

Holy Trinity Hellenic Orthodox Church

Lowell, Massachusetts

Rev. Fr. Nikolaos D. Pelekoudas, Presbyter

March 3, 2019

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

- **Memorial: 1-year for Alexander Pergakis; 37-year for John Pergakis; 38-year for John Christopher Pergakis**
- **A Spaghetti Luncheon at the Hellenic Cultural Center will follow the Divine Liturgy. Adults, \$15, Children, \$7.**
- **Family Day Snow Tubing – 3:00 pm – Nashoba Valley**
- **Parish Council members on duty: George Potamitis, Daniel Routsis, George Tgibides, Tom Themeles**

This Week

Monday, March 4 – Philoptochos Meeting – 6:00 pm

Saturday, March 9 - Second Saturday of Souls – 9:00 am Orthros; 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

For Our Edification

Donations Appreciated

The Philoptochos Winter Appeal for donations to the House of Hope was successful thanks to all of you who donated items such as shampoo, conditioner, paper napkins, baby bottles, diapers and wipes.

Lenten Vesper Schedule

The Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches has released the following schedule for Lenten Vespers: Sunday, March 17, 6:00 pm, Holy Trinity; Sunday, March 24, Great Vespers, Feast of the Annunciation, 6:00 pm, Holy Transfiguration; Sunday, March 31, 6:00 pm, St. George Antiochian Church; Sunday, April 7, 6:00 pm, St. George Greek Church; Sunday, April 14, 6:00 pm, Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

Lenten Vespers will be followed by a reception offered by the hosting parish.

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