

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
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JULY 18, 2021

**COMMEMORATION OF THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE  
FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS**  
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Epistle Readings**  
Romans 6:18-23  
Hebrews 13:7-16

**Gospel Readings**  
Matthew 8:5-13  
John 17:1-13

**CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!  
HE IS AND EVER SHALL BE!**

**Troparion** (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

**Troparion** (Fathers)

Thou art most glorious, O Christ our God, Who hast established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them Thou hast guided us to the True Faith. O greatly compassionate One, glory to Thee!

**Kontakion** (Resurrection)

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

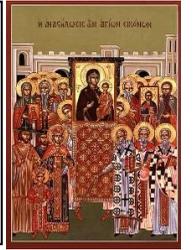
**Kontakion** (Fathers)

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established one Faith for the Church. Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from heavenly theology, It defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (Psalm 148:1)  
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (Psalm 32:1)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Church venerates the Holy Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils because Christ has established them as "lights upon the earth," guiding us to the true Faith. "Adorned with the robe of truth," the doctrine of the Fathers, based upon the preaching of the Apostles, has established one faith for the Church. The Ecumenical Councils, are the highest authority in the Church. Such Councils, guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit and accepted by the Church, are infallible. ~From oca.org



**Memory Eternal**

We offer prayers today for Esteban de la Riva who fell asleep in the Lord on Friday. He was a dearly loved friend and mentor to many in our parish. Our prayers are with his wife, JoAnne, son Etienne, daughter Dominique and their families. *"With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul of Thy servant, Esteban, where there is no sickness, no sorrow or sighing, but life everlasting."*

**Welcome** to everyone with us today in person and watching by livestream as we celebrate the Divine Liturgy. If you are interested in learning more about the Orthodox Faith, we invite you to stay for Coffee Hour to meet Fr. John and to get acquainted with us. Come join us again for prayer, study and fellowship.

**Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, July 21 – 7PM on Zoom**

This week, the online study group will focus on "Humility" from the teachings of Elder Thaddeus in the book, *Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives*. Fr. John will email the link and discussion notes.

**Orthodox Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday - Sunday, July 25**

Next Sunday has been blessed by The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America as Prison Ministry Awareness Sunday. This is an important day for the recognition of the work of Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM), its Chaplains and volunteers, the imprisoned and their families. Read [Five Facts About Prison and Religion That May Surprise You](#) and [donate](#).

**Northern Virginia Family Services "Back 2 School Drive" - July 25 - July 30**

We can help low-income children and teens get ready for the 2021-22 school year through our annual project with NVFS. Donations of plain colored backpacks and school supplies can be brought to church next Sunday. Financial gifts may be made on the [NVFS website](#). We can help meet the needs of vulnerable local students.

**"Schmemann Speaks" Podcast**

St. Vladimir's Seminary posted six audio tracks featuring the words and wisdom of Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemann (1921–1983) from his retreats and lectures decades ago. "They are proof that Fr. Alexander remains a voice for our time."