

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE
FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS



Icon of the Holy Fathers

July 17, 2011

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

Tone 4

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 18 - JULY 24

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20 – *THE HOLY AND GLORIOUS PROPHET ELLIJAH*

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy ☩ Caryl Haverluk; Req: Bill Haverluk

SUNDAY, JULY 24 – *6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy For All Parishioners

Welcome Visitors

Welcome to all those who are visiting us today. It is a joy to have you with us for the Divine Services! Please join us in the church hall after the Liturgy for refreshments.

Mistaken Identity

A man was being tailgated by a stressed out woman on a busy boulevard, when suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing and stopped, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman hit the roof, and the horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed, and placed in a holding cell.

After several hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'Choose Life' license plate, the 'What Would Jesus Do?' bumper sticker, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk.

Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."

10 COMMANDMENTS FOR DRIVERS

- I Always begin a trip with prayer, making the Sign of the Cross and entrusting yourself to the Lord.
- II Never drink and drive.
- III Never try to shorten the time of a trip. If you started out late, you will arrive late. Do not speed.
- IV Apologize to a driver whom you have interfered with, even when you did not intend to. After all, when we are walking, and bump someone, we apologize without thinking. So why should there be a different ethic behind the wheel?
- V Always yield way to someone who is in a great hurry, or is driving aggressively. If you do not yield, he will still pass you, but the situation will be more dangerous.
- VI Give a wave of thanks to a driver who makes way for you.
- VII Drive in such a way that you won't fear seeing a police car. Remember that God is watching, even if the police are not.
- VIII Stay as far away as possible from cars that have dents or show signs of accidents. But be careful not to judge, or you may share in their misfortune.
- IX Never speed up when another driver tries to pass you, or to get into your lane. Do not treat your neighbor in a way you do not want to be treated.
- X After every trip, thank God for its safe completion. Be thankful after any trip, and not just a successful one. After all, almost always it could have been worse!

THE HOLY PROPHET ELIJAH

Saint Elijah, one who saw God, a miracle-worker and a zealot for faith in God, was born of the tribe of Aaron from the town Tishba for which he was called the Tishbite. When St. Elijah was born, his father Savah saw an angel of God hovering around the child, wrapping the child in fire and giving him a flame to eat. That was a foreshadowing of Elijah's fiery character and his God-given fiery power. He spent his entire youth in godly thoughts and prayers withdrawing frequently into the wilderness to contemplate and to pray in solitude. At that time the Jewish kingdom was divided into two unequal parts: the kingdom of Judah consisting of only two tribes, the tribes of Judah and Benjamin with their capital in Jerusalem and the kingdom of Israel consisting of the remaining ten tribes with their capital in Samaria. The first kingdom was governed by the descendants of Solomon and the second kingdom was governed by the descendants of Jeroboam, the servants of Solomon. The greatest confrontation that the prophet Elijah had was with the Israelite King Ahab and his evil wife Jezebel. For they, Ahab and Jezebel, worshipped idols and were turning the people away from serving the One and Living God. Before this, however, Jezebel, a Syrian, persuaded her husband to erect a temple to the Syrian god Baal and ordered many priests to the service of this false god. Through great miracles Elijah displayed the power and authority of God: he closed up the heavens, so that there was not any rain for three years and six months; he lowered a fire from heaven and burned the sacrifice to his God which the pagan priests of Baal were unable to do; he brought down rain from heaven by his prayer; miraculously multiplied flour and oil in the home of the widow in Zerepath, and resurrected her son; he prophesied to Ahab that the dogs will lick up his blood and to Jezebel that the dogs will consume her flesh, all of which happened as well as many other miracles did he perform and prophesy. On Mount Horeb, he spoke with God and heard the voice of God in the calm of a gentle breeze. Before his death he took Elisha and designated him as his successor in the prophetic calling; by his mantle he divided the waters of the Jordan river; finally he was taken up into the heavens in a fiery chariot by flaming horses. He appeared on Mount Tabor to our Lord Jesus Christ together with Moses. Before the end of the world St. Elijah will appear again to put an end to the power of the anti-Christ (Revelation, Chapter 11).

– From the Prologue of Ochrid

THE BLESSING OF AUTOMOBILES

O Lord our God, Who makes the clouds Your chariot and Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who has sent to Your servant, the Prophet Elijah, a chariot of fire, Who has guided man to invent this (car, truck, motorcycle, etc.) which is as fast as the wind. We thank You for You have provided Your servants with this vehicle to serve their various needs. Therefore, O Master, pour out now upon it Your heavenly blessings; assign to it a guardian angel to preserve it from all evil. And as You granted faith and grace by Your deacon Philip to the man from Ethiopia who was sitting in his chariot and reading holy Scripture, show the way of salvation to Your servants. So that helped by Your grace and always intent on doing good works, they may after all the trials of their pilgrimage on earth, attain to everlasting joys, through the intercessions of our Most-pure Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the prayers of the holy Angels; of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker and of all the Saints: For You are the Provider and Sanctifier of all things and to You do we ascribe glory, and to Your Only-begotten Son, and Your All-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Consistent Togetherness

The success of any athletic team is due not only to the talent of the players and coaches but also to a powerful sense of “togetherness” formed by consistently being with one another. The same is true in the Church. Spending the Lord's Day in communion with Him and one another will not only strengthen our Mission but it will also bring us closer to the Kingdom where consistent togetherness is what it is all about.

On Sunday, July 31, Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at **12:00 Noon** by Fr. Robert Pipta. Please make a note of this schedule change!



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Authority of the Council - Authority of the Church

The authority of the Councils is based also on their ecclesiological grounding. A council is not an independent, autonomous body, additional, coming from outside, acting unilaterally. It is not the product of accidental circumstances in history and imposed afterwards. It is closely, or rather organically, related with the very essence of the Church. This body of Christ is a living organism, destined to grow, to face difficulties during this process, to be implanted in other regions of the world needing inculturalization and a certain adaptation.

Such embodiment and multifaceted ministry creates problems, tensions, even divisions and in spite of the good will of the local

bishop and pastors, the convocation of as a major assembly is considered as a natural instrument, salutary and indispensable.

The official voice of the catholicity and the koinonia of all the other sister churches, in harmony and guided by the Spirit, would only provide the new assessments, possible remedies and solutions. The functioning of such a council was such that the opinions and requests at issue found expression from the very womb of the Church. Once the decision was made, the people had a part in receiving it and publicizing it (Acts 15:22) as is seen in the first assembly of Jerusalem.

Metropolitan Emilianos