

News from St. Nick's **Sunday August 14, 2022**

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

The Forefeast of the Dormition of the Mother of God

Apostolic Reading: [1 Corinthians 3: 9-17](#)

Gospel: [Matthew 14: 22-34](#)

"Jesus Walks on the Sea and Calms the Storm"

Tone 8 • Resurrection Gospel 9

[\(Click here for a PDF version of this week's news\)](#)

To see the monthly Calendar of Religious Services & Events, [Click Here.](#)

Troparion

In giving birth you preserved your virginity,
In falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos.
You were translated to life, O Mother of Life,
And by your prayers, you deliver our souls from death.

The Feast of the Dormition of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on August 15 each year. The Feast commemorates the repose (dormition and in the Greek *kimisis*) or "falling-asleep" of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Feast also commemorates the translation or assumption into heaven of the body of the Theotokos. The Holy Scriptures tell us that when our Lord was dying on the Cross, He saw His mother and His disciple John and said to the Virgin Mary, "Woman, behold your son!" and to John, "Behold your mother!" (John 19:25-27). From that hour, the Apostle took care of the Theotokos in his own home.

Along with the biblical reference in Acts 1:14 that confirms that the Virgin Mary was with the Holy Apostles on the day of Pentecost, the tradition of the Church holds that she remained in the home of the Apostle John in Jerusalem, continuing a ministry in word and deed.

At the time of her death, the disciples of our Lord who were preaching throughout the world returned to Jerusalem to see the Theotokos. Except for the Apostle Thomas, all of them including the Apostle Paul were gathered together at her bedside. At the moment of her death, Jesus Christ himself descended and carried her soul into heaven.

Following her repose, the body of the Theotokos was taken in procession and laid in a tomb near the Garden of Gethsemane. When the Apostle Thomas arrived three days after her repose and desired to see her body, the tomb was found to be empty. The bodily assumption of the Theotokos was confirmed by the message of an angel and by her appearance to the Apostles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARACLESIS - We will hold special Paraclesis services to entreat the Mother of God for her protection on **Wed., 8/10 and Fri., 8/12 at 6:30 p.m.**

CONFESSION - Fr. Vasile is available for confessions **before and after Paraclesis** and on **Saturday 8/13 from 10 am**, or at another time by appointment. In either case, **please call ahead: 508-320-0645.**

ST. MARY'S FEAST DAY VESPERS - **Sunday evening, 8/14 at 6:00 pm, St. Mary's, 535 Salisbury St. in Worcester**, will host Great Vespers for their Parish Feast Day, the **Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God.**

DORMITION LITURGY - We will hold **Divine Liturgy here at our Church on Monday, 8/15 - Matins @ 9, Liturgy @ 10** to celebrate the Feast.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT ~ With joy we offer our heartfelt congratulations to Gina and Rostic Kharchenko on the birth of their son, Constantine James. Constantine James was born on **July 30, 2022, weighing 6 lbs. 12 oz.** Gina is the daughter of Jim and Ann Trakadas, who are the proud grandparents of Constantine James. This is their first grandchild. We pray that God will bless their family and that in due time Constantine will receive the "laver of regeneration in Holy Baptism!"

TWO MORE COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - As we restructure coffee hour for the Fall, **2 more volunteers are needed to plan and organize coffee hour once per month.** We thank **Dina Salerno** and **Jenny Montvitt** for coming forward to serve the Church! If you would like to join them, please reach out to [Valarie Stamoulis](#) or [Betty Anderson](#) to volunteer!

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Here is the **Liturgical Schedule** for August:

Day	Date	Time	Service Type
AUGUST			
Wed	10-Aug	6:30	Paraclesis of the Mother of God. Confessions.
Friday	12-Aug	6:30	Paraclesis of the Mother of God. Confessions.
Saturday	13-Aug	10:00	Confessions. I will be available for confessions before and after Paraclesis and on Saturday from 10 am, or at another time by appointment. In either case, please call ahead: 508-320-0645
Sunday	14-Aug	9:00	Matins
		10:00	Sunday 9 after Pentecost
Sunday	14-Aug	6:00	Dormition Vespers - St. Mary's, Wednesday 6:00 pm
Monday	15-Aug	9:00	Matins
		10:00	Dormition
Sunday	21-Aug	9:00	Matins or Acatist
		10:00	Sunday 10 after Pentecost
Sunday	28-Aug	9:00	Matins
		10:00	Sunday 11 after Pentecost
Monday	29-Aug	9:00	Matins
		10:00	Beheading of Prophet and Baptist John
Wed	31-Aug	9:30	Divine Liturgy at "Holy Trinity" Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches of Central Massachusetts

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

An invitation went out to the leadership of each member parish of the Eastern Orthodox Council (Parish Priest, Parish Council President and Members) to a meeting to reinvigorate the Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches of Central Massachusetts. You are getting this letter because each of the twelve Orthodox Churches are constitutive members of the Council. Before we get to telling you a little history of the Council, we want you to keep these dates in mind. Due to lack of attendance a quorum was not achieved at the last General Meeting. The hope is to elect a slate of executive officers of: President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, via email, in order for a quorum to be achieved. **We are asking for**

nominations for these positions by Monday, August 29th with a subsequent election to be held via email which would take place from August 30th until September 21st. Please submit your nominations via e-mail to: easternorthodoxcouncil@gmail.com. Please remember to include your name, contact information, and the parish that you are a member of. The Council will send the nominees out via each parish's email list.

Now, for a little history. The Council was founded in the early 1950s. Initially by Churches in Worcester proper, but very quickly each of the twelve central Massachusetts Orthodox churches were incorporated. At the time, it was a ground-breaking organization, dedicated to helping to bring together all of the Orthodox jurisdiction in our area in projects of common purpose. Throughout the 1950s into the 1970s, the Council organized an annual Pan-Orthodox Liturgy on the Sunday of Orthodoxy, inviting a hierarch from one of our parish jurisdictions to be the prime celebrant. After a period of four or five years of dormancy, it was reinvigorated and began to take on even more ambitious projects. In addition to the Sunday of Orthodoxy celebration, a whole array of Lenten services, lectures and retreats were organized. The development of the Orthodox section at Hope Cemetery was realized. There was a weekly Sunday radio broadcast. The Orthodox Food Pantry began distributing food to those in need every Saturday, now for over thirty-five years. And of course, there's the Holy Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, founded by the Council through the hard work and selflessness of parishioners from each of the twelve churches, celebrating its twenty-seventh anniversary this year.

And while this history is impressive, it has presented us with a dilemma. Most people who are active in each of these important projects really don't know how they came to be. They took on, in many cases, lives of their own. Where the Council looked after each of these organizations and projects, as they grew into maturity, the "center" was uncared for. This is why we are writing to you, The "center", the Council needs your wonderful energy to make sure that these important projects continue, and even more can be organized. Again, here are the dates:

Nominations are due by August 29th and are to be emailed to easternorthodoxcouncil@gmail.com

Elections will take place electronically from August 30th – September 21st. Votes will be cast by emailing easternorthodoxcouncil@gmail.com with your name, church, and best contact information.

Sincerely,

Paul Swydan – Outgoing Council President

Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches c/o Holy
Trinity Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 300
Barber Ave.
Worcester, MA. 01606

NOTES FROM HOLY TRINITY

COME CELEBRATE HOLY TRINITY'S 28th ANNIVERSARY THIS Monday, August 15th. Everyone's invited: family, friends, supporters, and of course the residents. There will be a "backyard" BBQ cookout with hotdogs and burgers. Musical entertainment from Joe Cariglia.

Jeremiah's Famous Ice cream truck will be coming at 2:00pm for all to enjoy a cold treat. And for the young (and young of heart), a bouncy house. *A great day is in store!*

JOB OPENINGS. We have openings for full time or part time licensed nursing staff (LPNs or RNs) for the 7am -3pm shift every other weekend. Also, full time and part time certified nursing assistants (CNAs) for the 7am - 3pm, and 3pm - 11pm shifts. [Click here](#) for detailed job descriptions and a full listing of these and other openings. If you have questions, please contact the Human Resources Generalist: [Lisa Brady](#) by e-mail (lbrady@holyltrinityrehab.org) or call: 508-852-1000.

HEALTH CARE CAN BE COMPLICATED. Are you caring for a loved one at home and need to plan time away? Holy Trinity can help. We offer respite care that allows families to have an opportunity to take care of their personal needs, or simply to get away for a vacation, with the peace of mind that their loved one will be in good hands, getting the medical care they need. If you are interested, or would like more information, contact **Mary Charmchi** at: 508-735-4783, or by e-mail at: mcharmchi@holyltrinityrehab.org

TWO PROGRAMS PLANNED THIS COMING WEEK. On **Wednesday, August 17th**, **Eric Spahl** will give the residents a virtual **tour of the Freedom Trail** in Boston through a PowerPoint presentation that is guaranteed to make you feel as if you were walking the Trail yourself! And on **Thursday, August 18th**, there will be music **entertainment by Heather Rae** performing a variety of songs from gospel to the modern day. The times for both are 2:00pm. If you'd like to attend, contact **Julie Craven** in the Activities department, at 508-852-1000, or by [e-mail](#).

DIVINE LITURGY is celebrated every Wednesday morning at 9:30am. Please keep Holy Trinity, its staff, directors, residents, and families in your prayers. And remember: you can always attend Liturgy and visit with the residents! They'd really appreciate it.

STAY CONNECTED. Be sure to like our [Facebook page](#) for frequent updates and photos.

ORTHODOX LINKS

[Romanian Orthodox Metropolia of the Americas](#)

[Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of North and Central America](#) (Assembly of Bishops)

[International Orthodox Christian Charities](#) (IOCC)

[Orthodox Christian Mission Center](#) (OCMC)

[Orthodox Christian Radio Network](#) (OCN)

[Council of Eastern Orthodox Churches of Central Mass.](#) (CEOC)

ALL THINGS ORTHODOX - weekly show hosted by Fr. Chris Stamas of St. Spyridon
airs on the Worcester Cable channel 194 on Mon @ 7 pm, Sat - 8 pm & Sun - 9 pm
or at the cable website: wccatv.com, or the Worcester TV Roku app.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
34 Gold St | Shrewsbury, MA 01545-6238
508-845-0088 | fax: 508-845-8850 | e-mail: info@StNicholasChurch.org
www.StNicholasChurch.org
Sunday Services: Matins at 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am