



**Sunday, May 28, 2017** **Tone 6**  
**Gospel:** St. John 17:1-13 **Epistle:** Acts 20:16-18, 28-36  
**7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA / Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council**  
**Afterfeast of Ascension**

*Liturgical & Events Schedule*

**Sunday, May 28**

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: D.L. / Social / Blessing of graves  
(Please contact Fr. Andrew)

**Wednesday, May 31**

7:30 pm: Bible Study

**Saturday, June 3**

4:00 pm Great Vespers w/ Litya (Special Time)

5:30 pm: Wine Tasting Fundraiser

**Sunday, June 4**

9:40 am: Hours

10:00 am: D.L. / Social followed by Vespers w/  
Kneeling Prayers of Pentecost

**TASTE OF GREECE 2017-  
FATHERS DAY WEEKEND**

Raffle: \$10,000 Grand Prize / Live Music all 3 days.

Greek Food: Souvlaki, Rotisserie Chicken , Gyros, Pastitsio, Spanakopita, Saganaki, Tyropita & Much More.

Greek Sweets: Baklava, Kourambiedes, Loukoumades, Diples, Galaktobouriko, Koulourakia, Frappe, Coffee & More!

Carnival rides, Games & Church Tour, Orthodox Bookstore, Icons & Sacred Items  
Saint Demetrios  
893 North Church Road, Elmhurst

**Summit Park District**

The Summit Park District cordially invites us & our families to join them for the Legion Park Party.

Tuesday, May 30 from 5:30-7:30pm.  
Legion Park  
61st & 73rd Ave  
Summit, IL 60501

**40 DAYS REMEMBRANCE**

June 4: Baby found in Joliet, William, Mat. Barbara

June 11: State Trooper killed in Delaware, Arch Priest Anthony, Protospesbyter, Fr. William, Rev. Edward

**FINANCIALS FOR APRIL**

Beginning Balance:	\$ 3,403.80
Income for month:	<u>\$11,062.55</u>
Subtotal:	\$14,466.35
Expenses for the month:	<u>\$ 7,453.23</u>
Balance ending April 30:	\$ 7,013.12
Net Income for month:	\$ 3,609.32

Breakdown of funds as of April 30:

Harris Bank Operating:	\$1,641.12
Harris Bank Challenge Fund:	\$5,372.00

*Note:*

*We always want to see Operating close to \$10,000 by end of month.*

**WINE TASTING FUNDRAISER**

On Saturday, June 3, of Pentecost weekend, we will be holding a wine tasting. Cost: \$10.00

Vespers: 4:00pm

Wine tasting will begin at 5:30. Free appetizers.

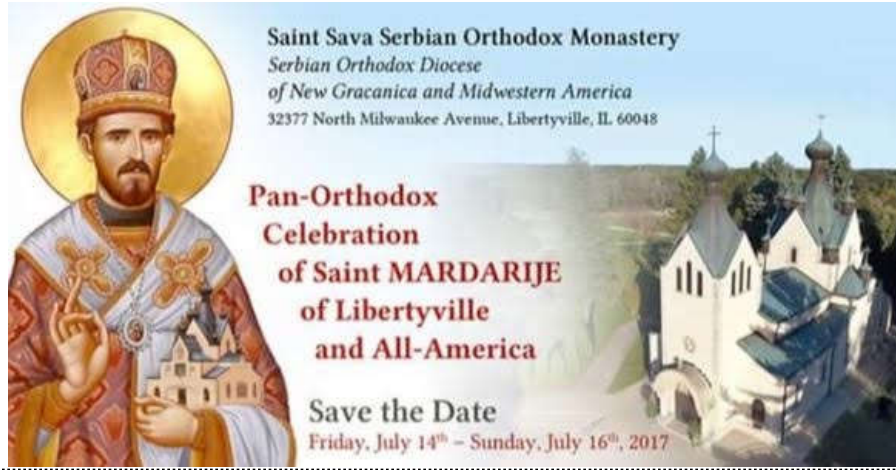
Following the wine tasting a wine & dessert bars will be available

\$4.00/glass \$1.00/dessert.

Please call: Fr. Andrew - 708-552-5276

Karen - 708-699-7497





**Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 (Epistle)**

For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost.

From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed

**John 17:1-13 (Gospel)**

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.



I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

As I approach the gates of heaven;  
St. Peter I will tell;  
One more soldier reporting sir;  
I've served my time in hell.

-Mark Anthony Gresswell

## The Opening of the Relics of Our Father Among the Saints MARDARIJE

With the blessing of His Grace, Bishop Longin of New Gracanica and Midwestern America, the relics of St. Mardarije, which have laid in the Church of St. Sava Monastery in Libertyville, Illinois, since his internment in December 1935, were uncovered. The opening revealed St. Mardarije's holy relics to be incorrupt.

On Thursday, May 4, 2017, His Grace Bishop Longin served Divine Liturgy at St. Sava Monastery with Sindjel Serafim (Milojkovic), Priest Nikolaj Kostur and Hierodeacon Nektarije (Tesanovic), in preparation for uncovering the relics. Following the Divine Liturgy, Bishop Longin and the other clergy served a Moleban with the Akathist written to St. Mardarije. Upon completion, the crew organized to remove the tombstone and flooring in order to exhume the relics arrived, under the guidance of Mr. Dusan Djordjevic of Sveta Gora Funeral Home in Chicago. After removal of the stone, it was revealed that the casket of St. Mardarije was in a cement vault. This caused the opening to be delayed one additional day in order to organize a team to open the vault.

On Friday morning, May 5, 2017, the workers broke the seal of the vault, while Priest Nikolaj Kostur and Hierodeacon Nektarije (Tesanovic) served a Moleban to St. Mardarije at the tomb in the presence of Bishop Longin and Hieromonk Serafim (Milojkovic). Throughout the entire process of exhumation, "Christ is Risen" and other Paschal hymns were sung, both in Serbian and Russian tones, knowing St. Mardarije's deep love and dedication to both Slavic traditions.

Once the seal of the vault was broken, every effort was taken to lift the cover. During this process, the cover of the vault shifted and fell on the casket, breaking its cover. At this moment, a sweet smelling fragrance arose from the tomb, quickly dissipating. However, it became evident that the Saint was buried facing the west instead of east. This in and of itself is miraculous. It manifested the Providence of God. Had St. Mardarije been buried in the proper direction, the vault cover would have fallen on the side of the casket where his holy head rested. It was visible that his feet had decayed and were bones.

Frs. Serafim and Nikolaj lifted the relics out of the tomb during the singing of "Christ is Risen." The relics were light in weight and easily placed in a temporary metal coffin. Hereupon the feet were examined, which at this point were the only visible part of the remains. The bones of the feet were goldish-yellow in color. Then, Fr. Nikolaj Kostur proceeded to examine the mid-section of the body. St. Mardarije's Holy hands were holding the cross which was firmly in place and immovable. As Fr. Nikolaj pulled back the sleeve of the saccos, it was revealed that

the hands of St. Mardarije were completely intact. Clearly visible were his skin, fingernails and hair. At this point, it was evident that the relics were more than just bones.

The holy relics of St. Mardarije were lifted out of the metal coffin and placed on two tables which were prepared for the examination and washing of the holy relics. All of the vestments and clothing were carefully removed, cutting that which could not easily be taken off in order to not disturb the holy relics. Most reverent and diligent care and utmost attention were given to the work that was being done; the clergy continuously sang the troparion to St. Mardarije and other Paschal hymns.

After all the vestments were removed, it was revealed that the holy relics, from the knee upward, were intact, although very fragile. The Saint's anatomy was intact with his skin and hair visible. When the mitre was removed, his long, dark hair flowed out, confirming his continued monastic struggle until the end of his days. The hair on his head and beard looked as though he had just reposed; it was very soft. The eyebrows and eyelashes of his closed eyes were visible. Also, his ears were still intact. The body was easily lifted and moved. There was a great deal of dust which had accumulated in the grave from the nearly eighty-two years since the burial. Upon the removal of the dust from the entire body, the holy relics were washed with warm water and white wine. Hereupon spikenard oil was used to anoint the body, according to the instructions received from the Holy Monastery of Hilandar. After the anointing, the color of the skin changed from tan to a dark brown.

After the washing and anointing, the legs, hands and torso were all wrapped in cotton and linen, making the holy relics more easily movable. Following this process, the holy relics were temporarily vested in a stiharion until his vesting takes place before his Glorification in July 2017. His face was covered with linen, and he was returned to the temporary metal coffin and covered.

Truly, God is wondrous in His Saints, showing us all His Divine power and that nature is subject to God's grace. All of those that partook in this experience, from the clergy to the workers, were moved with the joy and spiritual peace that filled the church during the uncovering of the holy relics. St. Mardarije lives on, not only in his legacy, but now through his incorrupt relics which will be a renewed rudder for the Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America, guiding us to move into the future, being directed by the past. May we follow St. Mardarije on the path of St. Sava, which lead him to sanctity.

Our Holy Hierarch, Father Mardarije, pray unto God for us!  
Christ is risen!

Priest Nikolaj Kostur : *Chairman of the Liturgical Subcommittee for the Glorification of St. Mardarije*

## Metropolitan Tikhon welcomes Metropolitan Hilarion of Volokolamsk to DC's St. Nicholas Cathedral

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon welcomed His Eminence, Metropolitan Hilarion [Alfeyev] of Volokolamsk, Chairman of the Department of External Church Relations of the Patriarchate of Moscow, at Saint Nicholas Cathedral here on Sunday, May 14, 2017. Concelebrating with the Metropolitans were His Grace, Bishop John of Naro-Fominsk, Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in the USA and His Grace, Bishop Daniel of Santa Rosa.

Metropolitan Hilarion headed the Russian Orthodox Church's delegation at "Martyrs for Christ," the World Summit in Defense of Persecuted Christians, sponsored by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in the US capital May 10-13. Metropolitan Tikhon addressed the Summit's opening, while Metropolitan Hilarion spoke at its third plenary session. Bishop John was a member of the Moscow Patriarchate's delegation, together with Archpriest Nikolai Danilevich, Vice-Chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church; Hieromonk Ioann [Kopeikin], Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs at Moscow's Saints Cyril and Methodius Church Post-Graduate and Doctoral School; and Archpriest Yaroslav Lutoshkin of Saint Nicholas Patriarchal Cathedral, New York, NY.

During the Divine Liturgy, at which Metropolitan Hilarion delivered the homily, Metropolitan Tikhon ordained Subdeacon Igor Panyutin to the Diaconate. A graduate of the Orthodox Church in America's Diaconal Vocation Program, Deacon Igor and his wife Irina are long-time members of Saint Nicholas Cathedral. Metropolitan Tikhon appropriately quoted the late Metropolitan Leonty—the day coincided with the 52nd anniversary of his repose—in offering encouragement to the newly ordained Deacon: "The missionary pastor must emerge from our seminary as the Apostle of Orthodoxy, the warrior for the Church of Christ on the American battlefield, fully capable in the best way possible to be simultaneously the guardian of the flock, its leader, the fighter for its interests, and the 'speedy lasso' of love, concern and attentive care—the searcher after the sheep who have gone astray or have been rapaciously pillaged."

At the conclusion of the Liturgy, Metropolitan Tikhon warmly greeted Metropolitan Hilarion and presented him with a set of miter icons of the North American saints. He likewise presented Bishop John with a water color print of the OCA's historic Saint Nicholas Church, Eklutna, AK, the work of Matushka Xenia Oleksa. Metropolitan Tikhon also remarked on the Summit's significance in bringing the persecution of Christians today to the world stage.

Metropolitan Hilarion in turn thanked Metropolitan Tikhon for the invitation to concelebrate at the cathedral and delivered greetings from His Holiness, Patriarch Kirill of Moscow. He also noted that 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of Saint Tikhon's election as Patriarch of Moscow, adding that the occasion is momentous for the faithful in America and Russia alike.

"Memory eternal" was sung for the late Metropolitan Leonty, and Metropolitan Tikhon shared with the faithful words spoken by Saint Tikhon at the First All-American Sobor, held in Mayfield, PA in 1907: "Renewed in spirit, with faith and hope in God, may our Church grow and be courageous, pure, loving and strong in her unity; may she draw unto her bosom not only the Uniates, who are our brothers by blood, but advancing beyond the Russian race, may all those who live in America be drawn to the Holy Apostolic Church, so that here, there would be one flock and one Shepherd, Jesus Christ, to Whom be glory and majesty with the Father and the Holy Spirit unto ages of ages."

Among those present at the Liturgy were Protopresbyter Daniel Hubiak, former OCA Representative to the Moscow Patriarchate, and his wife, Matushka Evelyn. As a priest, Metropolitan Hilarion had served with Father Daniel at the OCA's Representation Church of the Great Martyr Catherine in Moscow in the early and mid-1990s. Metropolitan Hilarion recalled with deep fondness his memories of that period, marking the lengthy and close connection he has always had with the Orthodox Church in America.

On the preceding day, Metropolitans Tikhon and Hilarion held a working lunch meeting at which they continued discussions, initiated at the Summit, on the persecution of Christians and considered ways in which the Churches of Russia and America might draw broader attention to the plight of those suffering for their faith.



*Metropolitan Tikhon concelebrating with [from left] Bishop Daniel, Metropolitan Hilarion and Bishop John. [Credit [www.mospatusa.com/](http://www.mospatusa.com/)]*

## Prayer List - UPDATED 4-23-17

**Prigsts:** His Beatitude Metropolitan Theodosius, His Beatitude Metropolitan Herman, His Eminence Archbishop Iagovos John Kuchta, James Gleason (*Fr.'s spiritual father*), John Duranko, \*Eugene Tarris, \*Ted Bobosh, \*Joseph Gibson, \*Philip Lashbrook, \*John Reeves, \*Michael Matsko, Emilian Hutnyan, Deacon Bohdan Melnychenko

**Matushkii:** \*Carol Janacek, Mary Perez, Snezana Ruzic, Laryssa Hutnyan, Pani Patricia Duranko

**Parishionzrs:** Karen Muzyka, Ronald Stachowiak, Rebecca Eggers, Sonja Harris, Pauline Michals, Marilyn, Michals,

**Parishionzr's Family:** Sandra (*Karen's sister*), Erika Northrup, Mary Northrup, Raymond Northrup, Mark Svava, Joey Krush, Jan Kost (*Linda's sister*), Tommy Leonchik, Jason Kirnbauer, Lucille (*Carol's mom*), Edward Arendt (*Joann's Uncle*), Stephen Holly & Walter Litzie (*Fr.'s cousin*), Michelle & her newborn baby Katherine, Susie & her unborn family

**Other Requests:** June (*Hruban friend*), Elizabeth Lilos, Jemsey Pradun, Hermenegil & Lydia Guerrero (*Neighbor*), Cathleen Rebollar, Eva Quagon (*Andy's friend*), John & Mary Ann Magerko, Gloria Salgado (*Lynn's friend*), Vivian (*friend of Beccy Eggers*), Laurel (*Bill Rudolph's daughter*), Deputy Chief Frank Batura, \*John Sedor, \*Daria Petrykowski, \*Cynthia Koranda, \*Helen Liss, \*Theodore Geletka, Alice Sutko, Mike Jacobson & Brian Turner (*Fr's friends*), Mark Sirovatka (*Trustee's brother*), Crystal (*Frank Batura's daughter-in-law*) & her unborn baby

**Military:** Fr. Herman, Fr. Gregory, Amber, Caleb, Nicholas, David, Timothy, Robert, Kristen, Matthew, Brian, Daniel, Joseph

**Captivz:** Metropolitan Paul (*Orthodox Archdiocese of Aleppo*), Archbishop John (*Syriac Archdiocese of Aleppo*), for the UN & IOCC humanitarian aid workers in & around Syria / Those suffering persecution in Iraq, Syria, Israel, Egypt, Ukraine and throughout the world / Those held captive throughout the world.

Additions or removals from the list? Please notify Fr. Andrew.

### Commemoration of the Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

Commemorated on [May 28](#)

On the seventh Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the holy God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council.

The Commemoration of the First Ecumenical Council has been celebrated by the Church of Christ from ancient times. The Lord Jesus Christ left the Church a great promise, "I will build My Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Mt. 16:18). Although the Church of Christ on earth will pass through difficult struggles with the Enemy of salvation, it will emerge victorious. The holy martyrs bore witness to the truth of the Savior's words, enduring suffering and death for confessing Christ, but the persecutor's sword is shattered by the Cross of Christ.

Persecution of Christians ceased during the fourth century, but heresies arose within the Church itself. One of the most pernicious of these heresies was Arianism. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, was a man of immense pride and ambition. In denying the divine nature of Jesus Christ and His equality with God the Father, Arius falsely taught that the Savior is not consubstantial with the Father, but is only a created being.

A local Council, convened with Patriarch Alexander of Alexan

dria presiding, condemned the false teachings of Arius. However, Arius would not submit to the authority of the Church. He wrote to many bishops, denouncing the decrees of the local Council. He spread his false teaching throughout the East, receiving support from certain Eastern bishops.

Investigating these dissensions, the holy emperor Constantine (May 21) consulted Bishop Hosius of Cordova (Aug. 27), who assured him that the heresy of Arius was directed against the most fundamental dogma of Christ's Church, and so he decided to convene an Ecumenical Council. In 325, 318 bishops representing Christian Churches from various lands gathered together at Nicea.

Among the assembled bishops were many confessors who had suffered during the persecutions, and who bore the marks of torture upon their bodies. Also participating in the Council were several great luminaries of the Church: Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia (December 6 and May 9), Saint Spyridon, Bishop of Tremithos (December 12), and others venerated by the Church as holy Fathers.

With Patriarch Alexander of Alexandria came his deacon, Athanasius (who later became Patriarch of Alexandria (May 2 and January 18). He is called "the Great," for he referred to as "the thirteenth Apostle." **Cont pg 6**

was a zealous champion for the purity of Orthodoxy. In the Sixth Ode of the Canon for today's Feast, he is The emperor Constantine presided over the sessions of the Council. In his speech, responding to the welcome by Bishop Eusebius of Caesarea, he said, "God has helped cast down the impious might of the persecutors, but more distressful for me than any blood spilled in battle is for a soldier, is the internal strife in the Church of God, for it is more ruinous."

Arius, with seventeen bishops among his supporters, remained arrogant, but his teaching was repudiated and he was excommunicated from the Church. In his speech, the holy deacon Athanasius conclusively refuted the blasphemous opinions of Arius. The heresiarch Arius is depicted in iconography sitting on Satan's knees, or in the mouth of the Beast of the Deep (Rev. 13).

The Fathers of the Council declined to accept a Symbol of Faith (Creed) proposed by the Arians. Instead, they affirmed the Orthodox Symbol of Faith. Saint Constantine asked the Council to insert into the text of the Symbol of Faith the word "consubstantial," which he had heard in the speeches of the bishops. The Fathers of the Council unanimously accepted this suggestion.

In the Nicene Creed, the holy Fathers set forth and confirmed the Apostolic teachings about Christ's divine nature. The heresy of Arius was exposed and repudiated as an error of haughty reason. After resolving this chief dogmatic question, the Council also issued Twelve Canons on questions of churchly administration and discipline. Also decided was the date for the celebration of Holy Pascha. By decision of the Council, Holy Pascha should not be celebrated by Christians on the same day with the Jewish Passover, but on the first Sunday after the first full moon of the vernal equinox (which occurred on March 22 in 325).

The First Ecumenical Council is also commemorated on May 29.

<b>MAY - REPOSED</b>	
1-Sven Thure Nylén (02) 11- Infant Nathaniel Grabavoy (01) 12- Helen Nausieda (14) 13- Anna Nylén (07) 13- Merle Gazelle (95) 16- Mary Pehas (97) 22- Frank Kutchik Sr (86) 29- Infant George Grabavoy (02)	1946: Ivan Kochik                      Anthony Silas (Smith) Leonty Genamok                Michael Androvsky  1947: Eva Yushchuk Nikolai Kozliak Theodore Merkuier (Gorbachuk) Elena Churma (Sherman)
<i>Remember those who have gone before us in prayer. If there is a name missing from the above list, please speak to Fr. Andrew to have them added.</i>	

<b>MAY - CELEBRATIONS</b>	
<b>BIRTHDAY</b>	<b>ANNIVERSARY</b>
1-Quinn Marron 2-Sub-deacon Wylie Meath 4- Mark Hruban 4- Kyle Grabavoy 12- Protodeacon Robert 16-Archpriest Anthony Spengler 17- Nikolas Kimbauer 17- Jeffrey Northrup 18- Helen Hruban 24-Avzi Dardovski 27- Mary-Ann Magerko 29- Jacob Walker	5-1-04: Archbishop Benjamin of the West 5-2-05: Fr. Andrew's Anniversay to the Holy Priesthood 5-5-12: Archbishop Alexander of the South 5-6-67: His Beatitude Retired Metropolitan Theodosios 5-8-10: Archbishop Michael of New York & New Jersey 5-24-99: Gary & Chrissy Marron 5-25-02: Archbishop Nikon of New England 5-28-05: Archbishop Alijo of Mexico 5-30-87: His Grace retired Bishop Tikhon of the West
<i>If there are those names to be added or removed, please contact Fr. Andrew. He would like to list all members of your family Orthodox and non-Orthodox.</i>	