

FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE



THE MIRACLE OF THE GREAT CATCH OF FISH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
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908.233.8533 www.holytrinitywestfield.org

Live streaming services <http://holytrinitywestfield.org/parish-news/>

REV. FR. PETER DELVIZIS, PARISH PRIEST

On this the 27 Day of the Month, we commemorate
St. Kallistratos the Martyr & his 49 Companions;
Holy Apostles of the Seventy: Sts. Aristarchos, Mark, and Zenon; [Philemon 1:24 &
Colossians 4:10]; Our Righteous Father St. Ignatios; St. Gregory the Martyr and
Enlightener of Armenia; St. Akylina the New Martyr of Thessaloniki (+1764)

Grave Τονε Ηχος βαρύς

Click links for Scripture Readings

Fifth Morning Gospel:	St. Luke 24:13-35	Εωθινόν Ε΄
Epistle Reading:	2 Corinthians 6:1-10	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Luke 5:1-11	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: “O Lord by Your sacred Cross You abolished death, and granted unto the thief blessed paradise. The Myrrh bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The apostles did preach the Good News at Your command, that You had risen from the dead O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy upon the world evermore.”

Apolytikion of the Martyrs: “Thy Martyrs, O Lord in their courageous contest for Thee* received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God.* For since they possessed Thy strength, they cast down the tyrants* and wholly destroyed the demons’ strengthless presumption.* O Christ God, by their intercessions, save our souls, since Thou are merciful.

Apolytikion of the Church: “Blessed are You, O Christ our Lord and God, You who made all wise the fishermen Your Apostles, sending down upon them Your Spirit, which is Holy and through their work drawing the world into Your net, glory to You Who loves mankind.”

Kontakion of the Cross: “A protection of Christians unshamable,* Intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering,* please reject not* the prayerful cries of those who are in sin.* Instead, come to us for you are good;* your loving help do bring to us,* who are crying in faith to you:* hasten to intercession* and speed now to supplication,* as a protection for all time,* Theotokos, for those who honor you.”

Altar Donations

Altar Candles in memory of Georgia Colonias†

Vigil light in memory of John Sipsis†

Large Candles in memory of Louis (45 years) and Crizanta Toescu (9 years) †

Prothesis Candles in memory of Steven Manos†, 2 years

Memorials

Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial service for Constantine Carumpalos†, 1 year; John Sipsis†, 1 year; Georgia Colonias†, 20 years; Elias Savva†, 28 years; Crizanta Toescu†, 9 years; Louis Toescu†, 45 years. Eternal be their memories.



Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, October 4, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Tuesday, October 6, St. Thomas the Apostle, Orthros, 8:45 AM;
Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

The Miraculous Draught of Fish

Luke 5:1-11

The best fishing at night was in the shallow water next to the shore, just where Jesus was sitting in the boat, teaching. After Jesus finished, He instructed Peter to go out into deeper water. This story is analogous to Peter's faith which was shallow. Jesus was going to lead him to a faith that was deeper, to a greater commitment. When Jesus calls a person, the response demands a new and deeper commitment.

However, Peter responded by protesting. As he was an experienced fisherman who had worked hard all night, he was entirely worn out. Yet, even though he was extremely tired, he was willing to give it one more try. This is how Jesus works. When we think we have reached the limit of our abilities, Jesus asks us not to go just a little bit further, but to go out into deeper waters. We go to a place where we are further away from our resources and talents. We leave the shore, where we are safe and feel we can handle everything, to go elsewhere. There we must count not on ourselves but upon Jesus. When we are called, we are hesitant because we believe that we have already done enough. The new call demands a greater commitment.

When Peter followed the Lord, he experienced a catch beyond his wildest imaginings. At this sight, he asks Jesus to leave because Peter is now aware of his own unworthiness, his sinfulness. Origen notes, "Peter says to Jesus, 'Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.' Moreover, Paul, who himself also at a later time became an apostle of Jesus, says in his Epistle to Timothy, 'This is a faithful saying, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the chief.'... Jesus, desiring to show the human race the power which He possesses to heal souls, should have selected notorious and wicked men, and should have raised them to such a degree of moral excellence, that they became a pattern of the purest virtue to all who were converted by their instrumentality to the Gospel of Christ" (*Against Celsus*, I, 63). Continually in His ministry Jesus called sinners and brings them into a deeper commitment and intimacy to Him. This is the sign of what He now does through the Church. He takes sinners and makes them His own.

Religious Education and Greek School Registrations



➤ Sunday School Begins Today at 12:30 PM

With virtual classes:

Holy Trinity will begin Sunday School classes today, September 27 after a two-week delayed opening. Because of current pandemic conditions, classes will begin online with the hope to move to in-class learning by mid-October. Please register your child/ren by clicking:

<https://tinyurl.com/2020ReligiousEducation>

ACCESS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

To access Sunday School Class for Sunday, Sept. 27, click on the following link:

<https://goarch.zoom.us/j/91303684783?pwd=N1VFRm16MTY0V0JJaW5zUDhZTWFKZz09>

Or: [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us) Once online, you'll need to enable the Zoom application. Enter the passcode, as indicated below in red. When you enter, you will be placed in a "waiting room". When it's time to begin, students will be placed in their appropriate classes. Students not using a computer may dial in using one of the telephone numbers listed below. For telephone use, please enter the provided passcode.

Time: Sep 27, 2020 12:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Meeting ID: 913 0368 4783

Passcode: HTGOCWeek1

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 913 0368 4783

Passcode: 7601830173

Option Two:

If you encounter problems logging in using the above provided link, please visit [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and use Meeting ID and Passcode to enter class.

Greek School Begins Tuesday 9/29 and Thursday 10/1



Holy Trinity Greek School will begin this week. Because of current pandemic conditions, classes will begin online with the hope to move to in-class learning by mid-October. Please register your child/ren by clicking:

<https://forms.gle/e2Xm6kTydxZvUaVK7>

2020 Stewardship Commitment and Online Giving

The first half of this year has indeed been a struggle for each of us as we navigate both the intense storm caused by political division and the devastating effects of the Coronavirus. Our church is here to help us weather the storms of life and to help pilot us through the barren wilderness found in these tragic times. We are counting on all our parishioners to help the church financially. You are asked to make your Christian Stewardship Commitment today. Doing so will help Holy Trinity through these difficult times of Co-Vid and unrest. By offering your stewardship, you'll ensure that the Parish will have ample financial resources so as not to encounter any cash flow problems. Your attention is appreciated. Our Online Stewardship Giving Program is a convenient way to automate your offering. To sign up for online giving, visit www.holytrinitywestfield.org, and look for the "Donate Now" button on the home page. [Or click here.](#)

Annual Fellowship Picnic

Please join us for our Annual Holy Trinity Fellowship Picnic outside in the Church parking lot on Sunday, September 27, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. All food and drinks will be provided, maintaining current Covid safety standards. Please RSVP to HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org to request attendance to the Liturgy/and or picnic. Please keep in mind that attendance is still limited so reservations will be on a first come first serve basis. You will receive a confirmation by email.

GOYA Clothing Drive and Canned Goods – Oct. 17

With so many inquiries, GOYA will sponsor another Clothing Drive on **October 17, 2020**. The Clothing Drive (including bedding, blankets, curtains, sheets, towels, shoes and toys under 2 feet) will go to people who are in need. Spread the word and help us raise money for our Outreach initiatives. All items need to be brought to the church parking lot between the hours of 9:30 AM - 10AM. We will also be collecting dry goods for families in need (i.e. all canned goods - soups, tuna and chicken, beans, rice, pasta and other meals on the go that can be easily heated). You can also leave these dry goods in our bin that will be outside the church office. Thank you in advance for your continued support of all our initiative.



Intercessory Prayers

In and through Christ, Christians become able to intercede before God. The greatest intercessor is the Virgin Mary because she gave birth to the Saviour. The Theotokos became a tabernacle holding Christ within her womb. And because of this, she is in concord with her son, who is the Giver of life. As she shaped His physical body, He shaped and created within her a most pure soul who even now stands on guard to pray for us.

Similarly, in the name of Jesus, Christians are commanded and empowered to pray for each other and for all creation: *“on behalf of all and for all”*. - Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

“First of all I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions . . . This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” - 1Tim 2.1-4

Intercessory prayers can be made for every “good gift” from God for the sake of the salvation of others. Such prayers can include petitions for every kind of blessing, both for the body and the soul. They can be made for the inspiration and instruction of men, as well as for their healing and salvation. Whatever one can ask for oneself, one can ask for all men. Whatever one does ask for oneself should be entreated for all. *“It is right to pray not only for one’s own purification, but for the purification of every man . . .”* St. Nilus of Sinai

Therefore, let us pray for all people and for those who have requested this holy act from us:

Prayer List

Ann, Dacia, Tonya, Robert, Susan, Chris, George, Eleni, Marina, Jim, Jean, Elliott, Priscilla, Maria, Vincent, Patricia, Harry, Andrea, Peter, Edward, Aristotelis, Anna, Elizabeth, Anna, Angela, John, Stephanie, Michael, Victor, Floarea, Andy, Ramon, Augusta, Donald, Gloria, Charles, Anastasia, Christine, Deborah, Fotini, Bill, Joan, Rose, Ashleigh, Tom, Andrea, Marc, Barbara, Brendon, Ryan, George, Vasili, Theodora, Linda, Camille, Georgia, Olga, Angela, Nancy, Chuck, Peter, Joan, Augusta, Anastasios, Dorka, Elisabeth, Paula, Katie, Marien, Elizabeth, Kathy, Patty, Cynthia, John, Gary, Josephine, Costa, Alicia, Charles, Stavroula, Maroulla.

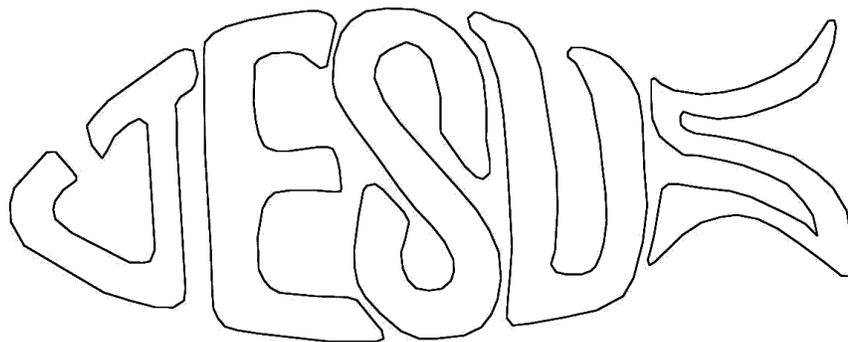
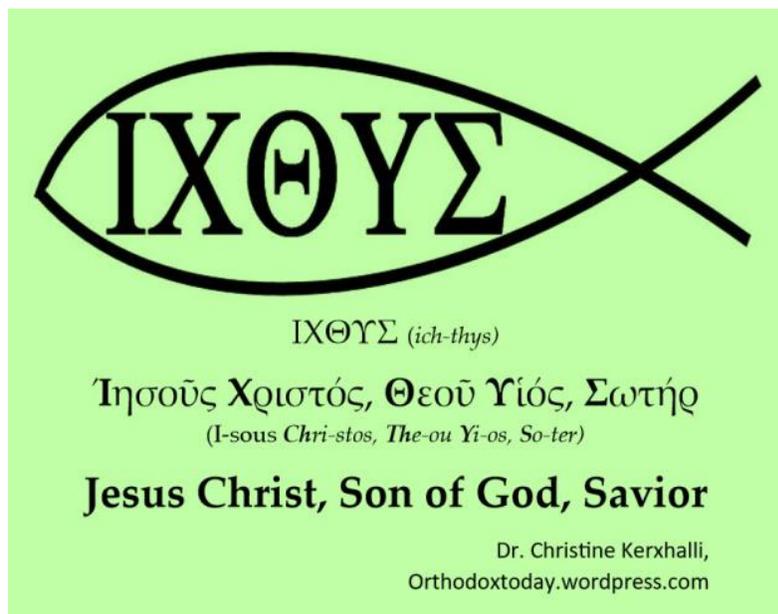
Youth Page

An Ancient Christian Symbol

The image you see below is that of a fish. In the early years of the church, when it was illegal or dangerous to be a Christian, the faithful would mark certain areas with this symbol to denote they were believers in Jesus.

This word **ΙΧΘΥΣ** means “fish” in Greek. Each letter is the beginning of a word. The five words, as described below, translate into:

Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior



OCMC Coin Box Sunday, September 27

Our parish has been faithful stewards in supporting the OCMC Coin Box Ministry. Please bring your Coin Box and leave in the appropriate OCMC box in the Narthex. You may also call the church office for drop off during the week or mail in a check made out to Holy Trinity with "OCMC Coin Box" in the memo. God bless you and thank you for your support of the OCMC worldwide ministries.

Philoptochos Fashion Show

SAVE THE DATE ~ The Ladies Philoptochos Dinner and Fashion Show "By the Sea" has been rescheduled to Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at the Brooklake Country Club in Florham Park.

Holy Trinity Reopening

"My brethren, count it joyous when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. Now let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." – James 1:2-4

The first half of the year has indeed tested us in ways unimaginable. Yet in Christ we always find victory. **Εν τούτῳ νικά!**

With the New Ecclesiastical Year and the coming of September, I invite you to attend church in person once again. If you've been to church recently, you'll see many controlled measures implemented to keep you safe. The Parish Council has implemented many measures to help assure this. Over the past six months, we've learned to circulate under the Corona Virus threat. We feel a bit more at ease going to the grocery store and attending school, and pursuing other activities. That is why I invite you back to church knowing that one of the safest places to be is at your spiritual home. While the church surroundings will be familiar when you attend, our behavior during worship and our interactions with each other is different.

There are still state restrictions in that we cannot open to full capacity (there is a limit ~90 people). But knowing that you want to be here, we are still asking the faithful to register with the church office. It is important that you **Register and wait for confirmation to attend services.**

To Register, simply check the Liturgical Schedule to see when a service is offered. Then either call the church office or email a request to: HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org In your request, please mention the specific date and the number of people to attend. A confirmation will be forwarded to you, if space is available. Priority will be given to those who are attending a family memorial service. For your convenience, additional

weekly Divine Liturgies have been added so that we can accommodate your desire to return to church.

When you receive a confirmation, you are asked to read the [“Parish Reopening Guidelines”](#). By attending the service, you affirm that you will adhere to these guidelines.

Asking for our Lord the Physician of our souls and bodies, to bless us and banish away this terrible and evil entity, I remain yours in Christ, - Fr Peter