

Authority of the Council - Authority of the Church

The authority of the Councils is based also on their ecclesiological grounding. A council is not an independent, autonomous body, additional, coming from outside, acting unilaterally. It is not the product of accidental circumstances in history and imposed afterwards. It is closely, or rather organically, related with the very essence of the Church. This body of Christ is a living organism, destined to grow, to face difficulties during this process, to be implanted in other regions of the world needing inculturation and a certain adaptation.

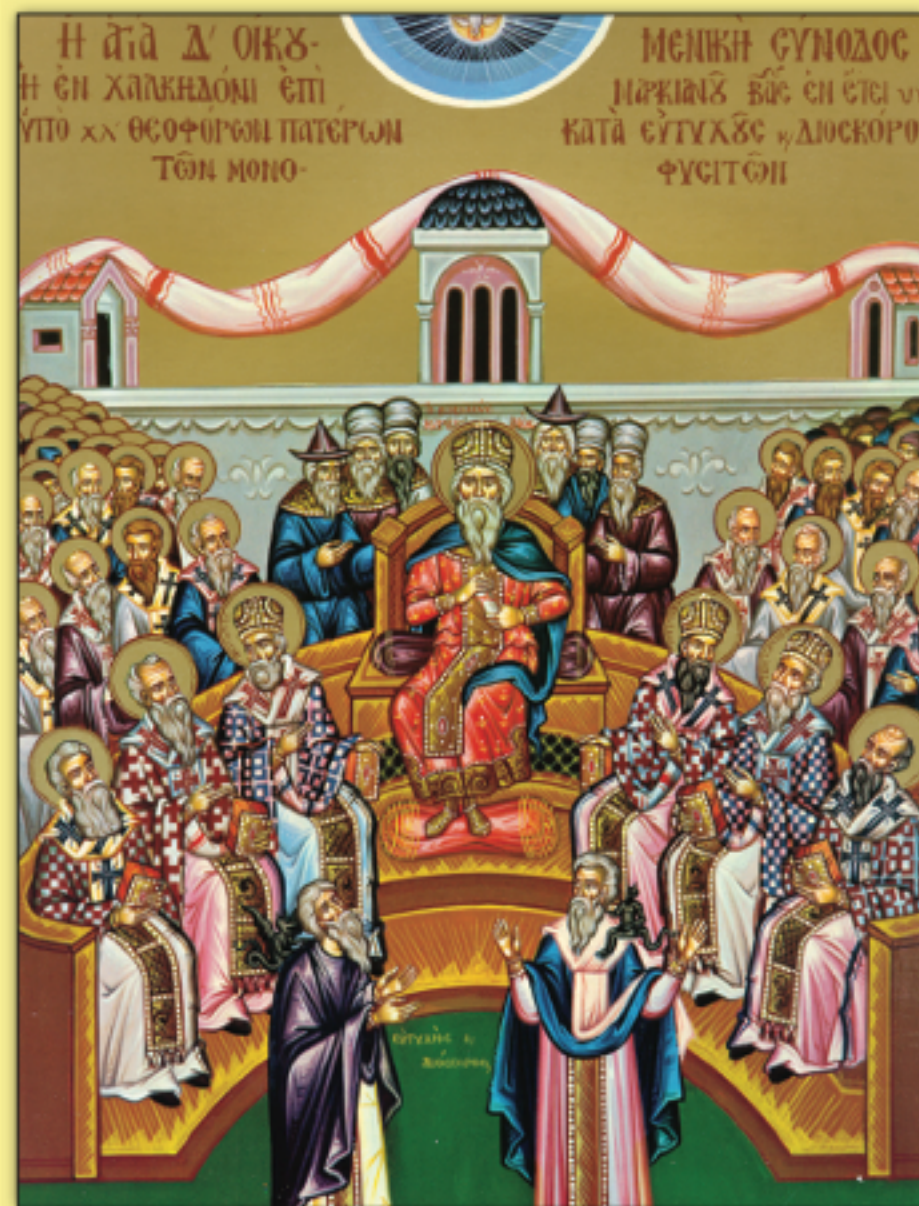
Such embodiment and multifaceted ministry creates problems, tensions, even divisions and in spite of the good will of the local

bishop and pastors, the convocation of as a major assembly is considered as a natural instrument, salutary and indispensable.

The official voice of the catholicity and the koinonia of all the other sister churches, in harmony and guided by the Spirit, would only provide the new assessments, possible remedies and solutions. The functioning of such a council was such that the opinions and requests at issue found expression from the very womb of the Church. Once the decision was made, the people had a part in receiving it and publicizing it (Acts 15:22) as is seen in the first assembly of Jerusalem.

Metropolitan Emilianos

SUNDAY OF THE FATHERS OF THE FIRST SIX ECUMENICAL COUNCILS



Icon of the Holy Fathers



Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Parish

14610 S. Will-Cook Road Homer Glen, IL 60491

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Pastor: Fr. Thomas J. Loya, STB, MA

Deacon: J. Timothy Tkach

July 19, 2026

Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils Schedule of Services

Sunday	19	<u>Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners
Monday	20	<u>Feast of St. Elijah the Great Prophet</u> 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Bonny Adamowski by Xara Bogal <i>Blessing of vehicles, Immediately following Divine Liturgy</i>
Thursday	23	7:00 PM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Kim Schmidt by Mark & Susan Northrop
Saturday	25	<u>Dormition of St. Anne</u> 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Laura Tackett by Annmarie Mastro 5:00 PM Vespers
Sunday	26	<u>9th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 9:00 AM Matins 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy - Health & Salvation of Parishioners

We pray for the sick and homebound of our parish, especially:

Dot Wochok	Mary Ann Baran	Mary Ann Horne	Gary Dorencz
Michele Lewis	Kim Hughes	Joel Super	Fran Zeimet
Michael Sheedy	Bonnie Hughes-wc	Lea Popek - wc	Claire Resuta - wc
Abbie Sheedy - wc			

Annunciation of the Mother of God Byzantine Catholic Parish

In all decisions regarding parish membership and Sacramental life, the pastor exercises the final decision and the confidentiality of the persons involved must be respected.

Parish Membership is determined by three things:

1. Being registered in the parish for a sufficient amount of time
2. Faithful and consistent participation in the liturgical life of the parish especially on Sundays and Holy days.
3. Regular financial support of the parish. Use of offertory envelopes by parish members is required for weekly donations

The Sacred Mysteries of Baptism, Chrismation and Matrimony are available only to those persons who comply with the above requirements of parish membership.

A Biblically based stewardship is part of the vision of Annunciation parish. Parishioners are encouraged to practicing tithing and also to consider Annunciation parish in planned giving such as trust funds, etc.

Couples who are planning to be married at Annunciation parish must be free to be married in the Church and must contact the pastor at least six months prior to their proposed wedding date. Persons applying for annulments of a previous marriage should not set a Church wedding date unless their annulment has been granted.

Couples who are cohabitating or involved in same sex civil unions or so-called same sex "marriages," as well as couples who are contracepting are asked to seek the pastor's help in understanding the Church's teaching and in conforming their lives to the moral teaching of the Church. Such persons **cannot receive Holy Communion** until their lives are reconciled with the Church.

Parish members entering the hospital or who are home-bound should contact the pastor or parish business office.

Prior to undergoing surgery or going under anesthesia parish members should contact the pastor.

No eulogies or public addresses by laity are permitted during funeral services.

Cremation is permitted but not encouraged. Ashes are not permitted in the church. Funeral services with the body of the deceased in the church must take place prior to cremation. Ashes are to be buried according to the burial rite of the Church. Ashes cannot be scattered or kept in homes.

Appropriate behavior and dress are required for all liturgical services. No audible conversations, or waving across the church. Electronic devices must be turned off. No food, candy, or gum chewing. Dress code is formal and modest for all services.

Abstinence from meat is to be observed every Friday. If this is not possible an equivalent penitential practice is to be observed.

Greater Love: The Tom Vander Woude Story
Wednesday, July 29th
Following the 7PM Mass
St. James at Sag Bridge
Lemont, IL



COME HEAR THE INSPIRING STORY OF HOW A HUSBAND AND FATHER FROM VIRGINIA, TOM VANDER WOUDE, WHOSE CAUSE FOR CANONIZATION IS BEING CONSIDERED, CROWNED A LIFETIME OF FAITH BY LAYING DOWN HIS LIFE TO SAVE HIS YOUNGEST SON.



Annunciation Parish Picnic Sunday, August 23rd

Enjoy a fun afternoon with family and friends following Divine Liturgy. We will have food, music, games and a Giant dual lane Slip & Slide! Get ready to have some fun and get a little wet!



A Mary's Helpers Route 66 Road Trip

Monday, August 3rd - 10:15AM

Join Mary's Helpers for another fun, historic, (local) road trip along Route 66 to celebrate its 100th Anniversary.

This trip will begin with a visit to the Route 66 Museum in Joliet and then continue down Route 66 stopping to see the iconic Gemini Giant and enjoying a fun lunch at the Polk-a-Dot Drive In. Finally, enjoy a cool treat at Rich and Creamy before heading back to church.



See the sign up sheet in the narthex or talk to Georgia about joining them on this fun road trip. Don't worry, you will be home before street lights come on.



THEOLOGY ON TAP

7 PM - DOORS OPEN
7:15 PM - TALK BEGINS



Monday, July 27
Daily Work as Daily Holiness
Fr. Dan Korenchan



Monday, August 3
Dating, Relationships, and Theology of the Body
Fr. Thomas Loya



Monday, August 10th
Magnificent Humanity: How the Incarnation Makes Us Truly Human
Fr. Greg Alberts



invite young adults
ages 18-40 to:

COOM'S CORNER
1225 E. 9TH STREET
LOCKPORT, IL

Questions? Contact:
angela.labanca3@gmail.com

National NFP (Natural Family Planning) Awareness Week - July 19-25, 2026

On July 25, 1968, St. Pope Paul VI came out with one of the most pivotal papal encyclicals of the modern age, “Humane Vitae” (“Of Human Life.”) The encyclical articulated the Catholic Church’s teaching on the true sacramental meaning of the one flesh union between a husband and a wife and how the use of artificial birth control would not only harm that union but lead to catastrophic consequences for humanity as a whole. In the encyclical Pope Paul prophesied four dire consequences that could come true if the world, especially Catholics, went down the path of the contraceptive worldview. Indeed, 54 years later, every prediction has come true to the last detail.

Contraception is not just about an artificial way to prevent the conception of a child. It is an entire worldview. It is about anything that we approach in a way that is dishonest to its integrity, to God’s design and to what something actually is. Contraception is about doing something but not really doing it, calling something by a certain term but that term is not what that particular thing really is.

Not only do most Catholics today practice artificial birth control, but in many ways we have become a contraceptive culture: artificial colors, artificial sweeteners, artificial turf, “Lite” beer, decaf coffee, “fake news,” ‘crab meat’ at the grocery store that really is not crab meat, fish sticks instead of a piece of real fish, genetically modified foods, “virtual reality,” and now artificial intelligence. Contraception is about telling a lie. To introduce a lie into the intimacy of the one flesh union between a husband and wife is to introduce something destructive to the relationship and with consequences for the entire world.

Knowing that the world, and even many Catholics, would not understand and accept the message in Humane Vitae, St. Pope Paul VI gave a little key to understanding this teaching with the use of a section heading: “Total Vision of Man.”

He said that we must understand both the natural and supernatural vocation of the human person. In other words, we have to understand the mystical meaning, which is the real meaning, of our humanness and our sexuality.

It is in the very ‘language’ of the body during the one flesh union between husband and wife that a reciprocal personal gift of self is being offered that is free, full, faithful and fruitful. By its very nature, its very integrity, the one flesh union between husband and wife is at the same time unitive and procreative. It is precisely through the one flesh union of husband and wife that a couple engages in the ultimate vocation of the human person: to form a union and communion of persons in love. In other words, to participate in the interior life of the Holy Trinity and to love as God loves, as God loves his own bride—his creation come to it fullness in the Church. Artificial contraception introduces a dishonesty into this act between husband and wife because although in their bodies the husband and wife are saying they are making a full, personal gift of self to one another, through contraception they are withholding parts of their gift—their potential for fertility. This “violation” of the integrity of the gift is what Pope St. John Paul II said “constitutes the essential evil of the contraceptive act.”

At the same time, Humane Vitae talks about responsible parenthood. The Church is not saying that wives should be constantly pregnant. If for grave reasons there is a need to space births, the Church advises couples to take into account the natural rhythms of fertile and infertile times of the woman’s generative cycle. However, this should not be used as some would say as, “Catholic birth control.”

Nowadays there are ample resources giving instruction on how to effectively discern these times of fertility and infertility. A couple can contact their local diocese which generally offers instruction and literature in this area. One thing that is consistently true: Couples who follow the Church’s teachings on Natural Family planning have closer, holier and longer lasting marriages.

Fulton Sheen
America's Saint.



AMERICA'S SAINT CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 23, 2026

A full day dedicated to faith, formation, mission, and evangelization.

Think Like Sheen.
Pray Like Sheen.
Suffer Like Sheen.
Love Like Sheen.

*Not simply to celebrate Fulton Sheen,
but to form a new generation
of Sheen disciples.*

FULTONSHEENCONFERENCE.COM **SEPT 23-24, 2026**

Join the Fulton Sheen Movement for a full day conference on Sept 23rd at the Hilton in St Louis. The conference will include many well known catholic speakers including our very own, Fr Tom. If you sign up for the conference and book a room at the Hilton, you will also receive a ticket and transportation to and from the Beatification Mass on Thur, Sept 24th.

For more information, go to fultonsheenconference.com

The Feast of Elijah - Great Prophet

July 20th

Saint Elijah, also known as the Prophet Elijah, is one of the most well-known figures in the Old Testament.

Born in Tishbe, a town in Gilead, Elijah lived during the 9th century BC in the northern kingdom of Israel.

He is known for his fervent faith in God and his unwavering commitment to prophesying against the corrupt kings of Israel, especially King Ahab and his wife Jezebel, who worshiped the false god Baal. Elijah performed many miracles during his lifetime, including bringing a boy back to life, multiplying food, and calling down fire from heaven to consume a sacrifice.

One of the most famous events in Elijah's life was his challenge to the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. In a dramatic display of God's power, Elijah asked for God to send fire from heaven to consume his sacrifice, which was drenched in water. God answered his prayer, and the people of Israel were convinced of the power of the one true God.

His life was not without its challenges, however. He experienced periods of intense loneliness and despair, and was once forced to flee into the wilderness to escape Jezebel's wrath. It was during this time that he had a mystical encounter with God, who spoke to him a still, small voice.

Elijah's life came to an end when he was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind, accompanied by a chariot of fire. Elijah has been venerated as a saint since ancient times and his legacy has endured for centuries. His story has inspired countless works of art and literature. He is known for his passionate faith, his unwavering commitment to God's truth, and his profound humility.

In the Byzantine Church we bless cars on his feast day as a commemoration to the fiery chariot that took him up into Heaven.

