

**SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES**

**Sunday, June 2**      **SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE**  
**9:00 a.m.**            **1<sup>ST</sup> ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**  
**(Church)**            **For the Parish Family**

**Monday, June 3**    **Lucillian and Others (Martyrs)**  
**8:00 a.m.**            **+Aunt Irene and Toni Phillips**  
**(Church)**            **Req. by John, Joan, and David**

**Tuesday, June 4**   **Metrophanes (Patriarch)**  
**8:00 a.m.**            **Special Intentions for the Ordination Class of 1982**  
**(Church)**

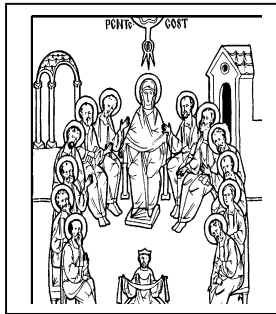
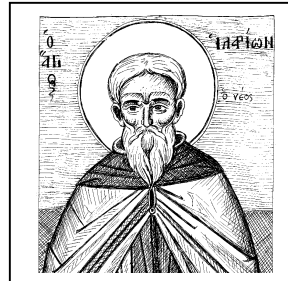
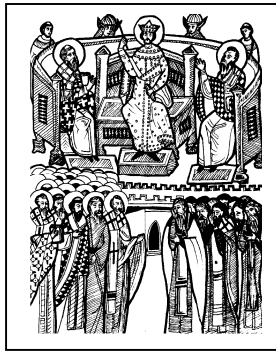
**Wednesday, June 5**   **Dorotheus (Bishop - Martyr)**  
**No Liturgy**

**Thursday, June 6**    **Bessarion and Hilary (Venerables)**  
**8:00 a.m.**            **+John Semosky, Sr.**  
**(Church)**            **Req. by Wife Joanne and Son John**

**Friday, June 7**      **Theodotus (Bishop - Martyr)**      **(Simple Abstinence)**  
**8:00 a.m.**            **For the Parish Family**  
**(Church)**

**Saturday, June 8**    **5<sup>th</sup> All Souls Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m.**            **5<sup>th</sup> All Souls Saturday**  
**5:30 p.m.**            **+Ann Kokiko**  
**(Church)**            **Req. by Vincent A. Semachko**

**Sunday, June 9**      **PENTECOST SUNDAY**  
**9:00 a.m.**            **+Deceased Members of the Adamik Family**  
**(Church)**            **Req. by Theresa Petruska and Family**



**PRAYER LIST** – PJ, Cil, Nadine, Robert, Mary, Margaret, Dave, Theresa, Anna, Charlene, Jamie, Mickie, Sharen, Rita, Bernard, Chris, Melba, Connie, Janet, Mark, Trish, Brandon, Peggy, Audrey, Cathy, Patty, Ted, Clara, Josephine, Doris, Jeff, Janet, Rose, Sr. Joesetta, Sharlene, Monica, Jack, Margie, Bill, Arlene, Kay, Amelia, Butch, Barb, Dolores, Patty, Michael, Carl, Janet, Rita, Ted, Seth, Joan, Norma Jean, Louis, Georgia, Ida, Beatrice, Alice, Dorothy, Fred, Frances, Elmer, Janet, George Jr., Diana, Emil, Margie, Curtis, Stephanie, James, Delores, Frank Sr., Frank Jr., Fr. Eugene, Debbie, Dan, Tammy, Marcia, Troy, Traci, Trevor, Tanner, Jack, Patty, Tammy, James, Ashley, Dan, Joan, Rita, Chris, Patrick, Michelle, Olivia, Barbara, Charlene, Dolly, Cindy, Dan, Joan, Rita, Joe, Emily, Gabriel, Gina, George, Erica, Amanda, Lee, Joe, Mike, Harvey, Elaine, Kathy, Dave, Dewayne, Zackery, George, Dorothy, Hannah, Michelle, Rick, Rose, Paul, Butch, Jo Ann, Sandy, Mason, Melanie, Melvin, Jean, Joann, John, Joyce, Monty Sr., Dan, Barb.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR 5/26/19**

<u>Offering</u>	<u>Candles</u>	<u>Pirohi</u>	<u>Holy Day</u>	<u>Loose Cash</u>	<u>Palm Sunday</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
\$1664.00	\$129.00	\$20.00	\$42.00	\$43.00	\$20.00	\$1918.00

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING** – Tuesday, June 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the school.

**GCU LODGE 81** – is sponsoring a brief Flag Day and Veteran Recognition Program on Sunday, June 9, following the 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy. All are invited to attend. Veterans are especially encouraged to participate. Veterans may wear any military attire, and others may wear red, white, and blue in support of this event. The event will be held at the flag pole between school and church and continue in the Social Ministry room, with light refreshments, giveaways and door prizes.

**CURRENT CENSUS** – If you have not turned in a current census sheet, please take one from the narthex and complete it.

**FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST** – on June 16 after the Divine Liturgy. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST FEAST DAY DINNER** – will be held on Sunday, June 30, in the Hall. At this time we will also commemorate the graduates of our parish.

**ARE YOU GRADUATING THIS YEAR FROM HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE?** – Please let Father Ron know.

‡**PRO-LIFE PRAYER** – That pro-life people may choose to obey the law of God regarding life, we pray to the Lord.

## OUR FAITH IS INCREASED BY THE LORD'S ASCENSION

From a sermon by Saint Leo the Great, pope

At Easter, beloved brethren, it was the Lord's resurrection which was the cause of our joy; our present rejoicing is on account of his ascension into heaven. With all due solemnity we are commemorating that day on which our poor human nature was carried up, in Christ, above all the hosts of heaven, above all the ranks of angels, beyond the highest heavenly powers to the very throne of God the Father. It is upon this ordered structure of divine acts that we have been firmly established, so that the grace of God may show itself still more marvelous when, in spite of the withdrawal from men's sight of everything that is rightly felt to command their reverence, faith does not fail, hope is not shaken, charity does not grow old.

For such is the power of great minds, such the light of truly believing souls, that they put unhesitating faith in what is not seen with the bodily eye; they fix their desires on what is beyond sight. Such fidelity could never be born in our hearts, nor could anyone be justified by faith, if our salvation lay only in what was visible.

And so our Redeemer's visible presence has passed into sacraments. Our faith is nobler and stronger because sight has been replaced by a doctrine whose authority is accepted by believing hearts, enlightened from on high. This faith was increased by the Lord's ascension and strengthened by the gift of the Spirit; it would remain unshaken by fetters and imprisonment, exile and hunger, fire and ravening beasts, and the most refined tortures ever devised by brutal persecutors. Throughout the world women no less than men, tender girls as well as boys, have given their life's blood in the struggle for this faith. It is a faith that has driven out devils, healed the sick and raised the dead.

Even the blessed apostles, though they had been strengthened by so many miracles and instructed by so much teaching, took fright at the cruel suffering of the Lord's passion and could not accept his resurrection without hesitation. Yet they made such progress through his ascension that they now found joy in what had terrified them before. They were able to fix their minds on Christ's divinity as he sat at the right hand of his Father, since what was presented to their bodily eyes no longer hindered them from turning all their attention to the realization that he had not left his Father when he came down to earth, nor had he abandoned his disciples when he ascended into heaven.

The truth is that the Son of Man was revealed as Son of God in a more perfect and transcendent way once he had entered into his Father's glory; he now began to be indescribably more present in his divinity to those from whom he was further removed in his humanity. A more mature faith enabled their minds to stretch upward to the Son in his equality with the Father; it no longer needed contact with Christ's tangible body, in which as man he is inferior to the Father. For while his glorified body retained the same nature, the faith of those who believed in him was now summoned to heights where, as the Father's equal, the only-begotten Son is reached not by physical handling but by spiritual discernment.

**SAINT ATHANASIUS** - Athanasius is the theologian people have always loved, though in recent years it has become fashionable to grudge him. Some of this anger is theologically motivated (he felt heresy in priests was grounds for excommunication) and some is culturally motivated (we sniff at his angry style of writing). Despite these concerns, Athanasius' tone was not much worse than others in his own day, and so focusing on his theological ideas will yield a better impression of the man.

Athanasius was born in the city of Alexandria sometime in the 290s. The city was a culturally vital city for the Roman Empire, being both a major focal point for education as well as the breadbasket for much of the East. It is one of the rare cities that had intellectual leaders from paganism, Hellenistic Judaism, and Christianity—all drawn to the city's philosophical schools and the fabled Library of Alexandria.

We know little about his education and family, so the earliest concrete evidence we have is when he entered the service of the bishop of Alexandria—a man conveniently named Alexander. Athanasius learned his theology and pastoral skills under Alexander as a deacon and eventually served as his secretary. He shadowed the bishop during the rise of the struggle against Arianism.

So as the Arian controversy arose, Athanasius still served in a support role until after the Council of Nicaea. He would later follow Alexander to the bishopric of Alexandria, and much of his fame grew from these later years, as he championed orthodoxy against the ongoing efforts to support some of Arius' conclusions. Nearly all of Athanasius' works come from after Nicaea, and were used to clarify, defend, and encourage the orthodoxy of the Nicene Creed.

Alexander died and so Athanasius was elected to the bishopric of Alexandria on May 9th, 328. His election was immediately controversial, mostly because he was below the canonical age to take this office. He was also the target of opponents of the Nicene Creed, who worked to eliminate its conclusions of that the Father and Son were the same being. He also came up against Constantine's son, now ruling the eastern half of the Empire. Athanasius was frequently portrayed by his enemies as a divisive, angry little bishop who was sowing division.

On five occasions Athanasius was banished from the city of Alexandria. He nevertheless remained unwavering in his commitment to the divinity of the Son. His most famous work today is *On the Incarnation*—a book more on the divinity of the Son before he took on flesh than on the incarnation itself.

The legacy of Athanasius, then, is based almost entirely on his heroic efforts to defend the divinity of the Son (and by extension the Spirit) against those whose theological reflections felt this was nonsensical. For Athanasius, the issue was not mere abstract reasoning, but the plain reading of the scriptures. Jesus is God himself come down, not a mediating creature. Therefore, while we believe God is one, we understand that he is three persons in relation to one another. We do not worship a creature or a man but God himself in human flesh.