

# THE GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST



Pascha, April 24, 2022

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090  
908.233.8533 [www.holytrinitywestfield.org](http://www.holytrinitywestfield.org)  
Live streaming services

Rev. Fr. Peter Delviziis, Parish Priest

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!  
ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!

**“CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD  
BY DEATH HAS HE TRAMPLED UPON DEATH  
AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS  
HE HAS GRANTED LIFE.”**

**Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη!**

Christ is risen!

Christos Voskrese!

Christos a înviat!

Al-Mashīh-Qām!

Christe Agsdga!

Krishti u ngjall

**Ἀληθῶς Ἀνέστη!**

Truly, He is risen!

Voistinu Voskrese! - Russian

Adevărat a înviat! - Romanian

Haqqan Qām! - Arabic

Cheshmaritad agsdga! - Georgian

Vërtet u ngjall! - Albanian

In the Vigil

Gospel Reading:

[St. Mark 16:1-8](#)

In the Liturgy:

Epistle Reading:

[Acts: 1:1-8](#)

Gospel Reading:

[St. John 1:1-17](#)

Agape Vespers:

Gospel Reading:

St. John 20:19-25

**Apolytikion:** “Christ is risen from the dead by death has He trampled upon death and to those in the tombs he has granted life.”

**Kontakion:** “Into the grave You descended, Immortal One, yet You destroyed the power of Hades and as victor You arose, O Christ our God. You proclaimed to the myrrh-bearing women a greeting of joy. You brought peace to your holy apostles and to the fallen You granted Resurrection.”



**Altar Donations**

**Holy Friday**

Altar Candles in memory of Dino, George, and Andrew Nicholas †

Resurrection Candle in memory of Pericles Gianakis †

**Holy Saturday**

Altar Candles for the health of John, Gregory and Themis

Prothesis Candles for the health of Steve, Debbie and Matthew Martin

**Agape Vespers**

Altar Candles in memory of James N. Rentas †

Vigil Light in loving memory of Gus Vlangos †

### *Paschal Liturgical Schedule*

Saturday, April 23, Great Saturday, Vigil of the Resurrection, 11:15 PM

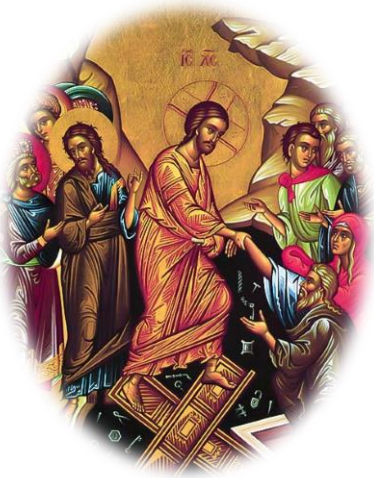
Sunday, April 24, THE GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA, Orthros and Divine Liturgy, 12:00 AM

Sunday, April 24, AGAPE VESPERS, 11:00 AM

Monday, April 25, BRIGHT MONDAY and St. George the Great Martyr, Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM in Piscataway, Clifton, and Trenton.

Friday, April 29, BRIGHT FRIDAY and The Life-giving Spring, Orthros, 8:45 AM; Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM

Sunday, May 1, Sunday of Thomas, Orthros 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM



On the Great and Holy Feast of Pascha, Orthodox Christians celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast of feasts is the most significant day in the life of the Church. It is a celebration of the defeat of death, as neither death itself nor the power of the grave could hold our Savior captive. In this victory that came through the Cross, Christ broke the bondage of sin, and through faith offers us restoration, transformation, and eternal life.

Holy Week comes to an end at sunset of Great and Holy Saturday, as the Church prepares to celebrate her most ancient and preeminent festival, Pascha, the feast of feasts. The time of preparation will give way to a time of fulfillment. The glorious and resplendent light emanating from the empty Tomb will dispel the darkness. Christ, risen from the dead, cracks the fortress of death and takes "captive captive" (Psalm 67:19). All the limitations of our createdness are torn asunder. Death is swallowed up in victory and life is liberated. "For as by a man came death, by a man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Corinthians 15:21-22). Pascha is the dawn of the new and unending day. The Resurrection constitutes the most radical and decisive deliverance of humankind.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the fundamental truth and absolute fact of the Christian faith. It is the central experience and essential kerygma of the Church. It confirms the authenticity of Christ's remarkable earthly life and vindicates the truth of His teaching. It seals all His redemptive work: His life, the model of a holy life; His compelling and unique teaching; His extraordinary works; and His awesome, life-creating death. Christ's Resurrection is the guarantee of our salvation. Together with His Ascension it brings to perfection God's union with us for all eternity.

The Resurrection made possible the miracle of the Church, which in every age and generation proclaims and affirms "God's plan for the universe, the ultimate divinization of man and the

created order." The profound experience of and the unshakable belief in the risen Lord enabled the Apostles to evangelize the world and empowered the Church to overcome paganism. The Resurrection discloses the indestructible power and inscrutable wisdom of God. It disposes of the illusory myths and belief systems by which people, bereft of divine knowledge, strain to affirm the meaning and purpose of their existence. Christ, risen and glorified, releases humanity from the delusions of idolatry. In Him grave-bound humanity discovers and is filled with incomparable hope. The Resurrection bestows illumination, energizes souls, brings forgiveness, transfigures lives, creates saints, and gives joy.

The Resurrection has not yet abolished the reality of death. But it has revealed its powerlessness (Hebrews 2:14-15). We continue to die as a result of the Fall. Our bodies decay and fall away. "God allows death to exist but turns it against corruption and its cause, sin, and sets a boundary both to corruption and sin." Thus, physical death does not destroy our life of communion with God. Rather, we move from death to life - from this fallen world to God's reign.

## CHRIST IS RISEN!



## TRULY, HE IS RISEN!

# Prayer Request



Angela, Andrew, Dianna, Thomas, Andrea, Thomas, Alexandra, Ronald, Galina, Angela, Lubove, Despina, Maria, John, Paraskevi (Parri), Dianna, Stephanie, Edward, Brian, Janeen, Cathy, James, Christine, Andrea, Molly, Anastasios, Michael, Angela, Lauren, John, Effie, Stella, Guerline, Phyllis, Denise, Cloy, Mirka, Stamatia, Theresa, James, Matthew, Antoinette, William, Angela, Tanner, Stefanos, Helen, Katherine, Ashley, Angela, Nick, Lindsey, Alexandria, Evdokia, Chris, Zach, Notis, Erica, Christina, Fran, Joan, Hellen, Joseph, Angela, Cleopatra, James, Rosa, George, Kathy, Theresa, Dorothy, Shannon, Jeff, Jeffrey, Rowena, Craig, Paul, John, Marien, John, Vasilias, Hellen, Natalia, Angela, Katherine, Patricia, Lily, Thomas, Brennan, Elvira, Bill, Alicia, Diane, Michael, Dorka, Stavroula, Maroulla

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!

ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!



**CHRIST  
IS RISEN!**

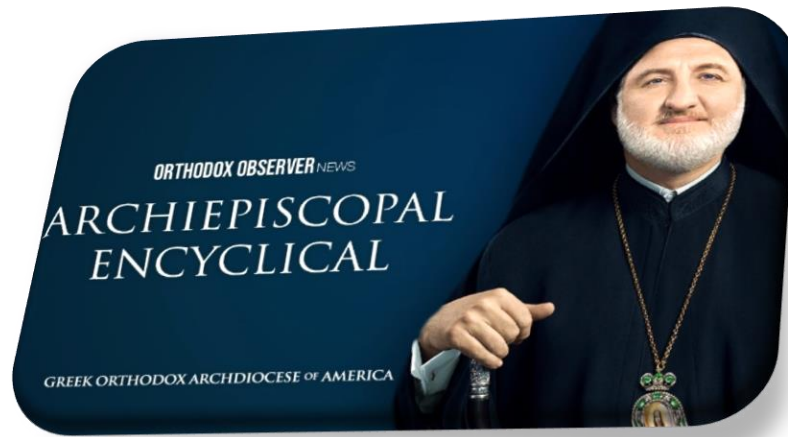
RED IS FOR  
THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

THE SHELL  
IS LIKE THE SEALED TOMB  
FULL OF LIFE

CRACKING  
IS FOR SHATTERING  
THE GATES OF HADES



## Archiepiscopal Encyclical on the Great and Holy Pascha



My Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*“Christ descended alone to the Gates of Hades, He returned taking many spoils of His victory.”*

*-Verse of the Synaxarion of Pascha*

What a journey our Lord took for the sake of our salvation! What pains did He not endure? Not only did He descend from the heights of Heaven to earth through his Incarnation, but through His Death on the Cross he descended into the lowest depths of human experience. As we chant on Pascha night: Κατήλθες ἐν τοῖς κατωτάτοις τῆς γῆς – into death itself, even though He is the Author of Life.

This is how the Lord Jesus, Who is the New Adam and the First-Born of the Dead, redeems the mass of humanity. He undergoes a single human life and death; He died alone upon the Cross, forsaken and abandoned. Alone did He descend into Hades, that he might free all those imprisoned there from ages past. By His flesh, which He took from the womb of His Virgin Mother, He assumes the totality of the human race. There is no person who is not connected to Him through His Incarnation. By living a perfect life in a willing, conscience way, He makes possible perfection for every human being through metanoia, which is as much transformation as it is repentance and turning from selfishness to God. Finally, using the Cross to bridge Heaven and earth, He descends to the lowest depths, to find us and to bring us home to Heaven.

As the Synaxarion affirms: “He returned taking many spoils of His victory.” This is why we cry out with our hearts aflame with joy, even as our candles shine brightly and dispel the gloom of night:

**Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death,**

and to those in the tombs He has granted life!

Therefore, my beloved Christians, let us honor His journey from Heaven to earth, from earth to Hades, and back again for our salvation. Let us embrace one another with love and compassion, forgetting no one and forgiving everyone. Thus, we will rise from the lowest depths of our struggles and challenges, to the celestial heights of God's glory and life everlasting.

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς Ἀνέστη!

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

† Ἀμερικῆς Ἐπιτοφῶρος

† ELPIDOPHOROS

Archbishop of America

ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ



## Capital Campaign Progress



Holy Trinity Capital Campaign Progress  
Holy Trinity is still accepting donations for the 2022 Capital Campaign. We thank all who have donated thus far. Holy Trinity is blessed having received pledges for over half our goal but we still need your help to achieve our fundraising objectives. With your help and generosity, we can meet our goal and help maintain our facility pristine.

*\*In the May edition of The Promise, the names of our donors will be published. Only names will appear to thank you for your extraordinary donation towards the Capital Campaign.*

Call the church office to donate or donate online by clicking here:

[Holy Trinity Capital Campaign Donation](#)

## How your donation will be spent

Holy Trinity Capital Campaign	
Refurbishment of church dome	\$220,000
Replacement of boiler, condenser, coils	\$260,000
Repaving of parking lot	\$120,000
Rooftop air conditioning	\$75,000
Church air conditioning	\$75,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$750,000</b>

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## Metropolis of New Jersey Summer Camp July 17-23



Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of New Jersey

# CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD IS BACK AGAIN IN 2022!

July 17-23, 2022

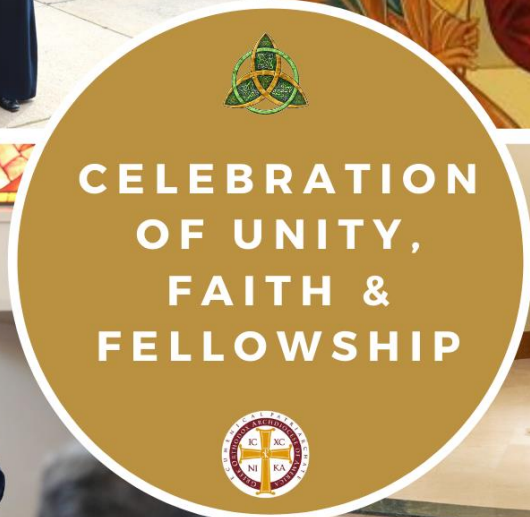
CAMP Linwood MacDonald in Sandyston, NJ



**WE ARE VERY EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD NJ IS  
RETURNING FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR.....  
AND OFFICIAL REGISTRATION IS OPENING SOON!**

- **Have Fun and Make New Friends!**
- **Registration Cost \$600**
- **For More Information or to Volunteer Email Fr. John Theodosion at [CGSNewJersey@gmail.com](mailto:CGSNewJersey@gmail.com)**
- **Taking Place at YMCA Camp Linwood MacDonald in Sandyston, NJ 07826,**
- **Check us out at [facebook.com/campgoodshepherdNewJersey](https://www.facebook.com/campgoodshepherdNewJersey)**

Join the celebration of  
Unity Day  
With Holy Trinity G.O.C. and R.C.  
Saturday, May 14 with



JOIN FATHER ANTHONY & FATHER PETER

*Teaching Christ in Church Through Eastern & Western Christianity*

Saturday, May 14th

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS at HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH:**

**Prayer Service - Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church - 10:00 am**

**Catechist Presentation/Small Group Sharing**

**Parents & Children - Parish Center - 10:30 am**

**Greek Circle Dance Experience - Holy Trinity School Gym - 11:30 pm**

**Foods of the West & Foods of the East Tasting Experience - 12:30 pm**

**Final Prayer Service in the Holy Trinity School Gym - 1:00 pm**

Registration Required - Form available at [htrcc.org](http://htrcc.org);

Contact [communications@htrcc.org](mailto:communications@htrcc.org) for more information

Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church - 506 Westfield Ave - Westfield, NJ 07090

EASTERN AND WESTERN CHRISTIANITY -  
TWO LUNGS BEATING AS ONE CHRISTIAN HEART





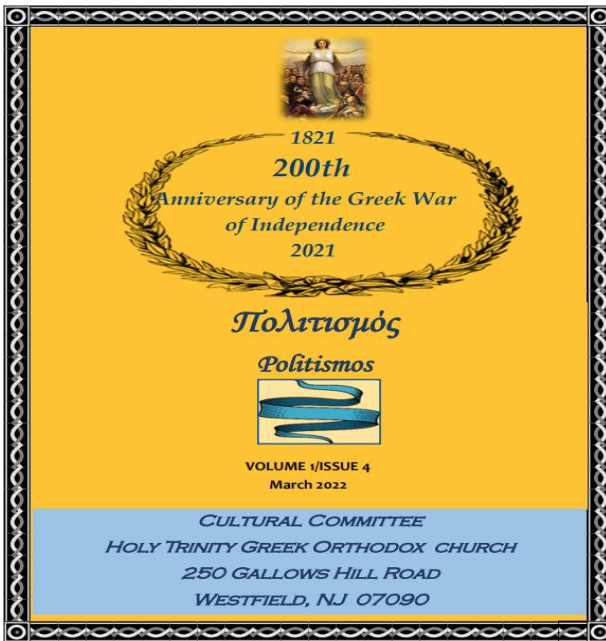
## The Greek Revolution (1821-1829) Through American Eyes

This bicentennial exhibition explores common themes binding Greece and the United States in Greece's pursuit of universal freedom and liberty by focusing on the myriad connections between the Greek revolutionaries and individual Americans. It also allows viewers to consider the formation of U.S. identity in the first fifty years of the nation's existence, as U.S. foreign policy was taking shape and slavery was leading America to its own war.

[Enter Online Exhibition](#)

Last Sunday, Holy Trinity hosted an exhibition, “The Greek Revolution Through American Eyes”. Many people commented on the beautiful and informative panels. If you were not here or would like to revisit the presentation, you can link to the webpage to view the panels online.

### [The Greek Revolution Through American Eyes](#)



Holy Trinity Cultural Committee is happy to announce the publication of the fourth edition of Politismos, a newsletter commemorating the bicentennial of the 1821 Greek War of Independence. This beautiful and informative newsletter is the collaborative work of the Cultural Committee of Holy Trinity. This special edition, released during the celebration of Evangelismos or the Annunciation on March 25 is dedicated to all heroines who declare independence from tyranny and oppression.

[Click to view the newsletter](#)

[Politismos](#)

### Metropolis of New Jersey to Honor Holy Trinity Parishioners

On Monday, May 9, at the honorees Grand Banquet, parishioners from Holy Trinity will be honored by Archbishop Elpidophoros of America. We thank this year's honorees who give selflessly of themselves to help benefit parish ministries: Avi Kiriakatis-Steward of the Community; Stephen A. Ladas-Parish Council; Elise Savnik-Philoptochos; Maggie Vasilopoulos-GOYA; Rel. Ed. Teacher-Elias Grivoyannis; Dr. Lauren Koniaris-Essential Medical Worker; Christina Colonias-Youth Worker; Maria Grafas-senior parish member. The event will be held at the Venetian in Garfield, NJ, beginning at 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$125. RSVP April 22, for more info. call the church office.

# BLOOM!

A celebration of every woman's journey towards greater inner strength and beauty.

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Westfield cordially invites you to their Spring Fling!



JOIN US

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

for an evening of cocktails at 6:00, followed by dinner and fashion show at 7:30!

Brooklake Country Club  
139 Brooklake Road  
Florham Park, New Jersey

Fashions by



## LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER...

This evening benefits two empowering organizations for women and many of our other causes throughout the year.



Transforming lives of disadvantaged women in New Jersey with training and employment in the arts.

## DRESS FOR SUCCESS®

A global movement with strong roots in New Jersey that helps women break the cycle of poverty by providing a network of support, professional attire and leadership tools.

## ...BY MAKING THE NIGHT A SUCCESS!

Come enjoy an evening with friends, while viewing the latest fashions and engaging in our exciting silent auction and many prize raffles, such as...

### BLOOM! GRAND RAFFLE

Win up to \$1,000, while helping MudGirls Studios and Dress for Success.

### BLOOM! V.I.P. RAFFLE

Enjoy the event like a V.I.P.! Be our guest and enjoy the show in the front row. Plus more!

## Philoptochos

Join us for our largest fundraiser, BLOOM! Tuesday, May 17 at Brooklake Country Club, Florham Park, NJ. Doors open at 6:00 PM. Make your reservation as soon as possible! RSVP Debra Vlahakis at [debvlahakis@gmail.com](mailto:debvlahakis@gmail.com). Co-Chairs: Elise Daniledes and Alexandra Mavridis

## GOYA

Clothing Drive, Saturday, April 30. Please bring your gently used clothes, shoes (in a clear plastic bag), bedding, blankets, sheets, towels, and toys under 2 feet that will go to people in need. Spread the word to friends and family outside the community. We will receive money per pound that we deliver, which then will be used to support our charitable initiatives. All items need to be dropped off in the church parking lot between 9 AM-10 AM on the day of the drive. Thank you again so much for your support.

## OCMC Coin Boxes

Please remember to bring your OCMC Coin Boxes to church. Thank you for participating in the parish Lenten project. If you forgot them bring to the church office during the week.

### **Trinity Circle**

Kindly join us on Tue. May 3 for our monthly meeting. Lunch in memory of our beloved friend Theresa Kotsolios†, donated by her loving husband, Notis Kotsolios. May her memory be eternal.

### **Special Gratitude**

The deepest thanks and gratitude is offered to those who made Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Pascha a magnificent celebration. Many thanks are extended to our priest and visiting clergy, psaltes, choir members, acolytes, Parish Council, and Ladies Philoptochos; also to those anonymous donors who quietly spread the message of love through charitable acts; to those who prepared and made the Palm Crosses; to those who contributed at the Palm Sunday Fellowship Hour; to those who decorated the Kouvouklion and the interior of the church; to those who brought red Paschal eggs; the Holy Week readers; the Myrofores and their coordinators; the office staff; the many volunteers; the caretakers; and to the parishioners who work to assure that the week of Holy Week and Pascha is meaningful and spiritually uplifting.

### **Paschal Donations**

A deep and profound thanks is offered to those who donated towards Holy Week flowers, Epitaphios flowers, palms, altar items, and other items used throughout Great Lent and Holy Week. The fresh arrangement of red roses that decorated the Bridegroom icon during Holy Week; the roses that were distributed following the Lamentation Service at the Epi-taphios on Holy Friday evening; and the beautiful flowers decorating both the Paschal Banner and the icon of the Resurrection were all generously donated anonymously.

## Πασχαλινά κόκκινα αυγά

Τα αυγά αποτελούν σύμβολο της δημιουργίας, της γέννησης και της ζωής και της ευημερίας. Βαμμένα κόκκινα, όπως το αίμα της θυσίας του Ιησού, αποτελούν αναπόσπαστο κομμάτι των παραδόσεων του Πάσχα. Το κόκκινο χρώμα συμβολίζει τη σταύρωση και την Ανάσταση του Χριστού.

Το βάψιμο των αυγών είθισται να γίνεται κάθε Μ. Πέμπτη. Κάθε Πάσχα τα περισσότερα νοικοκυριά βάφουν τα αυγά σε κόκκινο χρώμα, όπως ορίζει η παράδοση αλλά και σε άλλα χρώματα πλέον όπως μπλε, κίτρινο, μοβ ή άλλους χρωματισμούς.

Δοξασίες ισχυρίζονται ότι η Παναγία φέρεται να είχε τοποθετήσει ένα καλάθι με αυγά κάτω από τον εσταυρωμένο, τα οποία βάφτηκαν με το αίμα Του. Ένας άλλος θρύλος αναφέρεται σε μια γυναίκα η οποία περπατώντας στο δρόμο κρατώντας ένα καλάθι με αυγά πληροφορήθηκε για την ανάσταση του Χριστού. Αδυνατώντας να το πιστέψει απάντησε πως κάτι τέτοιο θα μπορούσε να έχει συμβεί μόνο εάν τα αυγά που κρατούσε βάφονταν κόκκινα, όπως και έγινε.

