

**PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY**  
**(Pokrov)**

May 29th

5 2nd Street  
Herminie, PA 15637  
<http://pokrov.iksnazul.com/>

Cantor  
Joseph Luzanski

Liturgical Schedule

Divine Liturgy

Sunday: 8:30 am  
Holyday: TBD

Confessions

One half hour before  
the divine liturgy or  
by appointment

Served By

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Let us pray to the Lord for those departed in  
FAITH: the 5th ALL SOULS SATURDAY

The 5th and last Saturday is celebrated on the  
last day of the Season of Pentecostarion (50-  
days), so that our departed loved ones are in  
some way associated with the Resurrection of  
Christ, the cause and first fruit of the  
resurrection of all flesh and the coming GIFT of  
the Holy Spirit the source of eternal  
blessedness, because œall souls are enlivened  
through the Holy Spirit.

The most basic and saving truths about the All  
Souls Saturdays: 1. The world does not end in  
whatever we see and count, but also extends in  
the space of the spirit, which also exists,  
coexists together with us. In this place the souls  
of our departed beloved are encamped. 2. The  
Church is a continuous intercommunion between  
those of its members that are still struggling on  
earth and those that have already slept in the  
Lord. We are communion of Saints: Church  
militant, suffering and triumphant. 3. In the  
midst of the struggle of daily life we must  
remember the natural end of every effort, which  
is rest in the Lord, since there is nothing more

Festal Tone

Menologion

St. Theodosia, venerable-Virgin-Martyr of  
Tyre, who, on seeing some martyrs led to  
their execution, asked them to pray for her.  
She was seized, tried, tortured, and cast into  
the sea A.D. 308, in the reign of Constantius  
and Galerius, Emperors.

June

Fasts & Feasts

04 Fifth All-Souls Saturday  
05 Pentecost - Descent of the Holy Spirit 6  
Pentecost Monday: Feast of the Holy Trinity  
12 All Saints Sunday  
12-29 The Apostles Fast (The fast begins  
with the vespers on Sunday evening and  
concludes on 29th)  
24 Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet,  
Forerunner and Baptist John  
29 The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders  
of the Apostles, Peter & Paul

Be lifted up! - The ascension of Christ is our  
elevation. Hope for the body is also invited  
where the glory of the Head precedes us. Let us  
exult, dearly beloved, with worthy joy and be  
glad with a holy thanksgiving. Today we not only  
are established as possessors of paradise, but  
we have even penetrated the heights of the  
heavens in Christ. (St Leo the Great, Sermon 73)

**Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus  
Christ! Glory forever!**

certain than death and nothing more uncertain  
than the hour of death.

Sunday of the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council This is the first Sunday after the Feast of the Ascension. The services of Vespers, Matins, and the Divine Liturgy include hymns of both the Ascension and in commemoration of the Father.

The First Ecumenical Council was held in 325 AD at Nicaea, outside of Constantinople. It was summoned by Emperor Constantine the Great to settle the Arian heresy, which denies the full divinity of Jesus Christ. The heresy was tearing through the Church, and proved popular with bishops but not among the laity.

This Council wrote the famous Nicene Creed, recited at every Divine Liturgy, which gloriously affirms the divinity and humanity of Jesus, and so our salvation through His Passion, Death and Resurrection.

The Fathers of the Council defined the relationship between the Father and the Son as "of one substance." It also affirmed the Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit were listed as three co-equal and co-eternal Persons.

A priest named Arius presented his argument that Jesus Christ was not an eternal being, that He was created at a certain point in time by the Father. The Bishops at Nicaea voted to make the full deity of Christ the accepted position of the church. They upheld the doctrine of Christ's true divinity, rejecting Arius' heresy. The council did not invent this doctrine. Rather, it only recognized what the Bible already

taught. The New Testament teaches that Jesus the Messiah should be worshiped, which is to say He is co-equal with God.

The New Testament forbids the worship of angels but commands worship of Jesus. The apostle Paul tells us that "in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form". Paul declares Jesus as Lord and the One to whom a person must pray for salvation. "Jesus is God overall" and our God and Savior. Faith in Jesus' deity is basic to Paul's theology. John's Gospel declares Jesus to be the divine, eternal Logos, the agent of creation and source of life and light the Way, the Truth, and the Life our advocate with the Father the Sovereign and the Son of God from the beginning to the end . The author of Hebrews reveals the deity of Jesus through His perfection as the most high priest.

The divine human Savior is the Christian's object of faith, hope, and love. The Council of Nicaea affirmed the apostles' teaching of who Christ is —the one true God and the Second Person of the Trinity, with the Father and the Holy Spirit. The Council also issued decrees on the consecration of bishops, regulations for bishops and diocesan clergy, forbidding clerics from loaning money at interest, establishment of rules for catechumens, condemnation of other heresies, forbidding kneeling from Easter until Pentecost, and confirmed the importance of Alexandria in Egypt and Jerusalem in Palestine.

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This is the first known occasion of a papal ambassador, who came to represent Pope St Sylvester I. The Vatican diplomatic corps is the oldest one in the world. All ecumenical councils need the confirmation of Rome which is why the East stopped holding councils after the split of 1054. Icons depicting the Council usually show Constantine wearing a crown, surrounded by bishops. Jesus is enthroned in the middle or above the assembly. Arius is shown defeated at the base of the icon, cowering before the majesty of Christ. He is usually shown wearing a turban, a later reference to Islam, which denies Jesus divinity to this day. An unfortunate element in this council was that it was summoned by the state, and the emperor actually participated in debates. This led to an Eastern view allowing for a king or emperor having the ability to interfere in church life. Even in Muslim Turkey today, the president interferes in the life of the Armenian and Greek Churches. For Catholics, the Church must be independent of the State, and the internal life of the Church is for her alone to rule on. Otherwise, secular power will try to force the Church to support its goals. We see how this could be disastrous with the rapid rise of leftist secularism in western countries.

### **Reminder:**

There is a list for Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Lamp intentions in the vestibule of the church.

The foolish Arius divided the unity of the Holy Trinity into three different and unequal substances. But the God-bearing Fathers came together in Council. Burning with the zeal of Elijah the Tishbite and with the sword of the Holy Spirit, they cut down these shameful blasphemies; for they were directed by the Spirit. Let us honor today those mystical trumpets of the Spirit, namely, the God-mantled Fathers, who speaking of divine things, sang in the midst of the Church a hymn in unison, teaching that the Trinity is one, not differing in substance or Godhead, refuting Arius and defending the true faith. They always intercede with the Lord to have mercy on our souls. (From Festal Matins)

