

# Ambo

ST. THEODOSIUS ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



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Cleveland, Ohio

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[www.sttheodosius.org](http://www.sttheodosius.org)

- Archpriest John Zdinak  
Dean
- Archpriest Pavel Soucek  
Retired/Attached
- Deacon Peter Homik
- Subdeacon Theodore Lentz  
Sacristan
- Reader Julius Kovach -  
Ecclesiarch & Choirmaster

## Divine Services

Eve Sundays & Feast Days  
5:00 PM Confessions  
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sundays and Feast Days  
8:40 AM 3rd and 6th Hour  
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

June 4, 2006

Holy Fathers of the  
1st Ecumenical Council

## Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

### Troparion - Tone 8

Most glorious are You, O Christ our  
God!

You have established the Holy Fa-  
thers as lights on the earth!

Through them You have guided us  
to the True Faith!

O greatly Compassionate One,  
glory to You!

### Kontakion - Tone 8

The Apostles' preaching and the  
Fathers' doctrines have estab-  
lished one faith for the Church.

Adorned with the robe of truth,  
woven from heavenly theology,

It defines and glorifies the great  
mystery of Orthodoxy!



## Prayer Requests

### Departed:





Joseph Schreck  
Julie Macko  
Janet Franks

### Ill-afflicted:

Archpriest Pavel Soucek  
Helen Baldner  
Mary Marhefka  
Eva Dudich  
John Clements  
John Conrad  
Alex Dobay  
Eileen Eschuk  
Gayle & Joyce Franks  
Henry & Julia Grabowski  
Mary Ann Mishko  
John & Ann Shuleva  
Jan Tkacz  
Jeanne Twitchell  
Alexander Kuzminec  
Billy J Spurlock  
James Sheehan

Michelle & Kiplan Frampton &  
Unborn Child

## Upcoming Events

-  May 29, 2006 Memorial Day Grave Blessings 8:00 am  
Memorial Service 10:00 am
-  June 11, 2006 Special Parish Meeting for Cathedral Roof
-  August 20, 2006 - Parish Picnic
-  September 9-10, 2006 St. Theodosius Feast Day and 110th  
Parish Anniversary Banquet on September 10, 2006

### Merrick House Ministry


We will once again have a luncheon for folks from Merrick House, and could use a few helping hands. It's on Sunday, June 25, from 1-2. If you can spare a little time, please see Daniel Morris.

## Thank You

I would like to thank all the parishioners and friends who prayed for my recovery. I thank God for being so gracious and forgiving during my illness.

Sergei Kluchnik

## Parish Council News

 The next Parish Council Meeting is this Thursday, June 29, 2006 @ Ridge Manor. Any parish member is welcome.

## Coffee Hour & Greeters Schedules

### Coffee Hour Hosts:

6/4 Mat. Cindy & Mat. Jeanne  
6/11 Patti Sankovic/Natalia Pricinovskis  
6/18 Maca Tyler & Judy Schwind  
6/25 Joyce Tabelaing  
7/2  
7/9

### Greeters:

P. Ginlesberger/L. Smotzer  
Paul Pangrace  
Steve & Eileen Bondor  
Steve & Eileen Bondor  
Debbie Pinta  
Paul Pangrace

## PARISH NEWS

Information for the AMBO

should be emailed to

[ambo@sttheodosius.org](mailto:ambo@sttheodosius.org)

2006 Dues are \$250.00 per

Adult member (18 and older)

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 Alexandria 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 (May 21) consulted Bishop Hosius of Cordova (Aug. 27), 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 (December 6 and May 9), St Spyridon, Bishop of Tremithos (December 12), and others venerated by the Church as holy Fathers.

With Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria came his deacon, Athanasius (who later became Patriarch of Alexandria (May 2 and January 18). 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 Nicene 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).

The First Ecumenical Council is also commemorated on May 29.

# Weekly Schedule

**Sunday June 4, Fathers of the  
1st Ecumenical Council**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**Monday June 5**

**Tuesday June 6**

**Wednesday June 7**

6:00 PM Great Vespers

**Thursday June 8**

**Friday June 9**

**Saturday June 10**

6:00 PM Great Vespers

**Sunday June 11, Holy Pentecost**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Special Parish Meeting



**St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral**

**8200 Biddulph Rd**

**Brooklyn, OH 44144**

*Addressee*