

Holy Trinity Hellenic Orthodox Church

Lowell, Massachusetts

Rev. Fr. Nikolaos D. Pelekoudas, Presbyter

July 29, 2018

Ninth Sunday of Matthew

SUNDAY READINGS

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| Epistle Reading | I Corinthians 3:9-17 | Page 77 |
| Gospel Reading | Matthew 14:22-34 | Page 78 |
| 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

- **Memorial: 40-day for Stavros "Steve" Neofotistos**
- **Be sure to visit the Holy Trinity Church food booth at the Lowell Folk Festival.**
- **Parish Council Members on duty: Tina Themeles, Tom Themeles, George Zaharoolis, Greg Curtis**

This Week

Wednesday, August 1 – Dormition fast begins.

Friday, August 3 – Paraklesis – 7:00 pm

For Our Edification

School Registration Ongoing

Registration for the Hellenic American Academy is taking place. Call the school at (978) 453-5422 for more information.

Save the Date

The AHEPA Hellas Chapter 102 Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, October 1, at Four Oaks Country Club in Dracut. For more information, you may contact Steve Michaelides at (978) 799-1579 or email StevenIPD@aol.com.

Fast of the Dormition of the Theotokos

During the first 15 days of August, known as "Dekapentavgousto," the Church encourages Orthodox Christians to observe a special fast period. The fast consists of abstaining from meat and dairy products for the first 14 days prior to the Feast of the Dormition on August 15.

Along with this fast, we also give extra attention to our spiritual life by going to confession and receiving Holy Communion. We try to curb our social activities and give extra time to cultivating our life in Christ. This can be done by: 1) Reading the Bible faithfully each day. 2) Reading spiritually edifying literature. 3) Doing works of charity. Our world is filled with people in need. Support someone in the way that God touches your heart. 4) Correcting ourselves in some way that will make us more Christ-like people.

What is a Paraklesis Service?

A Paraklesis is a supplicatory service addressed to the Mother of God. It is held for the purpose of invoking Divine help through the Mother of God in the case of physical or spiritual illness or in cases of other personal difficulties.

A Prayer to the Mother of God (Theotokos)

It is truly right to bless you, O God-bearing One,
As the ever-Blessed and most pure Mother of God.
You are honored more than Cherubim,
And you have more glory when compared to the Seraphim.
You are the Theotokos.
You do we magnify.
