31/05/2020

Sunday Sermon by His Eminence Archbishop Serafim Kykotis (May 31, 2020)



This Sunday’s is dedicated to the holy memory of the 318 God-bearing Fathers of the Church who participated in the 1st Ecumenical Council of Nicaea in 325 A.D., in order to verify the basic teachings of our Church, which are linked to our salvation through Christ. These basic principles are emphasised from the first articles of our Symbol of faith, the well known “I believe ….” which we Christians continue to repeat even today in fear of God, to emphasize our faith to God the Father as the Creator of the World and to Jesus Christ as His only begotten Son who came to this world to save us from sin and death and to direct us to Paradise.

In the first Ecumenical Council of Nicaea with the Creed of faith, the heretical teaching of Arius was condemned as was that of his followers who rejected the Divine nature of the Son and Word of God, saying with much disrespect that there was a time when Christ was not God and consequently that He was something that was made, that is one of God’s creations.

The followers of the heretical Arius successfully managed to influence the political

authority of the time and to rule in the East in different ways. In stages however, the followers and believers of Arius began to disagree and consequently they dispersed into various heretical sects.

The unity of the church is connected by the one common faith of her members with the one holy Baptism in which all who become Christians are baptized and with which the faithful are joined to one body completely with the Church.

Saint John Chrysostomos tells us that “when all believe in the same way, then there is unity.” Hence every deviation of the Christian from the exactness of the faith creates a division in the unity of the church.

Let us try therefore for the rest of our lives to be the light of Christ, which enlightens our path, all these great and heroic persons of the Goldbeating Church Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council. Their examples remind us of the great debt that we have as Christians to continue our spiritual struggle for our Orthodox faith. In this way, Christ’s existence will remain alive in the world so that we can have hope in our salvation through Christ and our entry into Paradise.

As we are in front of the threat of the Pandemic of corona virus , let’s carry on praying together our Lord Jesus Christ to protect all of us. Let’s follow the way of lives of the Christians of the first Christian community sharing and supporting each other and God will be with us to protect us. 44 “All who believed were together, and had all things in common” (Acts 2, 44). 32 The multitude of those who believed were of one heart and soul. Not one of them claimed that anything of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common” (Acts 4,32). When we give one thing, then God gives us everything.

Source