



Saint Mary Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

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Church Office Hours : Monday - Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

Sunday, June 16th, 2024

Sunday of the After-feast of the Ascension

Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Tikhon the wonderworker, bishop of Amathos in Cyprus; Venerable Tikhon of Kaluga; Venerable Tikhon of Likh

First Antiphon

O clap your hands, all ye peoples; shout unto God with the voice of exultation.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

For the Lord Most High is terrible; He is a great King over all the earth. He hath subdued the peoples under us, and the nations under our feet.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

يا جميع الأمم صفقوا بالأيادي، واهتفوا لله هتاف الإبتهاج.

بشفاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصُ خلصنا.

لأن الرب عال ومرهوب وملك عظيم على كل الأرض. أخضع الشعوب لنا والأمم تحت أقدامنا.

بشفاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصُ خلصنا.

المجد للآب والإبن والروح القدس الآن وكل أوان وإلى دهر الداهرين آمين.

بشفاعاتِ والدةِ الإلهِ يا مخلصُ خلصنا.

Second Antiphon

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain.

Save us, O Son of God, Who didst rise from us in glory to the heavens; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

God is known in her palaces when He cometh to our aid.

Save us, O Son of God, Who didst rise from us in glory to the heavens; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

For lo, the kings of the earth were assembled; they came together.

Save us, O Son of God, Who didst rise from us in glory to the heavens; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O only-begotten Son, etc.

عظيم هو الرب ومسبح جداً في مدينة إلهنا، في جبله المقدس.

خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من صعد عنا بمجد إلى السماوات، نترتل لك. هلوليا.

الله معروف في قصورها بأنه نصيرها.

خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من صعد عنا بمجد إلى السماوات، نترتل لك. هلوليا.

لأن هودا ملوك الأرض قد اجتمعوا وعبروا معاً.
خلصنا يا ابن الله، يا من صعد عنا بمجد إلى السماوات، لنرتل لك. هلوليا.
المجد للآب والإبن والروح القدس، الآن وكل أوانٍ وإلى دهرِ الداهرين. آمين.
يا كلمة الله الابن الوحيد...

Third Antiphon

Hear this, all ye people; give ear, all ye inhabitants of the earth. My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding. I will incline mine ear to a parable; I will open my dark saying upon the harp.

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

إِسْمَعُوا هَذَا يَا كُلَّ الْأُمَمِ، أَصْغُوا يَا سُكَّانَ الْأَرْضِ أَجْمَعِينَ. إِنَّ فَمِي يَتَكَلَّمُ بِالْحِكْمَةِ، وَقَلْبِي يُلْهَجُ بِالْفَهْمِ. أُمِئْ
أُذُنِي إِلَى الْأَمْثَالِ، وَأَكْشِفُ الْغَايِزِي عَلَى الْقِيثَارِ.

لَقَدْ صَعِدْتَ بِمَجْدٍ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، وَقَرَّحْتَ تَلَامِيذَكَ بِمَوْعِدِ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، إِذْ أُتِقِنُوا بِالْبَرَكَةِ أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ، الْمُنْقِذُ
العالم.

Entrance Hymn

O Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ.

Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia!

هَلُمَّ لِنَسْجُدْ وَنَرْكَعْ لِلْمَسِيحِ مَلَكْنَا وَهَلُنَا، خَلَصْنَا يَا ابْنَ اللَّهِ يَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنَ بَيْنِ الْأَمْوَاتِ، لِنَرْتِلْ لَكَ هَلْلُويَا!

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone Six)

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb. And the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

إِنَّ الْقَوَاتِ الْمَلَائِكِيَّةَ ظَهَرُوا عَلَى قَبْرِكَ الْمُوقَّرِ، وَالْحُرَّاسَ صَارُوا كَالْأَمْوَاتِ، وَمَرِيَمَ وَقَفَتْ عِنْدَ الْقَبْرِ طَالِبَةً
جَسَدَكَ الطَّاهِرَ، فَسَبَّيْتَ الْجَحِيمَ وَلَمْ تُجَرَّبْ مِنْهَا، وَصَادَفْتَ الْبَتُولَ مَانِحاً الْحَيَاةَ. فَيَا مَنْ قَامَ مِنْ بَيْنِ
الْأَمْوَاتِ، يَا رَبُّ الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Troparion of the Ascension (Tone Four)

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

لَقَدْ صَعِدْتَ بِمَجْدٍ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، وَقَرَّحْتَ تَلَامِيذَكَ بِمَوْعِدِ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُسِ، إِذْ أُتِقِنُوا بِالْبَرَكَةِ أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ ابْنُ
اللَّهِ، الْمُنْقِذُ الْعَالَمِ.

Troparion of the Holy Fathers (Tone Eight)

Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

أَنْتَ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا الْفَائِقُ التَّسْبِيحِ، يَا مَنْ أَسَّسْتَ آبَاءَنَا الْقَدِيسِينَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ كَوَاكِبَ لَامِعَةً، وَبِهِمْ هَدَيْتَنَا جَمِيعاً إِلَى الْإِيمَانِ الْحَقِيقِيِّ، يَا جَزِيلَ الرَّحْمَةِ، الْمَجْدُ لَكَ.

Troparion of the Dormition (Tone One)

In thy birth giving O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.

فِي مِيلَادِكَ حَفِظْتَ الْبَتُولِيَّةَ وَصَنَّتْهَا وَفِي رِقَادِكَ مَا أَهْمَلْتِ الْعَالَمَ وَتَرَكْتِهِ يَا وَالِدَةَ الْإِلَهِ. لِأَنَّكَ انْتَقَلْتِ إِلَى الْحَيَاةِ بِمَا أَنْكَ أُمُّ الْحَيَاةِ. فَبِشَفَاعَاتِكَ أَنْقِذِي مِنَ الْمَوْتِ نَفُوسَنَا.

Kontakion of the Ascension (Tone Six)

When Thou didst fulfill Thy dispensation for our sakes, uniting the terrestrials with the celestials, Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ our God, inseparable in space, but constant without separation, and crying unto Thy beloved: I am with you, and no one shall be against you.

لَمَّا اكْمَلْتَ التَّدْبِيرَ الَّذِي مِنْ أَجْلِنَا، وَجَعَلْتَ الَّذِينَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ مُتَّحِدِينَ بِالسَّمَاوِيِّينَ، صَعِدْتَ بِمَجْدٍ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، غَيْرَ مُنْقَصِلٍ مِنْ مَكَانٍ، بَلْ ثَابِتاً بِغَيْرِ افْتِرَاقٍ وَهَاتِئناً بِأَجْبَابِكَ: أَنَا مَعَكُمْ، وَلَيْسَ أَحَدٌ عَلَيكُمْ.

Epistle for Sunday of the Holy Fathers

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 Holy 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

مُبَارَكٌ أَنْتَ يَا رَبُّ إِلَهَ آبَائِنَا.

فَاتَّكَ عَدْلٌ فِي كُلِّ مَا صَنَعْتَ بِنَا.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ أَعْمَالِ الرُّسُلِ الْقَدِيسِينَ الْأَطْهَارِ.

فِي تِلْكَ الْأَيَّامِ، ارْتَأَى بُولُسُ أَنْ يَتَجَاوَرَ أَفَسُسَ فِي

الْبَحْرِ لِئَلَّا يَعْرِضَ لَهُ أَنْ يُبْطِئَ فِي آسِيَةِ. لِأَنَّهُ كَانَ

يَعْجَلُ حَتَّى يَكُونَ فِي أُورُشَلِيمَ يَوْمَ الْعَنْصَرَةِ إِنْ أُمَكَّنَهُ.

فَمِنْ مِيلَيْتُسَ بَعَثَ إِلَى أَفَسُسَ، فَاسْتَدْعَى قُسُوسَ

الْكَنِيسَةِ. فَلَمَّا وَصَلُوا إِلَيْهِ قَالَ لَهُمْ: اخْذَرُوا لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ

وَلِجَمِيعِ الرِّعِيَةِ الَّتِي أَقَامَكُمُ الرُّوحُ الْقُدُسُ فِيهَا أُسَاقِفَةً،

لِتَرْعَوْا كَنِيسَةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي اقْتَنَاهَا بِدَمِهِ فَإِنِّي أَعْلَمُ هَذَا، أَنَّهُ

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.

سَيَدْخُلُ بَيْنَكُمْ بَعْدَ ذَهَابِي ذُنَابٌ خَاطِفَةٌ لَا تُشْفِقُ عَلَى
الرَّعِيَّةِ وَمِنْكُمْ أَنْفُسُكُمْ سَيَقُومُ رِجَالٌ يَتَكَلَّمُونَ بِأُمُورٍ
مُلْتَوِيَةٍ لِيَجْتَذِبُوا التَّلَامِيذَ وَرَاءَهُمْ لِذَلِكَ اسْهَرُوا،
مُتَذَكِّرِينَ أَنِّي مُدَّةَ ثَلَاثِ سِنِينَ لَمْ أَكْفُفْ لَيْلاً وَنَهَاراً أَنْ
أُنْصَحَ كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ بِدُمُوعٍ وَالآنَ أَسْتُودِعُكُمْ، يَا إِخْوَتِي،
اللَّهِ وَكَلِمَةَ نِعْمَتِهِ الْقَادِرَةَ أَنْ تَبْنِيَكُمْ وَتَمْنَحَكُمْ مِيرَاثاً مَعَ
جَمِيعِ الْقَدِيسِينَ. إِنِّي لَمْ أَشْتَهَ فِضَّةً أَوْ ذَهَباً أَوْ لِبَاسَ
أَحَدٍ. وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ حَاجَاتِي وَحَاجَاتِ الَّذِينَ مَعِي
خَدَمْتُهَا هَاتَانِ الْيَدَانِ. فِي كُلِّ شَيْءٍ بَيَّنْتُ لَكُمْ أَنَّهُ
هَكَذَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ نَتَعَبَ لِنُسَاعِدِ الضُّعْفَاءَ، وَأَنْ نَتَذَكَّرَ
كَلَامَ الرَّبِّ يَسُوعَ. فَإِنَّهُ قَالَ: إِنَّ الْعَطَاءَ هُوَ مَغْبُوطٌ
أَكْثَرَ مِنَ الْأَخْذِ. وَلَمَّا قَالَ هَذَا، جَثَا عَلَى رُكْبَتَيْهِ مَعَ
جَمِيعِهِمْ وَصَلَّى.

Gospel for Sunday of the Holy Fathers

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to Saint 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

فَصَلِّ شَرِيفٌ مِنْ بَشَارَةِ الْقَدِيسِ يُوْحَنَّا الْإِنْجِيلِي
الْبَشِيرِ وَالتَّلْمِيذِ الطَّاهِرِ.

فِي ذَلِكَ الزَّمَانِ، رَفَعَ يَسُوعُ عَيْنَيْهِ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ وَقَالَ:
يَا أَبَتِ قَدْ أَتَتِ السَّاعَةُ، مَجِّدِ ابْنَكَ لِيُمَجِّدَكَ ابْنُكَ
أَيْضاً. كَمَا أَعْطَيْتَهُ سُلْطَاناً عَلَى كُلِّ بَشَرٍ لِيُعْطِيَ كُلَّ
مَنْ أَعْطَيْتَهُ لَهُ حَيَاةً أَبَدِيَّةً. وَهَذِهِ هِيَ الْحَيَاةُ الْأَبَدِيَّةُ،
أَنْ يَعْرِفُوكَ أَنْتَ الْإِلَهَ الْحَقِيقِيَّ وَحَدَكَ، وَالَّذِي أَرْسَلْتَهُ
يَسُوعَ الْمَسِيحَ. أَنَا قَدْ مَجَّدْتُكَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ. قَدْ أَتَمَمْتُ
الْعَمَلَ الَّذِي أَعْطَيْتَنِي لِأَعْمَلُهُ. وَالآنَ مَجِّدْنِي أَنْتَ يَا
أَبَتِ عِنْدَكَ بِالْمَجْدِ الَّذِي كَانَ لِي عِنْدَكَ مِنْ قَبْلِ كَوْنِ
الْعَالَمِ. قَدْ أَعْلَنْتُ اسْمَكَ لِلنَّاسِ الَّذِينَ أَعْطَيْتَهُمْ لِي مِنَ
الْعَالَمِ. هُمْ كَانُوا لَكَ، وَأَنْتَ أَعْطَيْتَهُمْ لِي، وَقَدْ حَفِظُوا

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.”

كَلَامِكَ. وَالآنَ قَدْ عَلِمُوا أَنَّ كُلَّ مَا أُعْطِيْتَهُ لِي هُوَ مِنْكَ. لِأَنَّ الْكَلَامَ الَّذِي أُعْطِيْتَهُ لِي أُعْطِيْتَهُ لَهُمْ. وَهُمْ قَبِلُوا وَعَلِمُوا حَقًّا أَنِّي مِنْكَ خَرَجْتُ، وَأَمَنُوا أَنَّكَ أَرْسَلْتَنِي. أَنَا مِنْ أَجْلِهِمْ أَسْأَلُ. لَا أَسْأَلُ مِنْ أَجْلِ الْعَالَمِ، بَلْ مِنْ أَجْلِ الَّذِينَ أُعْطِيْتَهُمْ لِي، لِأَنَّهُمْ لَكَ. كُلُّ شَيْءٍ لِي هُوَ لَكَ، وَكُلُّ شَيْءٍ لَكَ هُوَ لِي، وَأَنَا قَدْ مُجِدِّتُ فِيهِمْ. وَلَسْتُ أَنَا بَعْدُ فِي الْعَالَمِ، وَهؤلاءِ هُمْ فِي الْعَالَمِ، وَأَنَا آتِي إِلَيْكَ. أَيُّهَا الْآبُ الْقُدُّوسُ احْفَظْهُمْ بِاسْمِكَ، الَّذِينَ أُعْطِيْتَهُمْ لِي، لِيَكُونُوا وَاحِدًا كَمَا نَحْنُ. حِينَ كُنْتُ مَعَهُمْ فِي الْعَالَمِ، كُنْتُ احْفَظُهُمْ بِاسْمِكَ. إِنَّ الَّذِينَ أُعْطِيْتَهُمْ لِي قَدْ حَفِظْتُهُمْ، وَلَمْ يَهْلِكْ مِنْهُمْ أَحَدٌ إِلَّا ابْنُ الْهَلَاكِ، لِيَتِمَّ الْكِتَابُ. أَمَّا الْآنَ فَآتِي إِلَيْكَ. وَأَنَا أَتَكَلَّمُ بِهَذَا فِي الْعَالَمِ لِيَكُونَ فَرْحِي كَامِلًا فِيهِمْ.

Megalynarion: "It is Truly Meet"; Koinonikon (Communion Hymn): "Praise ye the Lord."

Instead of "We have seen the true light..." sing:

Troparion of the Ascension (Tone Four)

Thou hast ascended in glory, O Christ our God, and gladdened Thy Disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, making them confident through the blessing that Thou art the Son of God, and Deliverer of the world.

لَقَدْ صَعِدْتَ بِمَجْدٍ أَيُّهَا الْمَسِيحُ إِلَهُنَا، وَفَرَّحْتَ تَلَامِيذَكَ بِمَوْعِدِ الرُّوحِ الْقُدُّوسِ، إِذْ أَيْقَنُوا بِالْبَرَكَةِ أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ ابْنُ اللَّهِ، الْمُنْقِذُ الْعَالَمِ.



3rd & 9th Day Memorial
Azzam Sweis
Memory Eternal!



Wedding
Raied Munir Sweis
and
Linette Majdi Rayahin
Congratulations!

Upcoming Services & Events

Date	Time	Event
6/14/2024	7:00am	Orthros
	6:00pm	Daily Vespers
	6:00pm	Young Adult Dinner and Discussion with Bp Anthony
	8:30pm	Compline
6/15/2024	5:30pm	Hierarchical Great Vespers
	6:30pm	Compline with Canon for Holy Communion
6/16/2024	8:15am	Prayers before Holy Communion
	8:45am	Hierarchical Orthros
	10:00am	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
	10:00am	Sunday School
6/18/2024	9:00am	Orthros
	6:00pm	Vespers
	7:00pm	Choir Practice
6/19/2024	7:00am	Orthros
	10:00am	Arabic Bible Study
	6:00pm	Vespers
	6:00pm	SOYO Night

Save the Date

Special Needs Ministry Event will be held on Saturday, July 27th at 3pm.

Prayer - Lunch - Craft

See Dn. Saed for questions or email him at saedrihani6@gmail.com

Save the Date

St. Mary's 10th Annual Humanitarian Walk will be held on Saturday, August 17th. More details to follow.

The Fuheis American
Association Presents
the 2024

Graduation Party
Sunday June 16, 2024

Live band + Dinner Featuring
Nabil Nimeh & Saed Khoury
at St. Mary's Church at 7 pm

Tickets will be \$60 , \$30 under 12



**Graduates are free
Join us to honor them and
celebrate Father's Day together !
Please email us at
Fuheis.american.association@
gmail.com
with the information of your
graduates ASAP**



Young Adult Ministry

Friday, June 14th at 6:00pm

Vespers, Potluck & Discussion with Bishop Anthony

June 27th—June 28th in Oak Brook

Parish Life Conference

Sunday, July 7th after Liturgy

Young Adult Coffee Hour in the nadi

Thursday, July 11th at 6:30pm

YAM Night

Saturday, July 13th at 7pm

Puttshack Outing in Oak Brook

Thursday, August 8th at 6:30pm

YAM Night

August 9th – August 10th

Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack at St. Mary's

Saturday, August 17th

Annual Humanitarian Walk

Saturday, August 24th

Softball game & lunch

Sunday, August 25th after Liturgy

Young Adult Coffee Hour in the nadi

SAVE THE DATE



2024 DIOCESE OF TOLEDO
PARISH LIFE CONFERENCE

All Saints and Holy Transfiguration invite you to join us for a few days of Christian fellowship, prayer, and fun for all ages. Whether you are new to the Diocese or have been attending PLCs for many years, we welcome each of you and your families. We look forward to seeing you and getting to know you at the Toledo Diocese Parish Life Conference in Chicago-Land in June 2024!

DATE

June 26-29
Wednesday - Saturday

LOCATION

Chicago Marriott Oak Brook
1401 W 22nd St, Oak Brook, IL 60523



Help us feed 100,000 KIDS!!!

For the first time ever, St. Mary's will host a MobilePack event for Feed My Starving Children, right here in St. Mary's Gym!

August 9 –10, 2024
Multiple shifts available!

Priority Registration is open
for St. Mary's Parishioners!

Go to give.fmssc.org/stmaryoc
to register and donate
*Use Private Registration code **SMOC24***

*Any donation amount makes a
big difference!*

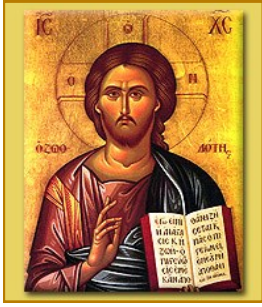
*A meal costs only \$0.29
\$106 feeds a kid for an entire year*



FEED MY
STARVING
CHILDREN



MOBILEPACK™



Weekly Synaxarion



On June 16 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate Tikhon the wonderworker, bishop of Amathos in Cyprus; Venerable Tikhon of Kaluga; and Venerable Tikhon of Lukh. 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. 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.