

## SS Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

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Reverend Father Matthew Conjelko

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<http://www.sspeterandpaulorthodoxchurch.org/>

Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council/Martyrs Eulamius and Eulampia

Sunday October 23, 2016

2 Cor. 9:6-11 and Hebr. 13:7-16, Luke 7:11 -16 and John 17:1-13

Tropar and Kondak Tone 1 and page 114-115

We are having our Turkey dinner at the church today from 11:30 -1:30. All help is needed and greatly appreciated.

“The means to confirm and strengthen Christian hope are prayer, especially frequent and sincere prayer, confession of our sins, frequent reading of the Word of God; and above all, frequent communion of the holy and life giving Sacraments of the Body and Blood of Christ.”

St. John of Kronstadt

### Orthodox Practice – 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council

Concerning the doctrinal significance of icons

Icons are necessary and essential because they protect the full and proper doctrine of the Incarnation. While God cannot be represented in His eternal nature ("...no man has seen God", [John](#) 1:18), He can be depicted simply because He "became human and took flesh." Of Him who took a material body, material images can be made. In so taking a material body, God proved that matter can be redeemed. He deified matter, making it spirit-bearing, and so if flesh can be a medium for the Spirit, so can wood or paint, although in a different fashion.

*I do not worship matter, but the Creator of matter, who for my sake became material and deigned to dwell in matter, who through matter effected my salvation...* —**St. John of Damascus**

The seventh and last Ecumenical Council upheld the iconodules' position in AD 787. They proclaimed: *Icons... are to be kept in churches and honored with the same relative veneration as is shown to other material symbols, such as the 'precious and life-giving [Cross](#)' and the Book of the Gospels.* The 'doctrine of icons' is tied to the Orthodox teaching that all of God's creation is to be redeemed and glorified, both spiritual and material.

Birthdays – Charlie Urchek 10/29

“Which of the things in our present life seem to you pleasant? A sumptuous table and health of body, and glory and wealth? Nothing is more pleasurable than a sound conscience and a good hope.”

St. John Chrysostom

### Upcoming Events

**Church Council Meeting – October 30th**

**Chinese Auction – November 13th. Please see Rebecca for tickets, \$5. Please bring in baskets and table items starting on the 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**November – We will have an All Church Meeting in November 20 to review: Sobor decisions, Church finances, proposal for eliminating carpeting in the altar area, Stewardship... Everyone should plan to attend.**

Sobor, OCMC, and Stewardship materials are on the back table. Please make sure you review them.

Please see the OCF Real Break information downstairs.

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org> Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>  
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