



**Joyful  
Pentecostarion**  
The Journey Continues  
amidst the Light of the Resurrection  
towards the Glory of the Last Times



■ † Sunday of the 318 Holy Fathers

**Faith makes up the heart of the Church  
and the essence of her confession\***

**A**rius began to deny the divinity of the Son of God and His consubstantiality with God the Father.

The entire Church rose up against him; all believers, from all ends of the earth, unanimously confessed that **the Lord Jesus Christ is the Only-Begotten Son of God, true God of true God; begotten, not made, of one essence with the Father.**



One might think that this enthusiasm for unity was by chance, but this faith was then tried by fire when the authorities and powerful of this world began to side with the Arians.

Neither fire, nor sword, nor persecution could extinguish this faith, and it was immediately found in every place among all the Christians, as soon as the pressure from external powers ceased. This means that **it makes up the heart of the Church and the essence of her confession.**

Glory be to the Lord, Who preserves this faith within us! For, as long as it exists, we are still Christians, even though we may not live as such. If faith ceases to exist, that would be the end of Christianity.



(\*) St. Theophan the Recluse, *Thoughts for Each Day of the Year According to the Daily Church Readings from the Word of God.*