

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS



Icon of Saints Nicodemus, Aquila and Justus -- July 14th

July 14, 2013

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – TONE 7

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS; THE HOLY APOSTLE AQUILA

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 15– JULY 21

Please Note: There will be NO Vespers during the Summer months unless noted in the bulletin.

SATURDAY, JULY 20 – THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS PROPHET ELIAS

10:30 AM – Divine Liturgy ☩ Maria Leskiw (40th day); Req: Maria Lavasanipour

SUNDAY, JULY 21 – 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST; OUR VENERABLE FATHERS, SYMEON OF EMESSA, THE FOOL FOR CHRIST’S SAKE AND JOHN, HIS COMPANION; THE HOLY PROPHET EZEKIEL

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy For All Parishioners



Parish work day

On July 20, following the Divine Liturgy, there will be a parish work day to clean the church and the hall. Please come and help. Many hands make light work.

Question

What is the significance of the placement of the fingers of the right hand I notice in icons of Christ and certain saints, as well as when the priest or bishop blesses.

Answer

The fingers are arranged to form the following letters—IC XC—which are the first and last letters of “Jesus” and “Christ” in Greek.

Hence, the index finger points upward, forming an “I.” The middle finger is curved to form a “C.” The fourth finger crosses over the thumb to form an “X,” while the little finger is curved in a manner similar to that of the middle finger, thereby forming another “C.”



Blessing of Automobiles

Sunday, July 21st

It is a custom of Eastern Christians to have their cars blessed both when newly acquired and on or near the feast of the Prophet Elias (July 20th), as he ascended as if into heaven on a fiery chariot.

Sunday offering for July 7

Amount	Number
\$10.00	1
\$14.00	1 (loose)
\$20.00	2
\$40.00	6
\$50.00	3
\$75.00	4
\$100.00	2
\$400.00	1
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\$1369.00	

Parishioner Total: \$1269.00

Guest Total: \$100.00

Average / parish household (42): \$30.21

Weekly Stewardship Goal: \$2125.00

Shortfall: **-\$856.00**

THREE TYPES OF THOUGHT

By the VRev. Vladimir Berzonsky

"Since the days we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding" (Colossians 1:9)

Knowledge, wisdom and understanding are the three elements of intelligence that make us human beings superior to all forms of existence on the earth. **They are not the same at all.**

Knowledge is what we know. Measured in I.Q., it sums up the facts we have learned and stored up in our memory banks. You may recall examples of those blessed with vast knowledge and the ability to learn and assimilate multitudes of facts. We consider them to be the luckiest people we know, with the greatest potential for success in any field they care to pursue; but that truism is often flawed. We all may recall friends, classmates or family members who had breezed through school, almost without studying, or else they were the types who relished learning for its own sake. They were the top of the class, the most brilliant of students, those who without fail would ace their exams. Their SAT scores propelled them into the universities of their choice. They advanced in their chosen fields, and yet in the world beyond academia they made a mess of their lives. Gifted with intelligence, somehow they found ways to flounder and fail in the real world. Spouses were helpless to lead them out of their frustration and even depression. Concerned parents stood by helpless to do much about the trauma of failure and the cycle of job loss, relocation and the same negative results. How could it happen? **Knowledge without wisdom doesn't lead to success.**

On the other hand there were those, oh so many, who passed through their school years and in later life incognito. Ten years later few classmates could point them out in the yearbook. They only sat among their peers and watched as the rewards and honors were bestowed on

the highest and brightest. They went through the grades and onto graduation without once bringing home the "Proud Parent of..." sticker to adorn the back bumper of a mother's van. A sensible parent will, however, find joy in a child who doesn't rush headlong into marriage before she feels ready, searches and finds steady solid employment and works out a sensible way of life. Such a person makes choices based not on whim or impulse, but by thinking through the implications of each life decision based on need, finances, and opportunities for the future. These types would call it basic instinct, but it's more - it's wisdom, a way of life based on choices **freed of emotions, pressure from others, and separation from the allure of advertisements and the impulses of the moment.** Such a person is in touch with the deep ground of inner self and has discovered the hidden true person beneath the **glitter and clutter** of the culture imposing itself on them.

Understanding is the awareness of the difference between knowledge and wisdom, or rather applying known facts to memory and instinct. Those who search for meaning by piling up knowledge whether in research libraries or book stores with shelves stocked with "how to," "Dummies," and escapist fiction may never discover the wisdom deep within, hidden in the soul. Those who live by inner instinct shrug and say it's nothing more than common sense. Understanding in St. Paul's epistle implies so much more. **It captures the gifts of both knowledge and wisdom, making use of them for the greater glory of God.** We sense this in his prayer that the Colossians and we also will discover and enhance both those kinds of truth and offer them up to the loving Lord who blessed us with all three forms of thought.



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Saints Aquila and Priscilla

“After this he [Paul] left Athens and went to Corinth. There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. He went to visit them and, because he practiced the same trade, stayed with them and worked, for they were tent-makers by trade.” [Acts 18:2-3] And having believed in Christ through Paul, they followed him from that time on, working together with him and suffering perils with him for the sake of the preaching of the Gospel, as Paul himself testifies concerning them in his Epistle to the Romans, saying: “Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers

in Christ Jesus: who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I am grateful, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.” [Rom. 16:3-4] Clearly they were dear to St. Paul, and were earnest and effective in spreading the Good News of Christ and His saving work.

In the era of “house churches” - when the Eucharist was always celebrated in the house of one of the Christian community - the home of Aquila and Priscilla was an important one.

According to tradition St. Aquila and his wife, St. Priscilla, were martyred in Rome, probably around the same time as St. Paul.