

## Saint Andrew Orthodox Church

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Very Rev. Archpriest (Andrew) Keith W. Lowe, M.Div

Locum

There were eight on the mountain, but only six were visible. Three, Peter, James and John, had come up with Jesus, and they saw Moses and Elias standing there and conversing with Him, so altogether there were six of them. However, the Father and the Holy Spirit were invisibly with the Lord: the Father, with His Voice testifying that this was His Beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit shining forth with Him in the radiant cloud. Thus, the six are actually eight, and there is no contradiction regarding the eight. Similarly, there is no contradiction with the Evangelists when one says "after six days," and the other says "eight days after these words."

But these twofold sayings as it were present is a certain format set in mystery, and together with it that of those actually present upon the Mount. It stands to reason, and everyone rationally studying in accordance with Scripture knows that the Evangelists are in agreement one with another. Luke spoke of eight days without contradicting Matthew, who declared "after six days." There is not another day added on to represent the day on which these sayings were uttered, nor is the day on which the Lord was transfigured added on (which a rational person might reasonably imagine to be added to the days of Matthew).

The Evangelist Luke does not say "after eight days" (like the Evangelist Matthew says "after six days"), but rather "it came to pass eight days after these words." But where the Evangelists seem to contradict one another, they actually point out to us something great and mysterious. In actual fact, why did the one say "after six days," but the other, in ignoring the seventh day, have in mind the eighth day? It is because the great vision of the Light of the Transfiguration of the Lord is the mystery of the Eighth Day, i.e., of the future age, coming to be revealed.

The power of the Divine Spirit, through Whom the Kingdom of God is to be revealed, the Lord predicted: "There are some standing here who shall not taste death, until they have seen the Son of Man coming in His Kingdom" (Mt.16:28). Everywhere and in every way the King will be present, and everywhere will be His Kingdom, since the advent of His Kingdom does not signify the passing over from one place to another, but rather the revelation of its power of the Divine Spirit. That is why it is said: "come in power." And this power is not manifest to simply ordinary people, but to those standing with the Lord, that is to say, those who have affirmed their faith in Him like Peter, James and John.



### August 4, 2019

#### 7 Sleepers of Ephesus

1st Sunday Church Charities/ 2nd Sunday Building Fund/3rd Sunday for the food bank

#### Times of Services

Aug	4	Sun	09:15	Bible Study
				10:00 AM Divine Liturgy & Celebration of Holy Transfiguration Blessing of the fruit
	11	Sun	09:15	Bible Study

Aug	11	Sun	09:15 AM	Bible Study
			10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	18	Sun	09:15 AM	Bible Study
				Feast of Dormition
			10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
				Blessing of the flowers
	25	Sun	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy
	29			Feast pf Beheading of St. John the Baptist

**Sisterhood of the Altar Meeting**

The sisterhood received the new blue cloths for the altar and they were delivered to Mary Rekich. And last Wednesday Mary had made up the new cloths and delivered them to the church.

Today we will bless them after divine liturgy

We purchased 20 metres (or 21.877 yards) of fabric costing \$537.80 and I believe that you will be happy with the colour of the material. It is a royal blue with gold matter.



**Bible Study or Adult Catechetical Class**

The parish Bible Study will began on Sunday July 28,. 2019, at 9:15 AM in the church and was lead my Mark Steward and attendance was successful.

The Bible that Mark will be using will be the Orthodox Study Bible in the church pews.

**Parish Council Meeting**

By mutual consent the parish council will not meet until after Labor Day, 2019. Should you have an concerns or questions please fee free to speak to the parish president, Mr. Jeffery Campbell or to the parish priest, Fr. Keith.

**SS Peter & Paul Golf Scramble**

The Ukrainian Golf Scramble will be held on August 17 at 10:00 AM, at Stoughton Acres Golf Course. The cost is \$55.00 and includes cart and green fees. For further information, please call Rose Raith at (724) 282 3191 or visit our web news page.

**Feast of transfiguration**

For an explanation of the present Feast and understanding of its truth, it is necessary for us to turn to the very start of today’s reading from the Gospel: “Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James and John his brother, and led them up onto a high mountain by themselves” (Mt.17:1).

First of all we must ask, from whence does the Evangelist Matthew begin to reckon with six days? From what sort of day is it? What does the preceding turn of speech indicate, where the Savior, in teaching His disciples, said to them: “For the Son of Man shall come with his angels in the glory of His Father,” and further: “Amen I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death, until they have seen the Son of Man coming in His Kingdom” (Mt.16:27-28)? That is to say, it is the Light of His own forthcoming Transfiguration which He terms the Glory of His Father and of His Kingdom.

The Evangelist Luke points this out and reveals this more clearly saying: “Now it came to pass about eight days after these words, that He took Peter and John and James, and went up the mountain to pray. And as He prayed, His countenance was altered, and His raiment became a radiant white” (Luke 9:28-29). But how can the two be reconciled, when one of them speaks definitively about the interval of time as being eight days between the sayings and the manifestation, whereas the other (says): “after six days?”