

Holy Trinity Hellenic Orthodox Church

Lowell, Massachusetts

Rev. Fr. Nikolaos D. Pelekoudas, Presbyter

February 19, 2017

Judgement Sunday (Meatfare)

SUNDAY READINGS

Epistle Reading	I Corinthians 8:8-13; 9:1-2	Page 132
Gospel Reading	Matthew 25:31-46	Page 133
Creed		Pamphlet
The Lord's Prayer		Page 26
Communion Prayers (Before receiving)		Pages 29-30
Thanksgiving Prayers (After receiving)		Pages 33-34
Memorial Service		Page 164

Note: All are welcome to receive the Blessed Bread (Antidoron), but only practicing Orthodox Christians can receive Holy Communion.

Today's Calendar

- **A Spaghetti Luncheon will follow the Divine Liturgy.**
- **The Second Call for the General Assembly will take place after the Spaghetti Luncheon.**
- **Parish Council members on duty: Betty Themeles, Tina Themeles, Tom Themeles, Greg Curtis**

This Week

Saturday, February 25 – Second Saturday of Souls – 9:00 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

For Our Edification

Philoptochos Ladies Meeting

The Philoptochos Society will be conducting their first meeting of this year on Monday, March 6, 6:30 pm, in the Church hall.

Memorial Arrangements

When planning a Memorial, please call the office (978) 458-8092 at your earliest convenience so that the proper arrangements can be made.

Religious Education Classes

Fr. Nick is conducting Religious Education Classes on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 pm in the Church hall. All are invited to attend.

Don't Forget Your Dues

It is time once again to mail in your dues for the year 2017. Family membership is \$400, a single membership is \$300, and a membership for a student is \$200. On this year's dues invoice, an additional line has been added if you wish to make an additional stewardship donation.

Scholarships Available

The John C. Kulis Charitable Foundation is offering scholarships for the 2017-2018 academic year. You may email any questions or requests for eligibility information to info@kulisfoundation.org.

Meatfare Sunday

Today is called Meatfare Sunday because during the week following it, the Church prescribes a limited fasting – abstention from meat. The Church begins now to “adjust” us to the great effort, which she will expect from us seven days later. She gradually takes us into that effort – knowing our frailty, foreseeing our spiritual weakness.

If strict fasting is observed, this is the last day to eat meat until Easter. The reading for the day states that an individual will be judged in heaven according to the kindnesses shown to others on earth.

It is love that constitutes the theme of Meatfare Sunday. The Gospel lesson for the day is Christ's parable of The Last Judgment. When Christ comes to judge us, what will be the criterion of His judgment? The parable answers: Love – not a mere humanitarian concern for abstract justice and the anonymous “poor,” but concrete and personal love for the human person, any human person, that God makes us encounter in our lives.

Christian love is the ‘possible impossibility’ to see Christ in another man, whoever he is, and wherever we encounter him.

“Great Lent – Journey to Pascha” – Alexander Schmemmann