Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

April 30, 2023

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090
908.233.8533 www.holytrinitywestfield.org
Live streaming services

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvizis, Parish Priest
“CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, BY DEATH, TRAMPLING DOWN UPON DEATH, AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS, HE HAS GRANTED LIFE.”

Apolytikion: “Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.”

Apolytikion: “When You descended into death, Life immortal, You vanquished the power of hell by Your resplendent divinity, and when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.”

Apolytikion St. Joseph: “The noble Joseph taking down from the Cross Your spotless Body, enwrapped It in clean linen with spices and laid It for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You arose, O Lord, and granted the world Your great mercy.”

Apolytikion of the Myrrh-bearers: “Unto the Myrrh-bearing women did the angel cry out as he stood by the grave: ‘Myrrh-oils are meet for the dead, but Christ has showed Himself a stranger to corruption. But cry out: The Lord is risen, granting great mercy to the world.’”

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: “Though Thou, O deathless One, didst descend into the grave, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades and as Victor, Thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the Myrrh-bearing women, saying: Rejoice! Thou didst bestow peace upon Thy disciples, and resurrection upon those that are fallen.”
Altar Donations
Altar Candles: In memory of John Hadzitheodourou†
Vigil Light: In memory of Lillian Jolly†
Large Candles: In memory of Georgia Egan†

Sacraments and Rites
Memorials: Your prayers are requested at the memorial service for Georgia Egan†, 40 days; Lillian Jolly†, 1 year. Eternal be their memories.

40-Day Blessings: We are blessed to have two churchings that of Hudson James Leles, the son of Kathryn Zias and Dimitrios Leles, and Emilia Kaiserman, the daughter of Daniella Tsakos and Bill Kaiserman.

Funerals: On Wednesday, April 26, the funeral for Anthony J. Combias† was held. On Monday, May 1, the funeral for Stavroula Frestis† will be held at 11:00 AM. May their memories be eternal.

Liturgical Schedule
Sunday, May 7, Sunday of the Paralytic, Orthros 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Fellowship Hour: Please join us in the Bouras Center after church for the Fellowship Hour which is being sponsored by Jack Jolly, in memory of Lillian Jolly†.

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women
About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching, and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came to His sepulcher, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to anoint His body. It is because of the myrrh-oils that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called Myrrh-bearers. Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, the most Holy Virgin
Mary, who in Matthew 27:56 and Mark 15:40 is called “the mother of James and Joses” (these are the sons of Joseph by a previous marriage, and she was therefore their step-mother); Mary Magdalene (July 22); Mary, the wife of Cleopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the mother of the sons of Zebedee; Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence (Matt. 27:55-56; 28:1-10; Mark 15:40-41; Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18; Acts 1:14.)

Together with them we also celebrate the secret disciples of the Saviour, Joseph and Nicodemos. Of these, Nicodemos was probably a Jerusalemite, a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, learned in the Law and instructed in the Holy Scriptures. He had believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Saviour’s preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. Furthermore, he brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence and love for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counsellors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemos he gave Him a burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord’s body in his own tomb, which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matt. 27:60).

Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered; let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

A sacred Pascha is shown to us today; a new and Holy Pascha; A mystic Pascha; an all-venerable Pascha; A Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer; a spotless Pascha; A great Pascha; a Pascha of the faithful; A Pascha which has opened to us the gates of Paradise; A Pascha sanctifying all the faithful.
Metropolis of New Jersey to Honor Holy Trinity Parishioners

On Monday, May 15, 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: Mary Psomas-Senior Parish Member; Kristin Tencza-Steward of the Community; Peter Boutsikaris-Parish Council; Ellen Manos Athenson-Philoptochos; Stavroula Mergoupis-Greek Education Teacher; Pascali Kuvalakis-Psalti; Iris Love-Youth Advisor; Molly Sophia Love-GOYA.

Trinity Circle – May 2

Kindly join us on Tuesday, May 2, for our monthly lunch/meeting 11:00 AM- 2:00 PM. A fun day is planned this month with speaker Megan of “Boundless Breath”. Megan will give us a presentation on breathing exercises that will help us with sleep and anxiety. Lunch is donated by Notis Kotsolios in memory of his beloved wife Theresa.

TOTS Playgroup – May 12

The next TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) meeting will be on Friday, May 12, from 9:30-11:30 AM in the preschool room. Children 18 months-Pre-K are welcome with their caregiver (younger siblings welcome!). Bring water, sneakers and a snack. Contact Val Comprelli at vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608 to sign up or to ask any questions

Calling All Scouts - Grades K-12!

On May 7, come in uniform to celebrate Holy Trinity's 2023 Scout Sunday. Father Peter will invite boys, girls, and adults in scouting to come up to the Solea as one of our graduating seniors receives a special religious award and medal. A group photo will also be taken.

Upcoming Parish Events

Thursday, July 16-22

Camp Good Shepherd

Registration now open: Register here
GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

★ AMEN ★