



St. Nicholas

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JACOBS CREEK, PA.

Orthodox Church

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October 15, 2017

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Commemoration of Holy Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council (787 A.D.)



Remember in prayer Frank Lomago,
a patient at Montefiore Hospital.

No services in Jacobs Creek next
Saturday.

Homeless lunches We will be making
box lunches for the poor and homeless
of Pittsburgh on Saturday at 9 a.m.

We also need your help in cleaning
the church which has not been done in
several months.

Anniversary The 5th anniversary of
our Bishop Gregory will be celebrated
on Monday, November 27 with a dinner
at the Holiday Inn in Johnstown. Cost
for the dinner is \$50. If you would like
to attend, see Father Ed.

Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council

Today we commemorate the holy bishops who gathered in a world-wide (ecumenical) council in 787 A.D. They gathered to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit in resolving disputes that had arisen over Christian beliefs and practice.

When differences of opinion arise on questions of faith, where do we go for answers?

The Roman Catholic opinion is: the Pope of Rome is the infallible representative of Jesus on earth and he decides these questions.

The Protestant opinion is: our church is based on the Bible – we turn to it to guide us. Unfortunately, everyone has their own interpretation of what the Bible means which has led to 20,000 Protestant Churches teaching different things but all claiming to be Bible-based.

The Orthodox opinion is: we follow the example of the Apostles. In the Book of Acts, chapter 15 there was a dispute in the early Church on how to receive Jewish converts to the Faith. The Apostles met in council to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit as they answered this question.

Our Church follows this same pattern today – the Bishops – successors of the Apostles meet in Council to resolve questions that deal with issues of faith and practice.

In 787 A.D. the dispute was: can icons properly be used in worship or does this violate the Second Commandment? Guided by the Spirit these Holy Fathers determined that since God took on human form he can be depicted in icons. They also taught that the honor given to an icon is not to wood and paint but to the person depicted.

Christmas candy order forms are now available in the vestibule. Help support our youth camping program!

Thank You

...to all who helped at last week's Rummage Sale: those who donated items, set up the sale, cooked, worked and cleaned up! A profit of approximately \$1,000 was realized.

