge. It is through His Son that we are given this intimate relationship with God.

As it says in today’s Gospel, this intimate relationship is confirmed by the words, “Yours they were, and You gave them me” (John 17:6). This confirms that Christ takes men, who were creatures and servants of God that knew God only as their Creator and Judge, making them His own. Through making men His own, Christ makes all men sons of God by adoption. As it says in the Epistle to the Galatians: “To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons” (Galatians 4:5). The second section of the Creed that was developed by the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

confirmed the person of the Son of God. In this portion of the Creed, the Son of God is shown to have both divine and human natures. It also confirmed that the divine nature of Christ was the same as the Father’s.

Jesus refers to His divine nature in His prayer from today’s Gospel when He says: “And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was” (John 17:5). Through this phrase, we can clearly see that Jesus is no ordinary man or creature of God. Our Lord tell us that He was with the Father before the world’s creation, as it says in the beginning of the Gospel of Saint John: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God (John 1:1). And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).

Through these words, we should be able to see the errors of Arius’ teachings that are still proclaimed to this day.

Saint Nikolaj Velimirovic reminds us that this prayer KEEP THEM is “not only for the apostles ... This prayer ... was also for the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council ... And the Father kept them from the errors of Arius, and inspired, illumined and strengthened them ... to defend and confirm the Orthodox faith. This prayer is for all of us who are baptized in the Apostolic Church who have ... come to know the saving name of Christ the Savior,” Jesus.

So, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ, my prayer for you is the same as our Lord’s, that you may be kept in the Orthodox Catholic faith so that you may be illumined and strengthened like the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, against all errors that surround you, and that you may worship the one True God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit—the Trinity consubstantial and undivided.

Amen.

Taken from the Source of Saint Gregory Palamas Outreach and given by Fr. Milan Medakovic

## **EPISTLE READING**

**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.

## **GOSPEL READING**

**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."