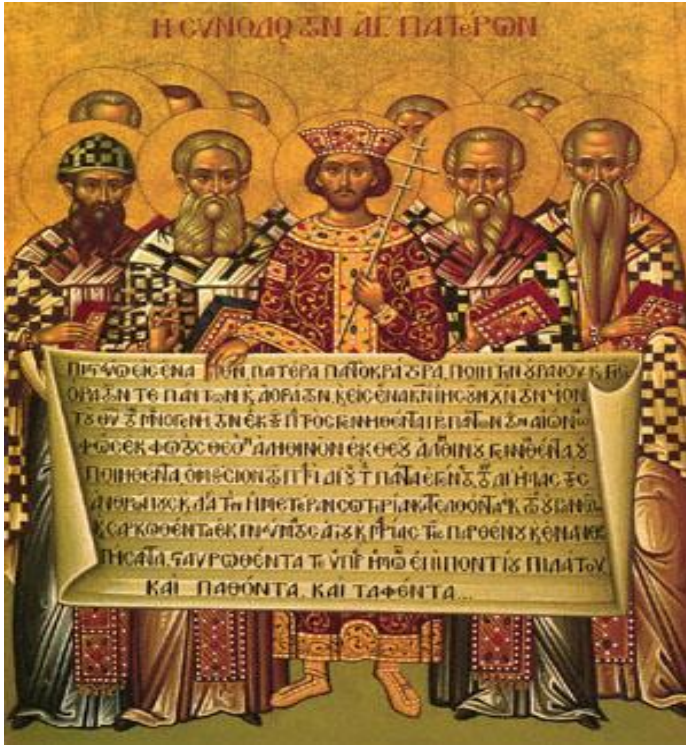


**FATHERS OF THE  
FIRST ECUMENICAL COUNCIL  
MAY 24, 2015**



**STs. RAPHAEL, NICHOLAS AND  
IRENE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Rev. Fr. Barnabas Powell, Proistamenos  
Jimmy Smith, Psaltis

3074 Bethelview Road † Cumming GA 30040  
(770) 781-5250 cell (770) 861-3544 [www.stsrni.org](http://www.stsrni.org)

We are an intentional Orthodox Christian Community for North Georgia!

---

# WORSHIP

---

*We are so very glad you have joined us today, and we pray you will be inspired and encouraged by your time with us.*



*The Orthodox worship service is an ancient and timeless expression of how people have loved, served and worshipped God for many centuries, but it may be a bit of a different experience for you. Please feel free to use a service book or not and simply allow the words of the service to wash over you.*

*The central act of our worship culminates in people receiving communion. This is a very special time for us all and we have some specific beliefs about our communion together. This is why we never impose this service on those who are not prepared or are not baptized Orthodox. This service may raise questions in your mind.*

*Please feel free to ask Fr. Barnabas anything you wish after the service.*

*At the end of the service EVERYONE is invited to come forward and receive a portion of the "blessed bread" from Fr. Barnabas. No one should leave church "hungry!"*

*Know you are welcome and we are glad you are here. May God bless you and your family.*

*Your Servant,*

*Father Barnabas*

## Apolytikion for St. Raphael in the First Tone

*To the offspring of Ithaca, the pride and joy of Lesvos, \* monastic martyrs' glory, let us offer to Raphael our songs of praise; \* for lately he appeared, and pours out cures and healings to us all. \* Inexplicably he appears to believers, both in dreams and awake, who cry: \* Glory to Christ who gave you His might. \* Glory to Him who gave you miracles. \* Glory to Him who through you fulfills our prayerful requests.*

## Apolytikion for St. Raphael in the Fourth Tone

*Because of the finding of your holy relics, wise one, \* the Island of Lesvos has been filled fully with the grace, \* which God richly gave to you. \* You, O devout martyr Raphael, paradoxically \* appeared to many people, and you grant cures and healings. \* And therefore we the faithful re-joyce in all your miracles.*

## Apolytikion in honor of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas & Irene

*Having contended on Lesvos for the sake of Christ God, you have sanctified the island since the discovery of your sacred relics, O blessed ones; wherefore we honor you, O Godbearing Raphael, together with Nicholas and virgin Irene, as our divine protectors and intercessors with the Lord.*

---

## FATHERS OF THE FIRST COUNCIL

---

**Tone of the week: Plagal of the Second Tone**

**Tenth Eothinon**

**Reading:**

The heresiarch Arius was a Libyan by race and a protopresbyter of the Church of Alexandria. In 315, he began to blaspheme against the Son and Word of God, saying that He is not true God, consubstantial with the Father, but is rather a work and creation, alien to the essence and glory of the Father, and that there was a time when He was not. This frightful blasphemy shook the faithful of Alexandria. Alexander, his Archbishop, after trying in vain to correct him through admonitions, cut him off from communion and finally in a local council deposed him in the year 321. Yet neither did the blasphemer wish to be corrected, nor did he cease sowing the deadly tares of his heretical teachings; but writing to the bishops of other cities, Arius and his followers requested that his doctrine be examined, and if it were unsound, that the correct teaching be declared to him. By this means, his heresy became universally known and won many supporters, so that the whole Church was soon in an uproar. Therefore, moved by divine zeal, the first Christian Sovereign, Saint Constantine the Great, the equal to the Apostles, summoned the renowned First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, a city of Bithynia. It was there that the shepherds and teachers of the Church of Christ gathered from all regions in the year 325. All of them, with one mouth and one voice, declared that the Son and Word of God is one in essence with the Father, true God of true God, and they composed the holy Symbol of Faith up to the seventh article (since the remainder, beginning with "And in the Holy Spirit," was completed by the Second Ecumenical Council). Thus they anathematized the impious Arius of evil belief and those of like mind with him, and cut them off as rotten members from the whole body of the faithful. Therefore, recognizing the divine Fathers as heralds of the Faith after the divine Apostles, the Church of Christ has appointed this present Sunday for their annual commemoration, in thanksgiving and unto the glory of God, unto their praise and honor, and unto the strengthening of the true Faith.

---

# EPISTLE READING

---

Acts of the Apostles 20:16-18, 28-36

Prokeimenon. Mode 4.

Daniel 3.26,27

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers.

Verse: For you are just in all you have done.

IN THOSE DAYS, Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hastening to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost. And from Miletos he sent to Ephesos and called to him the elders of the church. And when they came to him, he said to them: "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God which he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities, and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by so toiling one must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, 'it is more blessed to give than to receive.' " And when he had spoken thus, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

---

---

# GOSPEL READING

---

## The Gospel of John 17:1-13

At that time, Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him power over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work which you gave me to do; and now, Father, you glorify me in your own presence with the glory which I had with you before the world was made.

"I have manifested your name to the men whom you gave me out of the world; yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you; for I have given them the words which you gave me, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you did send me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are mine; all mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me; I have guarded them, and none of them is lost but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

---

---

# LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

## THIS WEEK

---

*Father Barnabas is available to hear confession every Wednesday either before or after Vespers and by appointment. Please call or email the church office to request a time to meet with Father and avail yourself to this healing divine mystery of the Church.*

*Please call the Church office for more information:  
(770) 781-5250.*

**TODAY, May 24**    **8:45 a.m. Orthos**  
**10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy**  
**8:00 p.m. Faith Encouraged Live Program**  
**at Ancient Faith Radio**

**Wed., May 27**    **10:00 a.m. Bible Study Class**  
**6:30 p.m. Vespers followed by Adult Education**

**Sat., May 30**    **Saturday of Souls**  
**8:30 a.m. Orthos**  
**9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy**  
**Cemetery Visit by Father Barnabas after service**  
**5:00 p.m. Great Vespers**

**Please see Events Calendar and Announcements at the front desk for more information on church activities.**

†††††

***For Today:***

***Ushers: Helen McCart, David Chapman***

***Welcoming Ministry: Mildred Zourzoukis***

***Fellowship Ministry: Diane Walters***

**Parish Council of 2015:**

***John Patrick, President; Harald Hagen, Vice President;***

***David Chapman, Secretary; Chris Foxhall, Treasurer;***

***Anthony Birozes, Kosta Bozzuto, Marie Chapman, Helen McCart, Johnny***

***Melts, Greg Pappas, Plutarch Vamvakias, Len Vanerstrom***



---

*Singers and Chanters: Anthony Birozes, David Boyd, Marie Chapman, Emily Christy, Maria Hagen, Lynn Lucher, Jimmy Smith*

## **Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal of the Second Tone**

When the angelic powers appeared at Your grave, the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead. And standing by the sepulcher was Mary who was seeking Your immaculate body. You devastated Hades, not afflicted by it. You went to meet the virgin, and granted eternal life. You resurrected from the dead. O Lord, glory to You.

## **Apolytikion for the Feast of the Ascension in the Fourth Tone**

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God, after You filled the Disciples with joy, by promising to send them the Holy Spirit, and You blessed them and established their faith, that You are the Son of God, the Redeemer of the world.

## **Apolytikion for the Fathers of the First Council in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone**

Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be to You.

## **Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal of the Second Tone**

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake, \* and united things on earth with the things in heaven, \* You were taken up thither in glory, O Christ our God, \* going not away from any place, \* but continuing inseparable, \* and to them that love You crying out: \* "I am with you, and there is, therefore, none against you."

**Please say a special prayer for the following individuals:**

D. Sarandis, N. Thrasivouou; J. Andropoulos,  
S and K Yalanzon, F. Hatzispirou



**Please let us know in the office at [officeadmin@stsrni.org](mailto:officeadmin@stsrni.org) if you know of any births, marriages, graduations, deaths, illnesses, or special events, so that we may keep our parish community informed.**

## ***Acolytes:***

***Jacob and Jimmy Atkinson, David Druffner, Mike & Peter Jordanopolos, Spiro Kefalas, Christos Kaloudis, Thomas Miller, Jacob Sparks, Mike Trainor, Alex & Niko Tzevelekos, Christos Zourzoukis Senior Acolytes: Johnny Melts, Mike Manos, Dean Pryles***

George & Maria Andros  
Jim & Angie Andropoulos  
Sarante & Julie Athenson  
Deane & Stephen Barnard  
Anthony & Mary Birozes  
Mabel Antigone Birozes  
Renee Birozes  
Lisa Boston  
Deborah Bowen  
David & Michelle Boyd  
Kosta & Carolyn Bozzuto  
Athena Catapano  
David & Marie Chapman  
Russell & Chyrisse Chason  
Julie Chokos  
Giles & Emily Christie  
Rick & Jan Christy  
Connie Condos  
John & Shelia Consos  
Keith & Mary Druffner  
Quay & Trissie Farr  
Chris & Liz Foxhall  
William & Hayley Fulbright  
Bill & Margaret Gasper  
Rob & Carey Gilbert  
Robert & Jennifer Guano  
Harald & Stamatia Hagen  
Michael & Ann Costakis Hayes  
Robert & Ana Henning  
Harriet Howell  
Steven & Linda Hutka  
Jennie Johnson  
Vasilios & Mary Kaloudis  
Jim Kanellos  
Tasso & Laura Kefalas  
Soula Levendakis &  
Theodoros Kazazakis  
Alex Levantis  
Leon & Frances Lopez  
David & Lynne Lucher  
Archie & Florence Lytle  
Tina Maheras  
Bill & Margaret Manos  
Bill & Audrey Marianes  
Riley Todd & Elizabeth Marvos  
Al & Helen McCart  
Johnny & Becky Melts  
Bill & Mary Milam  
Matt & Athena Miller  
Nikolaos Moissiadis & Family  
Patricia Morris  
Nick & Teddie Panos  
Constantinos & Evelyn Pantazopoulos

Gregory Pappas  
Gus Pappas  
Tom and Lillian Pappas  
John & Evon Patrick  
Michele Perry  
Mihai & Heidi Popa  
Fr. Barnabas & Pres. Connie Powell  
Pam Powers  
Vic & Suzi Pryles  
Marina Raymond  
Aftan Romanczak  
Mary Samaltanos  
Dina Sarandis  
Takanori & Kathryn Shoji  
James Smith  
Estelle Sofikitis  
George & Anna Sofikitis  
Dennis & Laura Sparks  
O'Brien Statham  
James Stockdill  
Koko & Carol Tadro  
Steven & Thalia Thompson  
Nick & Eva Thrasivoulou  
Ed & Anne Trainor  
Greg & Evie Tzevelekos  
Eleanor Vamvakias  
Plutarch & Tina Vamvakias  
Len Vanerstrom  
Rusty & Christine Waldron  
Tim & Diane Walters  
George & Thalia Zazanis  
John and Mildred Zourzoukis

†††††

Donations made this month in  
remembrance of: Arthur Costakis,  
and Kathleen Mary Gasper