

ST. MARKELLA OF CHIOS

July 22

St. Markella was born and lived in the village of Volissos of Chios and lived during the fourteenth century. Her mother was a devout christian but her father was an idolater. At a young age, her mother passed away and Markella continued to study her bible, pray to God and live a life according to what she was taught.

Her father began to have sinful desires for Markella. By the time she had reached her eighteenth birthday, her father's desires had begun to show and his behaviour resulted in Markella leaving home. She went to a nearby mountain and hid in a bush. Her father found her, with the help of a local herdsman, and they set fire to the bush to force her to show.

Markella ran to the sea to escape but her father aimed an arrow at her and wounded her. The blood of the [saint](#) dyed the rocks and to this very day, during the festivities for her feast day, at a specific time, her blood becomes visible on these rocks for all the faithful who bear witness to this miracle.

Her final moments were spent in prayer to Christ with a request that the rocks would open for her to hide from her father and this happened. Everything but her head was covered so when her father found her, he cut off her head and threw it into the sea. Her head floated to the nearby beach of Komi. For many years, the locals could not locate the head until one day an Italian Naval ship was in the area. In the evening, they could see a bright light coming from the distance and when they got closer they witnessed a head, floating in the water, lit by upright floating candles. Immediately, they realised that this was a sacred miracle they were witness to and they took the head of the Saint back to their homeland.

APOLYTIKION

Rose of piety and sprout of Chios, we honor with canticles Saint Markella who was beheaded by her father's hand, as she guarded the commands of Christ, give strength and save from danger, us who cry unto you. Glory to Him who gave you strength, glory to Him who crowned you. Glory to Him who works through you, healings for all the faithful.

In response to continued inquiries regarding church financials, the Church is publishing year-to-date operating income and expenses in the Sunday bulletin.

God bless you and thank you for your support.

January 1 through July 12, 2011

Income \$706,320.57*

Expenses \$734,048.90**

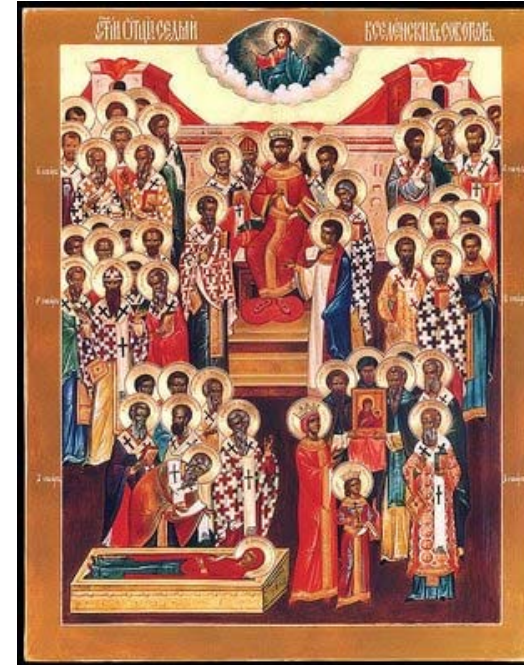
* - Includes any income (funds received) from Stewardship, Candles, Trays, Donations, Facility Rentals, Spring Festival, Fall Fundraiser, Greek School, Pre-School Program, Other Income and Harbor School Rent.

** - Includes expenses incurred (funds disbursed) for Administrative Items, Candles, Facility Rentals, Spring Festival, Fall Fundraiser, Greek School, Pre-School Program, Bookstore, Archdiocese Stewardship, For Those Who Serve, Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment, Liturgical, Maintenance, Mortgage Interest, Program Expenses, Taxes & Insurance, Utilities and Transfer to Reserves.

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

ST. MARINA OF ANTIOCH

JULY 17, 2011



Today the Holy Church commemorates all the Holy Fathers of the seven Ecumenical Councils whose spirituality, intellectual tenacity, and complete dedication resulted in the fundamental doctrines in which we believe. To a Church that is "Orthodox" doctrine is precious. Doctrine tells the world THIS is what we believe. Doctrine proclaims THIS is the truth of faith — outside of which one is in error. The Fathers who struggled to formulate Orthodox doctrine, based on Sacred Scripture and Apostolic Tradition, hold a special place in the Church. They gave ultimate testimony to the rightness of Orthodoxy. They handed down to subsequent centuries the one Holy Tradition to be believed by all, in all places. O Holy fathers of the Ecumenical Councils, pray to God that we might rightly believe.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

By means of Your Cross, O Lord, You abolished death. * To the robber You opened Paradise. * The lamentation of the myrrhbearing women You transformed, * and You gave Your Apostles the order to proclaim to all * that You had risen, O Christ our God, * and granted the world Your great mercy.

Apolytikion of the Fathers of the Ecumenical Councils

Blessed are you, o Christ our God! You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth. Through them, you have guided us to the True Faith. O greatly compassionate one, Glory to You!

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EPISTLE St. Paul's Letter to Titus 3:8-15

TITUS, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicos to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

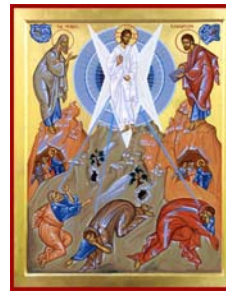
GOSPEL Matthew 5:14-19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."



THE FATHERS OF THE ECUMENICAL COUNCILS

On the Sunday that falls from the 13th to the 19th of the present month, we chant the Service to the Holy and God-bearing Fathers who came together in the Seven Ecumenical Councils, that is: the First Council, of the 318 Fathers who assembled in Nicaea in 325 to condemn Arius, who denied that the Son of God is consubstantial with the Father; the Fathers of the First Council also ordained that the whole Church should celebrate Pascha according to the same reckoning; the Second Council, of the 150 Fathers who assembled in Constantinople in 381 to condemn Macedonius, Patriarch of Constantinople, who denied the Divinity of the Holy Spirit; the Third Council, of the 200 Fathers who assembled in Ephesus in 431, to condemn Nestorius, Patriarch of Constantinople, who called Christ a mere man and not God incarnate; the Fourth Council, of the 630 who assembled in Chalcedon in 451, to condemn Eutyches, who taught that there was only one nature, the divine, in Christ after the Incarnation, and Dioscorus, Patriarch of Alexandria, who illegally received Eutyches back into communion and deposed Saint Flavian, Patriarch of Constantinople, who had excommunicated Eutyches; the Fifth Council in 535, of the 165 who assembled in Constantinople for the second time to condemn Origen and Theodore of Mopsuestia, the teacher of Nestorius; the Sixth Council in 680, of the 170 who assembled in Constantinople for the third time, to condemn the Monothelite heresy, which taught that there is in Christ but one will, the divine; and the Seventh Council in 787, of the 350 who assembled in Nicaea for the second time to condemn Iconoclasm.



SPECIAL DIVINE SERVICES FOR AUGUST

The month of August is a liturgically rich one for the Orthodox Church. On **Monday, August 1**, the Dormition Fast begins in preparation for the feast on August 15. On **Saturday August 6**, we celebrate the **Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord Jesus Christ**. Orthros will be at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy, followed by the Blessing of Grapes, will be at 9:30 a.m. Prior to the Feast of the Dormition, the Church celebrates the **Paraklesis** — a powerful and fervent hymn to the Most Holy Theotokos. **We will join in praying the Paraklesis at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 1, Wednesday, August 3, Monday, August 8, Wednesday, August 10, and Friday, August 12.** Prayer sheets will be available for you to write down the names of people for whom you wish to be prayed at the Paraklesis. On **Monday, August 15**,



we will celebrate the Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos with Orthros at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m. On **Monday, August 28**, we commemorate the Beheading of St. John the Baptist. Orthros is at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy is at 9:30 a.m. Please make every effort to attend these services during August—asking for grace from the Transfigured Lord and for the intercession of the Holy Theotokos and St. John.

PRAYER LIST: Alexander Wadas, Virginia Demitral, Sandi Treer, Constantina Speris, Spiro Gianniotis, Ralph Vallone, Christopher Bacas, **Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Argie Palaios, Katherine Panagakos, George Virvan, Mariah Smiley, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi, the child Heather Greene, Irene Pappas, Marty Levine, Lindsey Reijsoo, the child Alexis Ross, Joseph Papadakis, the child Joseph Saxon, Francine Bruggeman, Stephanie Skanderis, Georgia Haldas, Eric Ricasa, Milton Kayafas, Maureen Shriver, Tiffany Keiker, Mary O'Hara, William Coulopoulos, Matina Mantis, Anna Wakefield, Nate Cekay, and Robert Shriver. **US ARMED FORCES:** LCDR. Rick Fisher, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Colonel James Karas, and Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy, 2nd Lt. Phillip Natsios, Private Louis Tiches, EG Robert Stock, and Lance Corporal Brett Hughes, and Lt. Cmdr. Michael Starsiak**



FEAST OF THE HOLY PROPHET ELIAS

Wednesday, July 20, is the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elias. **Orthros will be at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m.**

Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

The incarnate Angel, the Cornerstone of the Prophets, the second Forerunner of the Coming of Christ, the glorious Elias (Elijah), who from above, sent down to Elisha the grace to dispel sickness and cleanse lepers, abounds therefore in healing for those who honor him.



To stand before the face of God, to cleanse your heart and sanctify the space of your life by invoking His name, this is your aim. We don't know how God cleanses our heart

by His name, but we believe that He does so in a supernatural way. In saying the Jesus Prayer, it is not so important whether you are a monk or a drunk, but you are to be very steadfast, attentive, humble, mild, and concentrated. (Fr. Artemy Vladimirov)

MEMORIALS

A Memorial Service will be offered today for **George Sardelis (40 Days)**, requested by his beloved wife, Nefeli, his children Christine and Philip, and his seven grandchildren; and for **Eugenia (1 Year) and Isidoros (21 Years) Papagiannakis (1 Year)** requested by her daughter Poppy (Aristidis) Mereos, their children and grandchildren. May their memory be eternal!