

Holy Trinity Cathedral

*A parish of the Orthodox Church In America
125 years of Orthodox Witness in Chicago*

*Go home to your people and report to
them what great things the Lord has
done for you, and how He had mercy
on you!*

Mark 5:19



Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

His Grace, the Right Reverend
PAUL
*Bishop of Chicago and the Midwest
Rector*

Archpriest John S. Adamcio
Dean

Deacon Thomas Keith

Dennis Pelak
Parish Council President

Reader Yury Orlov
Director of Music Ministries

Welcome to Holy Trinity Cathedral
Thank you for worshipping with us today!

Our parish was founded in 1892 as St. Vladimir's Russian Orthodox Church. Under the direction of St. John (Kochurov) of Chicago, and the noted architect Louis Sullivan, the present structure was built in 1903, renamed Holy Trinity, and designated cathedral in 1922 when His Grace, THEOPHILUS was consecrated as Bishop of Chicago.

A landmark in the City of Chicago, and listed on the National Register of Historic places, Holy Trinity continues her witness of Orthodox Christianity.

If you have any questions, are looking for a spiritual home, or wish to talk to Fr. John, please inquire at the Candle Desk.

1121 N. Leavitt St.
Chicago, IL 60622
773.486.6064

troika51@comcast.net

www.holytrinitycathedral.net
www.friendsofholytrinity.com
Info@holytrinitycathedral.net
Treasurer@holytrinitycathedral.net
ParishCouncil@holytrinitycathedral.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday, June 12

Seventh Sunday after Pascha—Tone 6

*Holy Fathers of the First
Œcumenical Council*

Ven. Onuphrius the Great and Ven. Peter of
Mt. Athos; Ven. John, Andrew, Hera-
clemon, and Theophilus, Hermits, of Egypt

9:10a Hours

9:30a Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle: Acts

20:16-18, 28-36

Gospel: John

17:1-13

Saturday, June 18

4:30p Vigil

Gospel: John

20:19-23

Sunday, June 19

Holy Pentecost

The Feast of the Holy Trinity—Tone 7

Martyr Zosimas the soldier at Antioch in
Pisidia; Ven. Paisius the Great; St. John the
Solitary of Jerusalem

9:10a Hours

9:30a Hierarchical Festa. Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle: Acts

2:1-11

Gospel: John

7:37-52, 8:12

Wedding Banns

Thomas Salmon wishes to be united in Holy Matrimony to Suzanna Novitskaya on Sunday, June 12.

Anyone knowing why these two cannot be wed, please contact Fr. John immediately

Digital Scrapbook

One of the projects being considered is a digital scrapbook about the history and events in the life of the Cathedral. We need pictures, and *a person willing to work on this* to accomplish the project.

Please contact Fr. John if you have the expertise necessary for this project, and desire to assemble this historic presentation.

When the Spirit of God descends upon a man and overshadows him with the fullness of His outpouring, then his soul overflows with a joy not to be described, for the Holy Spirit turns to joy whatever He touches!

The Kingdom of Heaven is peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Acquire inward peace and thousands around you will find their salvation.

St. Seraphim of Sarov

Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council will conduct their business meeting on Tuesday, June 28, at 6:30p.

All Council Members are urged to attend this meeting.

Open Forum will precede the meeting for those who wish express their opinions or volunteer for projects around the Cathedral.

The First Ecumenical Council

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 consubstantial with the Father, but is only a created being.

A local Council, convened with Patriarch Alexander of Al-

exandria 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, 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 325, 318 bishops representing Christian Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicea.

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: St Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia, St Spyridon, Bishop of Tremithos, 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 Orthodoxy. In the Sixth Ode of the Canon for today’s Feast, he is referred to as “the thirteenth Apostle.”

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 (Rev. 13).

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. St Constantine asked the Council to insert into the text of the Symbol of Faith the

word “consubstantial,” which he had heard in the speeches of the bishops. The Fathers of the Council unanimously accepted this suggestion.

In the Nicean 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 churchly administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Holy Pascha. 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).

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The Mystery of the Trinity

How can God be One and Undivided, as Christians claim, and at the same time be three distinct Persons, as Christians also claim?

Part of the answer is that this is how God has shown Himself to be in Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments. The Book of Genesis is one example of this. The second verse of the book says that “the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters” at the time of creation.

Then, in 1:26, God says, “Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness.” This verse with its plural “our” is what the Gospel writer John is referring to when he writes, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made” (1:3). John is describing Jesus Christ, the Word of God, as co-creator with the Father.

So the Bible clearly establishes the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as the three Persons of the Trinity. Yet some Biblical commentators contend that when God speaks in Genesis about making man “in Our image” He is addressing not Christ, but the beings who surround Him in heaven, the members of the heavenly court.

This contention doesn't really make sense. The angels and the beings around God are still created by Him. They can bear His image, but they cannot share it as His equals by nature any more than we can. They too are creatures, even though they are privileged to stand before their Maker in heaven.

Father Alexander Schmemmann, writing about the Creed in *Celebration of Faith, Volume I*, gives the other part of the answer. He says that God **must** be a Trinity of Persons:

We believe in one God, but not in a God Who is alone, not in a God Who is self-centered, not in a God Who lives in and for Himself. God is love, Christianity says. But to love is to be turned towards the Other, and at its most exalted, to love is to surrender to Him. The Father, says the Gospel, loves the Son and gives everything to Him. The Son, says the Gospel, loves the Father and gives Himself totally to Him. Finally, the Holy Spirit is this gift of love itself, this love itself as gift, joy, fullness, existence, thirst and quenching of thirst, giving and receiving.

And through this love, through this giving, God creates the world, calls each of us into life, makes each of us beloved and bestows His love, His Spirit, so that each can partake of divine Life. Thus we pray to the Spirit: ‘Come and abide in us...’ And in answer He comes to abide in us, to lead us, as Christ promised, into all truth...to give us eternal life.

This then is the radiant mystery of Christian faith, the mystery of God who is Trinity, the God who is Love.

Holy Trinity Cathedral

Mission Statement

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...
The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The mission of Holy Trinity Orthodox Cathedral:

To preach the fullness of the Gospel of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ;

To bear faithful witness, in Spirit and in Truth, to the worship and Tradition of the Holy Orthodox Church;

To be the means for all who wish to draw closer to Jesus Christ, and one another, in a community of Faith and love;

To be:

The Beacon of Orthodoxy in Chicago!

Ministry Opportunities

The *Saturday Docent*, is a ministry where we are able to share the beauty of our Cathedral with visitors from around the world!

The *Greeters Ministry* is extremely important as we only get one chance to make a “first” impression, welcoming folks to our church. Eventually we would love to have Greeters at every service.

We are in dire need of *Lamplighters*, those folks willing to take come time to make sure the candles and lampadas are filled and lighted, as well as cleaning up following the services. Indeed, God loves a beautiful home, but we need people willing and able to make sure it is.

Consider singing in the *Choir*, or becoming a *Reader*. As you can hear, there is a lot of singing during the services, as well as readings.

Do you like to bake bread? We need prosfora bakers; do you like to garden? we could use folks to care for the property; are you handy around the house? God’s home needs maintenance too!

Perhaps there is something else you would like to do and see a need to do. Contact Fr. John at your earliest convenience.

FOCA Convention

The 90th Annual Convention of the Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America [FOCA] will be held at Loews Chicago O'Hare Hotel in suburban Rosemont July 22-25, 2016.

All Orthodox Christians (current and former FOCA members as well as those simply interested in meeting other Orthodox Christians) are invited to participate in the weekend of fellowship activities for all ages!

In addition to convention meetings, other events, including a golf outing, Trivia Night event, Chicago architectural boat cruise, and a Sunday Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by a banquet and dance, are being planned,

There will be a fun-filled program for youth, coordinated this year with the OCA Department of Youth, Young Adult and Campus Ministries, the Diocese of the Midwest Diocese and the FOCA. Youth activities include a visit to Navy Pier, a service project and a visit to a water park!

Contact Dennis Garlick for more information.

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