

Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church 8306 NC HWY 751, Durham NC 27713 919-484-1600 fatherstavroforos2012@gmail.com, www.stbarbarachurchnc.org News & Announcements May 24, 2015

The 318 Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council of Nicea Των Τριακοσιων Δεκα και Οκτω Θεοφορων Πατερων της εν Νικαια 1ης Οικουμενικης Συνοδου



On this Day we Comemorate

Fathers of the 1st Council

Symeon the Stylite of the Mountain

Saint Vincent of Lerins

Meletios the Commander & his Companion Martyrs

Gregory, Archbishop of Novgorod

NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME Sunday Worship Schedule: Matins 9:00 am & Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Today's Readings :

Today's Epistle Reading is from the Acts of the Apostles Chapter 20 verses 16 to 18 and 28 to 36

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.

Πράξεις Ἀποστόλων 20:16-18, 28-36



Έν ταῖς ἡμεραῖς ἐκείναις, ἔκρινεν ὁ Παῦλος παραπλεῦσαι τὴν Ἔφεσον, ὅπως μὴ γένηται αὐτῷ χρονοτριβῆσαι ἐν τῆ Ἀσία· ἔσπευδεν γάρ, εἰ δυνατὸν ἦν αὐτῷ, τὴν ἡμέραν τῆς Πεντηκοστῆς γενέσθαι εἰς Ἱεροσόλυμα. Ἀπὸ δὲ τῆς Μιλήτου πέμψας εἰς Ἔφεσον μετεκαλέσατο τοὺς πρεσβυτέρους τῆς ἐκκλησίας. Ὠς δὲ παρεγένοντο πρὸς αὐτόν, εἶπεν αὐτοῖς, προσέχετε οὖν ἑαυτοῖς καὶ παντὶ τῷ ποιμνίῳ, ἐν ῷ ὑμᾶς τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἄγιον ἔθετο ἐπισκόπους, ποιμαίνειν τὴν ἐκκλησίαν τοῦ κυρίου καὶ θεοῦ, ἢν περιεποιήσατο διὰ τοῦ ἰδίου αἵματος. ਇγὼ γὰρ οἶδα τοῦτο, ὅτι εἰσελεύσονται μετὰ τὴν ἄφιξίν μου λύκοι βαρεῖς εἰς ὑμᾶς, μὴ φειδόμενοι τοῦ ποιμνίου· καὶ ἐξ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν ἀναστήσονται ἄνδρες λαλοῦντες διεστραμμένα, τοῦ ἀποσπᾶν τοὺς μαθητὰς ὀπίσω αὐτῶν. Διὸ γρηγορεῖτε, μνημονεύοντες ὅτι τριετίαν νύκτα καὶ ἡμέραν οὐκ ἑπαυσάμην μετὰ δακρύων νουθετῶν ἕνα ἕκαστον. Καὶ τὰ νῦν παρατίθεμαι ὑμᾶς, ἀδελφοί, τῷ θεῶ καὶ τῶ λόγω τῆς χάριτος αὐτοῦ, τῶ δυναμένω ἐποικοδομῆσαι, καὶ δοῦναι ὑμῖν

κληρονομίαν ἐν τοῖς ἡγιασμένοις πᾶσιν. Ἀργυρίου ἢ χρυσίου ἡ ἱματισμοῦ οὐδενὸς ἐπεθύμησα. Αὐτοὶ γινώσκετε ὅτι ταῖς χρείαις μου καὶ τοῖς οὖσιν μετ' ἐμοῦ ὑπηρέτησαν αἱ χεῖρες αὖται. Πάντα ὑπέδειξα ὑμῖν, ὅτι οὕτως κοπιῶντας δεῖ ἀντιλαμβάνεσθαι τῶν ἀσθενούντων, μνημονεύειν τε τῶν λόγων τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ, ὅτι αὐτὸς εἶπεν, Μακάριόν ἐστιν μᾶλλον διδόναι ἢ λαμβάνειν. Καὶ ταῦτα εἰπών, θεὶς τὰ γόνατα αὐτοῦ, σὺν πᾶσιν αὐτοῖς προσηύξατο.

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."

Κατὰ Ἰωάννην 17:1-13



Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκείνῳ, ὁ Ἰησοῦς, καὶ ἐπῆρε τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς αὐτοῦ εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ εἶπε πάτερ, ἐλήλυθεν ἡ ὥρα· δόξασόν σου τὸν υἰόν, ἵνα καὶ ὁ υἰός σου δοξάσῃ σε, καθὼς ἔδωκας αὐτῷ ἐξουσίαν πάσης σαρκός, ἵνα πᾶν ὃ δέδωκας αὐτῷ δώσῃ αὐτοῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον. αὕτη δέ ἐστιν ἡ αἰώνιος ζωή, ἵνα γινώσκωσί σε τὸν μόνον ἀληθινὸν Θεὸν καὶ ὃν ἀπέστειλας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν. ἐγώ σε ἐδόξασα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, τὸ ἔργον ἐτελείωσα ὃ δέδωκάς μοι ἵνα ποιήσω· καὶ νῦν δόξασόν με σύ, πάτερ, παρὰ σεαυτῷ τῆ δόξῃ ἦ εἶχον πρὸ τοῦ τὸν κόσμον εἶναι παρὰ σοί. Ἐφανέρωσά σου τὸ ὄνομα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου. σοὶ ἦσαν καὶ ἐμοὶ αὐτοὺς δέδωκας, καὶ τὸν λόγον σου τετηρήκασι. νῦν ἔγνωκαν ὅτι πάντα ὅσα δέδωκάς μοι παρὰ σοῦ ἐστιν· ὅτι τὰ ῥήματα ἃ δέδωκάς μοι δέδωκα αὐτοῖς, καὶ αὐτοὶ ἔλαβον, καὶ ἔγνωσαν

άληθῶς ὅτι παρὰ σοῦ ἐξῆλθον, καὶ ἐπίστευσαν ὅτι σύ με ἀπέστειλας. Ἐγὼ περὶ αὐτῶν ἐρωτῶ· οὐ περὶ τοῦ κόσμου ἐρωτῶ, ἀλλὰ περὶ ὧν δέδωκάς μοι, ὅτι σοί εἰσι, καὶ τὰ ἐμὰ πάντα σά ἐστι καὶ τὰ σὰ ἐμά, καὶ δεδόξασμαι ἐν αὐτοῖς. καὶ οὐκέτι εἰμὶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, καὶ οὖτοι ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ εἰσί, καὶ ἐγὼ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι. πάτερ ἄγιε, τήρησον αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου ῷ δέδωκάς μοι, ἵνα ὧσιν εν καθὼς ἡμεῖς. ὅτε ἤμην μετ' αὐτῶν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, ἐγὼ ἐτήρουν αὐτοὺς ἐν τῷ ὀνόματί σου· οὺς δέδωκάς μοι ἐφύλαξα, καὶ οὐδεὶς ἐξ αὐτῶν ἀπώλετο εἰ μὴ ὁ υἰὸς τῆς ἀπωλείας, ἵνα ἡ γραφὴ πληρωθῆ. νῦν δὲ πρὸς σὲ ἔρχομαι, καὶ ταῦτα λαλῶ ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ ἵνα ἔχωσι τὴν χαρὰν τὴν ἐμὴν πεπληρωμένην ἐν αὐτοῖς.

Today's Event:

Memorial

40 Days - Anna Elisseeva (Elena Panov's Mother)

Coffee Hour

Is being hosted by Elena and Yuri Panov in memory of Anna.

Choir Practice

Choir members are asked to grab a quick cup of coffee and then return to Church for a choir rehearsal.

Saturday, May 30th

Saturday of Souls before the Feast of Pentecost - 9 am

Ψυχοσαββατο πριν την Εορτην της Πεντηκοστης – 9 πμ



30 - Saturday of Souls before Pentecost - 9 am

31 - Pentecost - 9 am

Tune

7 - All Saints - 9 am

8 - Apostles Fast Begins

14 - 2nd Sunday of Matthew - 9 am

21 - 3rd Sunday of Matthew - 9 am

24 - Nativity of St. John the Baptist - 9 am

28 - 4th Sunday of Matthew - 9 am

29 - Saints Peter and Paul - 9 am

30 - Holy Apostles - 9 am

Here are the important dates to remember:

June 6th – June 7th: Greek Festival at St. Barbara's in Durham, NC

July 1st - 5th : AHEPA Supreme Convention in San Francisco, CA

October 17th [Saturday]: our chapter's traditional fall AHEPA dinner - dance





Please save your family Sale Items for our Saint Barbara Attic Treasures and Yard Sale to be held on September 12th.

Items can be brought to the Church after July 1st.

Saint Barbara Youth Dance Group



The Saint Barbara Youth Dance Group is open to children ages 5 to 8, and to those from 8 to 17. Dance Practices are scheduled for:

February 8,15, 22.

March 8, 15, 22, 29 (To be reviewed for potential Spring break conflicts) April 19, 26 (No practice April 12 - Easter)

May 3, 17, 31 (No practice May 10 - Mother's Day, and May 24 - Memorial Day Weekend) For more information please contact Keith and Alexia Rheinhardt; keithalexia@gmail.com; 919-435-6689.



You are cordially invited to attend the 2015 Choir Conference
THURSDAY July 23rd - SUNDAY July 26th
Hosted by St. Stefanos Greek Orthodox Church, 3600 76th St., St. Petersburg, FL 33710
See Donna Trohanis, visit www.ststefanos.org , or call 727-345-8325



ATTENTION SAINT BARBARA PARISH! Celebrate with your Church Family your next special occasion! Consider sponsoring a coffee hour in the social hall after Liturgy on Sundays to commemorate a birthday, graduation, nameday, anniversary, or even for the pleasure of just hosting for your Parish.

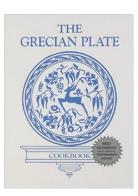
Signing up is easy....just place your name on the 'signup coffee hour' sheet located on the table in the hallway nearest the social hall. For details or questions, contact Helen Paliouras at: 919-942-4229 or elenipali@att.net

MARK your CALENDAR

May 30 Festival Briefing Day at Coffee Hour
 July 26 General Assembly for the 2nd Quarter

• October 17 AHEPA Dinner Dance

December 6 Saint Barbara Feast Day Dinner



Consider giving THE GRECIAN PLATE cookbook as a gift during this graduation, wedding and shower season. Our award-winning community cookbook is now in its 11th printing and is sporting a new cover, more durable than the spiral-bound cookbook of the past. Having won the Tastemaster Award as the "best community cookbook" in the nation, we can be proud and confident to give the cookbook as a gift to family and friends. The cookbook is sold at the church bookstore or you can contact Helen Paliouras for bulk orders at 919-942-4229 or elenipali@att.net.



You are encouraged to volunteer and participate in the fun comradery and good time that we all have. To sign up, go to:

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0448AFA92CA6FD0-2015/27778133

Looking forward to seeing you there

Crist



FUNDRAISING PROJECTS TO DATE:

February 7
June 6-7
July 18
September 12
September 26

Gyro Day
Greek Festival
Gyro Feast
Yard Sale
Fashion Show

October 3 Chicken Dinners To-go

November 20-21 Joint Philoptochos/PC Fundraiser

December 6 Car Raffle

SMALL GROUPS OR "PAREAS" ARE THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF OUR CHURCH

Father Stavroforos encouraged everyone present at the general assembly to get the following message to all those who did not attend the gathering. He encouraged everyone to have impromptu gatherings to create a parea of friends from the Church. The activity, and who makes up the group, is up to the individual(s) that are hosting or putting it together. Activities can range from a get together at someone's home, to going out to a restaurant, or sharing in some fun activities.

He stressed that we should remember that our church was built by small groups that wanted to see a thriving Greek Orthodox Community in Durham and it happened. In many ways we are still in our infancy now that we have moved to the Southpoint area. We need the effectiveness of active small groups to make our Saint Barbara Community not just merely survive, but to flourish in our new surroundings,

Father applauded the parish council for being open to new ideas, and new involvements. He thanked them for this means of generating the spirit of growth and enthusiasm amongst our parishioners. It is hoped that you put your efforts in creating these solid bonds within your PAREA to make our community stronger. You are the brick and mortar of our church. Enclosed you will find an idea sheet that can be used with your parea group as a means of providing us with your ideas and plans for a fund raiser. Thanks to your efforts our Church will continue to grow and prosper for Christ and His Community.

St. BARBARA GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Building Fund Fundraiser from Your Parea

Name of Event:	_
Date and Time:	
Persons Sponsoring Event:	-
Number of Volunteers for Event:	-
Space and Equipment Needs:	
Brief Description of Event:	
Promotion of Event:	
@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@	
Event Gross Income:	
Event Expenses:	-
Profit form Event:	_
Comments:	-
	-
	-

(Please return your completed forms to our President, Dr. Peter Marinos, or to Father Stavroforos.)

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Saint Barbara's "Dress for Success" clothing drive ended March 2015....anyone wishing to make individual donations during the course of the year can call the office of "Dress for Success" at 919-286-2125 at Northgate Mall for driving directions and location-currently, clothing is accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10 am and 2 pm. Laurie Ferris, chairperson of "Dress for Success" clothing drive

Thoir Practice

Our next rehearsal will be after church on Sunday, May 24th, to work on the music for Pentecost which is the following Sunday. Even though we know most of the music, we have not sung it in a year and could use some review. Plan to come back into the church after getting coffee/snacks at the coffee hour.

Again...... Rehearsal: Sunday, May 24th, after church
Music for Pentecost

Sunday, May 24th,....40 Day Memorial for Elena Panov's mother....Choir Rehearsal after church Sunday, May 31st..... Pentecost



Blanket Making Saturday May 29th Hi All- due to Memorial Day weekend and limited availability of many ladies, I have canceled the May 23rd Saturdays blanket workshop. I am sorry for any inconvenience this may cause. Be assured that I will reschedule a Saturday after the festival TBA. In the meantime I am considering scheduling a weekday afternoon in my home to make up (I would like to try for Monday May 29 from 2-4) with perhaps a glass of wine towards the end:) Please let me know of your availability. Thank You. Catherine Mariakakis

The Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council

The seventh Sunday after the Feast of Holy Pascha is observed by the Orthodox Church as the Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. This day commemorates the 318 God-bearing Fathers who gathered in Nicaea in 325 at the request of the Emperor, Saint Constantine the Great, to address the heresy of Arianism together with other issues that concerned the unity of the Church, Arius was a protopresbyter of the Church of Alexandria, and in 315, he began to blaspheme against the Son of God saying that He was not the true God, consubstantial with the Father, but rather a work or creation of God and different from the essence and glory of the Father. He also taught that the Son of God had a beginning. These teachings shook the faithful at Alexandria. The Bishop of Alexandria, Alexander, attempted to correct Arius through admonitions, cut him off from communion, and finally deposed him in 321 through a local council. Arius continued with his heretical teachings, creating controversy and division in the churches of other cities, which led to a theological and ecclesiastical crisis throughout the Christian Church. Moved with divine zeal and concern for unity, the Emperor Constantine the Great, equal to the Apostles, summoned the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, a city of Bithynia. It was in this place that the bishops of the Church gathered in 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. The Fathers composed the holy symbol of Faith, the Nicene Creed: "We believe in one God. The Father Almighty. Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only begotten, begotten of the Father before all ages. Light of Light; true God of true God; begotten not made; of one essence with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man. And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, and suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end." The Fathers also anathematized Arius for his heretical beliefs and teachings, cutting him off from the Church. Recognizing the divine Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council 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.

Next Sunday May 31st is Pentecost: We Commemorate The Descent of the Holy Spirit

In the Old Testament **Pentecost** was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As theassover feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the ten commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai.

In the new covenant of the Messiah, the passover event takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection, the "exodus" of men from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. And in the New Testament as well, the pentecostal feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the "new law," **the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ.**

When the day of Pentecost had come they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed as resting upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy

Spirit... (Acts 2:1-4).



The Holy Spirit that Christ had promised to his disciples came on the day of Pentecost (*Jn 14:26, 15:26; Lk 24:49; Acts 1:5*). The apostles received "the power from on high," and they began to preach and bear witness to Jesus as the risen Christ, the King and the Lord. This moment has traditionally been called the birthday of the Church.

In the liturgical services of the feast of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit is celebrated together with the full revelation of the divine Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The fulness of the Godhead is manifested with the Spirit's coming to man, and the Church hymns celebrate this manifestation as the final act of God's self-disclosure and self-donation to the world of His creation. For this reason Pentecost Sunday is also called **Trinity Day** in the Orthodox tradition. Often on this day the **icon of the Holy Trinity**—particularly that of the three angelic figures who appeared to Abraham, the forefather of the Christian faith - is placed in the center of the church. This icon is used with the traditional

pentecostal icon which shows the tongues of fire hovering over Mary and the Twelve Apostles, the original prototype of the Church, who are themselves sitting in unity surrounding a symbolic image of "cosmos," the world.

On Pentecost we have the final fulfillment of the mission of Jesus Christ and the first beginning of the messianic age of the Kingdom of God mystically present in this world in the Church of the Messiah. For this reason the **fiftieth day** stands as the beginning of the era which is beyond the limitations of this world, fifty being that number which stands for eternal and heavenly fulfillment in Jewish and Christian mystical piety: seven times seven, plus one.

Thus, Pentecost is called an apocalyptic day, which means the day of **final revelation**. It is also called an **eschatological** day, which means the day of the **final and perfect end** (in Greek *eschaton*> means the end). For when the Messiah comes and the Lord's Day is at hand, the "last days" are inaugurated in which "God declares:... I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." This is the ancient prophecy to which the Apostle Peter refers in the first sermon of the Christian Church which was preached on the first Sunday of Pentecost (*Acts 2: 1 7; Joel 2: 28-32*).

Once again it must be noted that the feast of Pentecost is not simply the celebration of an event which took place centuries ago. It is the celebration of what must happen and does happen to us in the Church today. We all have died and risen with the Messiah-King, and we all have received his Most Holy Spirit. We are the "temples of the Holy Spirit." God's Spirit dwells in us (*Rom 8; 1 Cor 2-3, 12; 2 Cor 3; Gal 5; Eph 2-3*). We, by our own membership in the Church, have received "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit" in the sacrament of chrismation. Pentecost has happened to us.

The **Divine Liturgy of Pentecost** recalls our baptism into Christ with the verse from Galatians again replacing the Thrice-Holy Hymn. Special verses from the psalms also replace the usual antiphonal psalms of the liturgy. The epistle and gospel readings tell of the Spirit's coming to men. The kontakion sings of the reversal of Babel as God unites the nations into the unity of his Spirit. The troparion proclaims the gathering of the whole universe into God's net through the work of the inspired apostles. The hymns 0 Heavenly King and We have seen the True Light are sung for the first time since Easter, calling the Holy Spirit to "come and abide in us", and proclaiming that "we have received the heavenly Spirit." The church building is decorated with flowers and the green leaves of the summer to show that God's divine Breath comes to renew all creation as the "lifeÃ,,creating Spirit." In Hebrew the word for Spirit, breath and wind is the same word, **ruah**.

Blessed art Thou, O Christ our God, who hast revealed the fishermen as most wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit: through them Thou didst draw the world into Thy net. O Lover of Man, Glory to Thee (Troparion).

When the Most High came down and confused the tongues, he divided the nations. But when he distributed the tongues of fire, he called all to unity. Therefore, with one voice, we glorify the All-Holy Spirit! (Kontakion)

The service for Pentecost features three long prayers at which the faithful kneel for the first time since Easter.