

## Fourth Ecumenical Council - 451 AD

*On Sunday, July 16, 2017, the Church commemorated the 630 Fathers gathered at the Fourth Ecumenical Council in 451 AD. I gave a reflection that day, which touched on some of the history of this particular council. Several parishioners asked me to make available my reflection from that day, therefore, I wish to present the following article, which is the primary source I drew much of my reflection. + Fr. Michael*

The Fourth Ecumenical Council took place in Chalcedon in 451 AD, and is also known as the Council of Chalcedon. It ruled that Jesus Christ is "in two natures" in opposition to the doctrine of Monophysitism. The council also issued canons dealing mainly with the organization of the Church. The respective acceptance and rejection of this council led to the break between the Chalcedonian Orthodox (the "Eastern Orthodox Church") and the Non-Chalcedonians (the "Oriental Orthodox Church").

The Fourth of the seven Ecumenical Councils dealt with the following:

- ✓ Christ's nature and personhood
- ✓ The visible organization of the Church

In AD 449, between the third and fourth Councils, another council was held in which St. Cyril's successor, Dioscorus of Alexandria, "insisted that there is in Christ only one nature (physis)". It is a position commonly called Monophysite, and it states that the Savior "is from two natures, but after His Incarnation there is only 'one incarnate nature of God the Word'." St. Cyril himself had used those words, but Dioscorus omitted many of the balancing statements that St. Cyril had made. And so, only two years later, Emperor Marcian called a new gathering of bishops to decide the matter. This gathering, in AD 451 is what is considered the fourth great Council.

Concerning Christ's nature and personhood, the Council rejected Dioscorus' position, and proclaimed that:

*...while Christ is a single, undivided person, He is not only from two natures but in two natures. The bishops acclaimed the Tome of St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome (died 461), in which the distinction between the two natures is clearly stated, although the unity of Christ's person is also emphasized. In their proclamation of faith they stated their belief in 'one and the same son, perfect in Godhead and perfect in humanity, truly God and truly human... acknowledged in two natures unconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the difference between the natures is in no way removed because of the union, but rather the peculiar property of each nature is preserved, and both combine in one person and in one hypostasis.*

## August 2017 Newsletter



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This definition, where the distinction between Christ's two natures and the unity of His personhood are both emphasized, was aimed not only at the Monophysites, but also the followers of Nestorius.

Concerning the visible organization of the Church, Canon 28 confirmed Canon 3 of the Second Council and affirmed the assignment of Constantinople, or New Rome, as equal in honor with the 'old' Rome. This was a blow to the Alexandrians and their desire to "rule supreme" in the east. Leo of Rome rejected this canon, but the east has always recognized its validity. The Council also freed Jerusalem from the jurisdiction of Caesarea and gave it the fifth place in honor, thus creating what is known by the Orthodox as the 'Pentarchy'. This Pentarchy settled the order of precedence. In order of rank:

1. Rome & Constantinople
2. Alexandria
3. Antioch
4. Jerusalem

All five sees claimed Apostolic foundation. The first four were the most important cities in the empire, and Jerusalem was added because it is where Christ suffered and rose from the dead. Also, it was during this council that the bishops in each city received the title "Patriarch." The Patriarchates then divided the whole of the known world into spheres of jurisdiction, except for Cyprus, which had been granted independence by the third Council and remains self-governing to this day.

There are two misunderstandings of this Pentarchy that must be avoided:

- a. the system of patriarchs and metropolitans is based on ecclesiastical structure
- b. the Bishop of Rome (Pope) has supremacy over the other bishops

Regarding the first misunderstanding, the Orthodox do not view the Church from the standpoint of ecclesiastical order, but from the perspective of divine right. They see all bishops as essentially equal, regardless of the prominence of the city which they oversee. They are all divinely appointed teachers of the faith, they all share in Apostolic succession and they all have sacramental powers. If a dispute arises, it is not enough for any one bishop to express his opinion; all diocesan bishops have the right to attend a general council, express their opinion and cast a vote. The system of the Pentarchy does not impair the essential quality of each bishop nor does it strip the local community of the significance assigned it.

Regarding the second misunderstanding, the Orthodox do not accept the doctrine of Papal authority as established in 1870 by the Vatican Council and taught in the Roman Catholic Church today. Where the Orthodox see Rome going wrong is when they turned the 'primacy in love' (as St. Ignatius called it) into a place of supremacy of external jurisdiction and power. 'Primacy in love' does not overthrow the essential equality of all bishops.

Commemoration:

The Holy Fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council are commemorated on July 16 and also on the 9th Sunday after Pentecost the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Six Councils.

Sources:

"Fourth Ecumenical Council" - [https://orthodoxwiki.org/Fourth\\_Ecumenical\\_Council](https://orthodoxwiki.org/Fourth_Ecumenical_Council) (above article in it's entirety)

[The Orthodox Church](#) - by Bishop Kallistos (Ware) of Diokleia (primary source for the article) External links:

Additional Links:

[Canons of the seven ecumenical councils](#)

[The Historical Background of the Council \(Chalcedon\)](#) - by Alexander Schmemmann, B.D.

## THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

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Georgiana Wilton, Parish Council President [georgiana.wilton@gmail.com](mailto:georgiana.wilton@gmail.com)

**Parish Council Officers:** Tom Cameron, Vice President; Bruce Hansen, Secretary, Niko Papadopoulos, Treasurer **Members:** Petros Anagnostopoulos, Christy Chappell Belkin, Conn Choles, Nico Fatsis, Dori Hosek, Georgia Marsh, Mike Smith, and Scott Storck **Alternates:** John Soloninka and Nick Topitzes

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***There is a real magic in enthusiasm. It spells the difference between mediocrity and accomplishment.*** Norman Vincent Peale

I want to take this opportunity to thank the entire community for supporting GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup> 2017! Your collective enthusiasm was palpable. Whether you worked a shift (or 4), donated money to help us hire workers, baked a pastry for the bake sale, put together bakery cases, chaired one of our 11 sub-committees, kept the grounds beautiful, mopped a floor, set up (and took down) tables, and/or enjoyed a gyro and fries (and maybe a beer or flight of wine)...you can sleep well knowing you had a major part in the accomplishment that is GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup>.

Please check out our Facebook page for great review of Greek Fest (and remember to post pics)!

Was it the best fundraiser ever? Maybe! Our gross receipts were \$70,936!! That doesn't take into account donations or credit card purchases. Of course, there are a lot of expenses. These expenses include: permit fees, food costs, equipment rental (i.e., warmers, bouncy tent, tables, chairs, coolers, deep fryers, tents, tents, and more tents), MPD security during the festival, private security for 4 nights to protect all the rented property, paid workers (this year we needed paid workers to fill 56 shifts), insurance, added electricity, ice, dumpsters, porta-potties, no parking signs, printing, advertising, tickets, signage...and the list goes on.

We'll keep you posted in the months again about the expenses and what our 'net' proceeds turn out to be.

As wonderful as it would be to rest on our laurels, we have to jump right back into business!

We're looking forward to our Church's nameday celebration, the start of the ecclesiastical new year, the John Forsyte Memorial Dinner, and a General Assembly.

Please stay tuned for all details! Our work continues...

With heartfelt thanks-  
Georgiana

## PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

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*Patti Cameron, President* [pcameron@tds.net](mailto:pcameron@tds.net) or [pcameron10@gmail.com](mailto:pcameron10@gmail.com) 608-219-1659

A big thank you to all those who helped with the Greek Fest<sup>PLUS</sup> bake sale. Maria Heide was very pleased with all the volunteers and the fact that we sold out of everything was a perfect ending to a perfect weekend! Maria will have more to report at our meeting in September. Date to be announced.

August 19th: 9 am - 2 Philoptochos is invited to Mrs. Vasiliki Karabatsos's farm and candle making studio in Brodhead, WI. Please RSVP to Patti at [pcameron@tds.net](mailto:pcameron@tds.net) if you are interested in going.

Friday, Sept 1st: Cooking for the River Food Pantry. There will be 2 shifts: 1) Cooks: 1-5 ; 2) Servers: 5-8. Please contact Patti Cameron if you are able to help. [pcameron@tds.net](mailto:pcameron@tds.net) or [608-219-1659](tel:608-219-1659)

## WISH LIST--UPDATE

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As announced at the June General Assembly, some much needed updates to our kitchen are in the works. The ovens we rely on for GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup>, Baklava Plus, Church dinners, cooking for the homeless shelter, and even weekly coffee hours are on their last legs. The manufacturer no longer makes the parts—so the next time they break—they won't be able to be repaired.

In addition to new ovens we hope to raise funds to purchase and install a 3-compartment ANSI-approved sink (to wash, rinse, and sanitize) to be consistent with health codes, and an under-counter dish washer.

We have preliminary estimates—and have begun to raise funds (see estimates below)

1. Vulcan Convection Oven = **\$7,900**
2. Three compartment sink = **\$800**
3. Jackson undercounter high-temperature sanitizing professional dishwasher (~3 minute cycle) = **\$3,600**

**And, here's the update!!** During GreekFest<sup>PLUS</sup> we received an amazing '**match pledge**' from the Gialamas families. They will match all donations up to the complete cost of the kitchen updates. So, if you pledge \$500, they will match the \$500 and we'll meet our goal much quicker.

Please contact Georgiana if you'd like to contribute—let's take care of our Church home as we do our own home.

Thank you for considering!!

## **J and M Home Helpers**

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AGOC's handymen, John and Mike, will do minor home repairs and maintenance for \$25/hour, with the money for their work being donated to the church.



*Call Mike at (608) 516- 9188 and John at (608) 575-1014 today!*

**NOTICE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

**September 10, 2017**

**Following Church Services**

**AGENDA:**

**Budget Update**

**VOTE to pay off mortgage**

**VOTE on amended Constitution and Bylaws**

**Update on Forsyte Endowment**

# August – October 2017 Liturgies and Services

## **August 1**

### **Dormition Fast Begins**

Small Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## **August 3**

Small Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## **August 6**

### **9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

#### **Holy Transfiguration**

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 2 Peter 1:10-19

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:1-9

**Prosforo:** Ilektra A

**Coffee Hour: (Group 4)** Nancy B,  
Jane S, Beth F, Susan J

## **August 7**

Small Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## **August 9**

Small Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## **August 11**

Small Paraklesis 6:00 pm

## **August 13**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 4:9-16

**Gospel:** Matthew 17:14-23

**Prosforo:** Jenny G

**Coffee Hour: (Group 5)** Kristi P, Lisa  
B, Demetra S

## **August 14**

Great Vespers of the Dormition  
With Lamentations and Artoklasia  
6:00 pm

*Lenten Reception to Follow*

## **August 15**

### **Dormition of the Theotokos**

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** Philippians 2:5-11

**Gospel:** Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

**Prosforo:** Jenny G

## **August 20**

### **11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 9:2-12

**Gospel:** Matthew 18:23-35

**Prosforo:** Cathy G

**Coffee Hour: (Group 6)** Maria M, Nia  
C, Denise S

## **August 27**

### **12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

**Gospel:** Matthew 19:16-26

**Prosforo:** Tom C

**Coffee Hour: (Group 7)** Georgia M,  
Livia K, Ghada S, Sarah S

## **September 3**

### **13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew**

Orthros 8:30 am

Divine Liturgy 9:30 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 16:13-24

**Gospel:** Matthew 21:33-42

**Prosforo:** Georgia M

**Coffee Hour: (Group 8)** Nikki S,  
Aleksandra T, Jenya

## **September 8**

### **Nativity of the Theotokos**

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** Philippians 2:5-11

**Gospel:** Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28

**Prosforo:** Georgia M

## **September 10**

### **REGULAR HOURS RESUME**

#### **Sunday Before the Holy Cross / Sunday School Begins**

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Galatians 6:11-18

**Gospel:** John 3:13-17

**Prosforo:** Anna F

**Coffee Hour: (Group 9)** Patti C,  
Violetta C, Michelle B

## **September 14**

### **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

**Epistle:** 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

**Gospel:** John 19:6-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30

**Prosforo:** Anna F

## **September 17**

### **Sunday After the Holy Cross Student Teacher Blessing and**

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Galatians 2:16-20

**Gospel:** Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

**Prosforo:** Elene P

**Coffee Hour: (Group 10):** Margo S,  
Jenny J, Betty L

## **September 24**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Luke**

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Timothy: 3:10-15

**Gospel:** Luke 5:1-11

**Prosforo:** Korinna H

**Coffee Hour: (Group 11)** Kerry M, Barb  
K, Dori H

## **October 1**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Luke**

#### **Church Musicians Sunday**

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** Acts 9:10-19

**Gospel:** Luke 6:31-36

**Prosforo:** Kathy F

**Coffee Hour:** Choir Pancake Breakfast

## **October 8**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Luke**

Orthros 9:00 am

Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

**Epistle:** 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

**Gospel:** Luke 7:11-16

**Prosforo:** N Choles

**Coffee Hour: (Group 12):** Maria H,  
Draga G, Gabriela C

# August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 30 <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am <b>GREEKFEST PLUS 2017</b>	July 31	1 <b>DORMITION FAST BEGINS</b>  Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	2	3  Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	4	5  <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>
6 <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> <b>Holy Transfiguration</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	7  Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	8	9  Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	10	11  Small Paraclesis 6:00 pm	12
13 <b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	14 <b>Dormition of the Theotokos Eve</b> Great Vespers 6:00 pm <i>Reception to Follow</i>	15 <b>Dormition of the Theotokos</b> Orthros 8:00 am Divine Liturgy 9:00 am <i>Reception to Follow</i>	16	17	18	19  <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>
20 <b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 <b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Matthew</b> Orthros 8:30 am Divine Liturgy 9:30 am	28	29 <b>Beheading of the Forerunner St. John the Baptist</b>	30	31	September 1	September 2  <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>