

Holy Trinity Hellenic Orthodox Church

Lowell, Massachusetts

Rev. Fr. Nikolaos D. Pelekoudas, Presbyter

July 15, 2018

Sunday of the Holy Fathers

SUNDAY READINGS

Epistle Reading	Titus 3:8-15	Page 152
Gospel Reading	Matthew 5:14-19	See below
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

- **Parish Council Members on duty: Athena Hayes, Charles Hondros, Paris Karahalios, George Pergakis**

For Our Edification

School Registration Ongoing

Registration for the Hellenic American Academy will be ongoing throughout the summer. Please call the school at (978) 453-5422.

Volunteers Needed for Folk Festival

The Lowell Folk Festival is fast approaching and volunteers are needed for both Saturday, July 28, and Sunday, July 29. Contact Joan Metropolis at (978) 996-3224 or metro0007@comcast.net if you can help in any way.

Holy Prophet Elias – July 20

Elias (Elijah) was a hero of faithfulness to God in Israel and a courageous prophet. Achab, seventh King of Israel (875-854 BC), influenced by his pagan wife Isabella, had forgotten the true God and returned to paganism. Elias approached him for his idolatry and killed the

priests of Baal. He fled to the mountains because of Isabella's anger. God appeared to him there, and a crow brought him bread for food. At the time of Josaphat, King of Israel (874-850 BC), Elias was taken up in a chariot of fire in the presence of his disciple Eliseus. The prophet Malachias had said: "Behold I will send you Elias the Prophet, before the coming and dreadful day of the Lord. And he shall turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the heart of the children to their fathers" (Mal.4:5). The prophet refers to the second coming of the Lord, at the end of the world.

Feast of St. Mary Magdalene – July 22

Mary, born in the village of Magdala on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, is the foremost model of love and repentance. She may have been the stricken woman from whom Jesus chased seven demons (Luke 8:2). She followed Jesus to the foot of the cross, brought spices to anoint His body, and was the first to witness and announce His Resurrection. She is considered to be Equal to the Apostles.

Feast of St. Marcella – July 22

Born in the 16th century, Marcella of Chios possessed great physical beauty, exceeded only by the purity of her spirit and sweet soul. Her father was an avowed agnostic, and became irritated by her complete devotion to Christ. One day, given over to complete madness, her father chased her in hot pursuit. While seeking a hiding place, Marcella fell between two rocks and became wedged between them. Her father killed his own child on the spot. An islander visited the fateful rocks where she died and discovered that water was flowing between them, where there had been none before, and that it contained miraculous powers of healing. The community then reassessed the piety of the beautiful Marcella and with the conviction that she was a true martyr, they erected a chapel as a shrine to her loving memory.

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 5:14-19

You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.