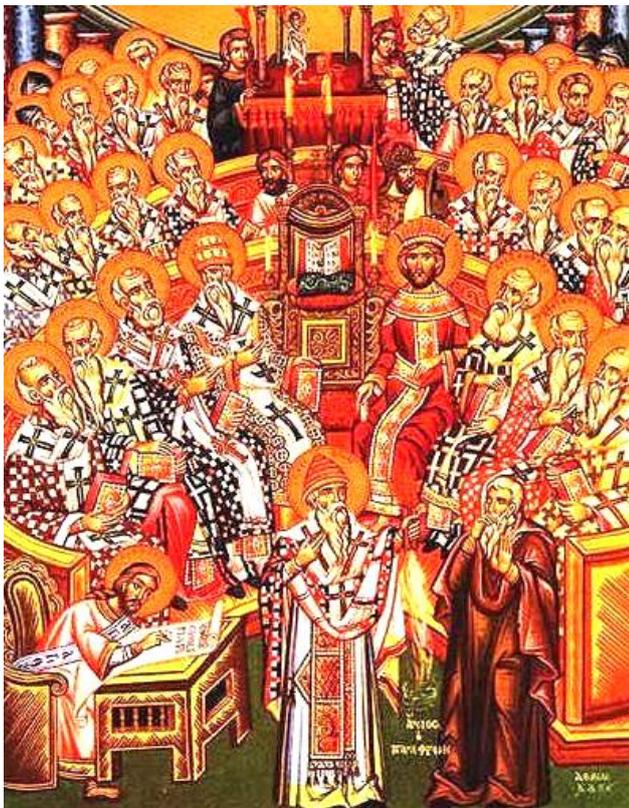




PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. **82**/ 15 October 2017



Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council

Troparion (Resurrection), Tone 2

When Thou didst descend unto death, O Life Immortal, then didst Thou slay Hades with the lightning of Thy Divinity. And when Thou didst also raise the dead out of the nethermost depths, all the powers in the Heavens cried out: O Life-giver, Christ our God, glory be to Thee.

Troparion, Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council, Tone 4

You are greatly glorified, O Christ our God, who established our Fathers as luminaries upon the earth, and through them led us all to the true Faith. O Most compassionate, glory to You.

Seasonal Kontakion, Tone 2

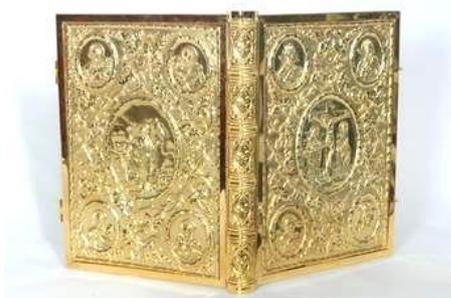
O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

Prokeimenon. Mode 3. Luke 1: 46-48

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians 2:16-20

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by

works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.



The Gospel According to Luke 8 : 5-15

The Lord said this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold." And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant,

he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand. Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience." As he said these things, he cried out "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."



The Spiritual Life and How to be attuned to it by St. Theophan the Recluse

Continuation from October 8
Bulletin, when we presented the
second aspect of our active life.

To examine yourself well, you must turn your attention to the three aspects of our active life. These aspects are 1) the actions, those isolated acts which are performed at a given time in a given place and under given circumstances; 2) the disposition of the heart and the characteristics tendencies which are concealed beneath the actions; and **3) the general character of life.**

The third aspect of life is the spirit of life. This is the most important as well as the most complex element. **A malicious spirit is so subtle and so able to mask itself with a façade of kindness and opportuneness that one must have the sharpest spiritual vision in order to detect it. A good spirit, on the other hand, is obvious, because it has a unique purpose; that is, having put everything else aside, it lives for God. Contrary to this is the spirit that lives for itself (egoism).** This type of spirit very often, if not always, adopts a secondary direction: living for the world.

Thus, if we suppose that **the spirit of one's life is indicated by who it is a person lives for, it should be easy for you to determine the spirit of your life.** This is accomplished once you have determined who it is you live for, or, as you are still just starting out in life, who it is you most wish to

live for, what it is you strive for in your heart, and **to whom you will to dedicate your life the most.** The spirit of your life, even though your life is still in an embryonic stage like a feeble baby bird, is defined by the characteristics of that to which you most incline. He who lives for God has a God-fearing spirit that endeavors to please the One God. He who lives only for himself has a spirit that is self-pleasing, egoistical, selfish, carnal. He who lives for the world has a world-loving or vain spirit. Going by these characteristics, look and see what kind of spirit breathes in you.

Judging from the fact that you were filled with the desire to draw closer to God, it must be supposed that the main spirit of your life is good...Whether or not you possess an egoistical spirit still remains under question. It seems to me that it is there, although to what extent I do not know. ..your egoistical spirit will soon dissipate if you give more and more rein to your heart for the kindling of desire for God. Please take this into consideration.



Liturgical Schedule for this week

Wednesday <i>October, 18</i>	6:00pm	Paraklesis of Theotokos
Saturday <i>October, 21</i>	8:30am 6:00pm	Divine Liturgy Vespers
Sunday <i>October, 22</i>	9:00am 10:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy

Announcements:

- **Congratulation for Dave and Briana Haddad.** We wish them a blessed and peaceful life together.
- **October 16, Miraculous Hawaiian Myrrh-steaming Iveron icon** will visit St. Constantine & Helen Church in Webster. The icon will arrive at the church around **5:30pm. Akathist Hymn starts at 6:00pm**
- Thursday - **October 19, 5:30pm - 8:30pm – 11th Annual Food and Wine fest**, benefit for **Holy Trinity Nursing & Rehabilitation Center** - St. George church, Worcester.
- Saturday - **October 27 – Turkey Shoot.**
- Saturday, **November 4 - We need white fresh flowers** to decorate the **big icon** (entrance right side) **and the small one** (icon stand) **of Holy Arch. Michael** for our feast day. Please use the **big envelope** for money donations or **contact** preoteasa Camelia for more info
- **Coffee hours** sponsored by Yanni and Katie Mironidis.

