

**St. Mary's Orthodox Church
(Dormition of the Mother of God)**

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Sunday July 16 2017

Hieromartyr Athenogenes, Bishop of Heracleopolis, and his ten disciples; Martyrs Paul and two sisters, Chionia (Thea) and Alevtina (Valentina), at Caesaria in Palestine; Martyr Antiochus, physician of Sebaste; Martyr Faustus; Virgin Martyr Julia of Carthage; 1015 Martyrs of Pisidia; Martyr Athenogenes; New-Martyr John of Trnovo; Saint Plechelm, Bishop of Odilienberg; Saint Tenenan, Bishop of Leon; Martyr Hermit Hilier of Jersey. **Other events:** repose of Fr. Habeeb Kheshy(martyred by Muslims in 1948) and Elder Theodore of Glinsk Hermitage

Services for the week of July 16

Thursday, July 20: 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Prophet Elias

Saturday, July 22: 6:00 pm Great Vespers

Parish News

WELCOME: to all of our guests today. We are so glad that you have come to enjoy our Orthodox worship. We invite you to come for coffee and sweets in our church hall and to enjoy fellowship with us. May God bless you!

OFFERINGS: July 9: \$1425.14

PLEASE REMEMBER Janet Mikel and Martha Smith who have been receiving difficult treatments lately. Pray for their well-being and that of their families. May God bless them all!

REFLECTION

The Ecumenical Councils are the greatest battles of Orthodoxy with heretics. Under today's date, the Church jointly commemorates the first Six Ecumenical Councils:

1. The First Ecumenical Council in Nicea, 325 A.D. with 318 holy fathers participating. This Council is commemorated separately on May 29 and on the Seventh Sunday after Easter. This Council refuted the heresy of Arius against the Son of God.
2. The Second Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, 381 A.D. with 150 holy fathers attending. This Council is commemorated separately on May 22. This Council refuted the heresy of Macedonius against God, the Holy Spirit.
3. The Third Ecumenical Council in Ephesus, 431 A.D. with 200 holy fathers participating. This Council is commemorated separately on September 9. This Council refuted the heresy of Nestorius against the Mother of God.
4. The Fourth Ecumenical Council in Chalcedon, 451 A.D. with 630 holy fathers participating. This Council is commemorated separately on July 16. This Council refuted the Monophysite heresy.
5. The Fifth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, 553 A.D. with 160 holy fathers participating. This Council is commemorated separately on July 25. This Council refuted the heresy of Origen.
6. The Sixth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, 691 A.D. with 170 holy fathers participating. This Council is commemorated separately on January 23. This Council refuted the Monothelite heresy.
7. The Seventh Ecumenical Council which was convened in 878 A.D. with 367 holy fathers participating. This Council is not commemorated at this time but is commemorated separately on October 11. This Council refuted the heresy of Iconoclasm.

At these Councils, through the operation of the Holy Spirit, all these heresies were condemned and the Faith of Orthodoxy was defined and confirmed for all time.