

PALM SUNDAY



CHRIST'S ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

April 5, 2026

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090

Live streaming services - 908.233.8533 - www.holytrinitywestfield.org

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvzis, Parish Priest

THE BRIGHT AND GLORIOUS ENTRY OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

Palm Sunday Morning Gospel

[St. Matthew 21:1-11; 15-17](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Epistle Reading:

[Philippians 4:4-9](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Gospel Reading:

[St. John 12:1-18](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Apolytikion: *“Before Your Passion, You raised Lazarus from the dead to confirm the common Resurrection for all, O Christ God. Therefore, we carry symbols of victory as did the youths, and we cry out to You, the Victor over death, ‘Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.’”*

Apolytikion: *“As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: ‘Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.’”*

Kontakion: *“Being borne upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, Thou didst accept the praise of the Angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to Thee: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.”*

Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In loving memory of Barbara Manos†

Sacraments and Rites

Churching: On Wednesday, April 1, a 40-day blessing was celebrated for Sophie Maria Bletsov, daughter of Asimina and Anton Bletsov.

Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes those visiting our community today for Palm Sunday celebration. Worshipping the Holy Trinity is the principal act of an Orthodox parish. Our mission is to live the Holy Gospel and spread the Good News to those in our area. We are sanctified by God’s grace through the holy Sacraments and glorify Him each moment of the day. We seek God’s mercy, as we confess the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after service to meet parishioners and enjoy our Fellowship Hour.

PALM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP HOUR
Join Us on April 5, 2026
Immediately following Church Services

Philoptochos invites you to join us for a special Palm Sunday Fellowship Hour. We thank all those individuals for their Lenten contributions to make this a special reception.



Holy Trinity Liturgical Schedule For Holy Week and Pascha

Palm Sunday, April 5, Bridegroom Service, 6:30 PM
Holy Monday, April 6, Bridegroom Service, 6:30 PM
Holy Tuesday, April 7, Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 AM
Holy Tuesday, April 7, Bridegroom Service, 6:30 PM - Hymn of Kassiani
Holy Wednesday, April 8, Sacrament of Holy Unction, 3:00 PM
Holy Wednesday, April 8, Bridegroom Service with Holy Unction, 6:30 PM
Holy Thursday, April 9, Divine Liturgy of the Mystical Supper, 9:30 AM
Holy Thursday, April 9, Divine Passion and Crucifixion, Twelve Gospels, 6:30 PM
Holy Friday, April 10, Veneration of the Cross, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Holy Friday, April 10, Imperial Hours, 9:30 AM
Holy Friday, April 10, Apokathelosis Vespers, Unnailing, Descent from the Cross and Burial, 3:00 PM
Holy Friday, April 10, Lamentation Service and Epitaphios, 6:30 PM
Holy Saturday, April 11, Proti Anastasi Service, Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM
Holy Saturday, April 11, Resurrection Vigil, 11:15 PM
THE GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA
April 12, Paschal Divine Liturgy, 12:00 AM
April 12, Agape Vespers, 11:00 AM



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield, NJ

@holytrinitygreekorthodoxch5509

View Divine Services at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield,

Holy Trinity to Stream Holy Week Services

If you are unable to attend a Holy Week service in person, you can watch virtually via the Holy Trinity YouTube page. The parish will stream evening services during Holy Week.

Evening services begin at 6:30 PM and morning services at 9:30 AM Visit us at:

[Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield, NJ - YouTube](#)

Please click the “Subscribe” button to become a Holy Trinity follower.



Tsoureki (Easter Bread) - Pick Up Sunday!



Please remember to pick up pre-ordered tsourekia from the Greek School table Sunday in the Bouras Center during the Fellowship Hour. There will be some extra tsourekia for sale on a first-come, first-served basis for \$14. The Greek School PTO thanks you for your support.

GOYA Spring Flower Fundraiser - Sunday

Visit the GOYA table during Fellowship Hour to see a beautiful display of flowers.

Van Service for Holy Week

A shuttle van will be available Palm Sunday as well as Holy Friday night and for the Resurrection Service. Once the Church parking lot is full, the Westfield Police will direct you to Union County College parking lot 5B (the parking lot closest to Gallows Hill Road). A Station Cab van will transport you to and from the college parking lot to the front of the Church.

Street Parking Regulations

Please do not park on the cemetery's private property across from the Church. You may park at Washington School on St. Mark's Place. There is a sidewalk that connects the school and the Church property. Parking is not permitted on either side of Gallows Hill Road in front of the Church, along the Church property or between the “No Parking” signs. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call the Church office.

Prayer Request



Constance, Jeremy, John, Gregory, Gus, Thomas, Sean, Betty, Keela, Florence, Sandy, James, John, Athena, Stavroula, Dimetra, Danny, Dominique, Daniel, Elizabeth, John, Robert, Erin, Kevin, Sabrina, Luke, Bill, James, Ria, Eric, Joanne, Alexandra, Sophia, Nicholas, Eupraxia, James, Mary, Chris, Janeen, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, John, Marina, George, Laura, George, Costa, Basil, Lemonia, Justin, Chris, Evangelia, Danny, Bill, Lou, Foula

Parish Lenten Mission Project – OCMC Coin Boxes

OCMC Coin Boxes that were taken at the start of lent can be brought to church anytime. We thank you for filling the boxes, not only with money, but with Christian love.



The April Edition of *The Promise* is Now Available Online!

www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise. Subscribe to Holy Trinity weekly emails providing news updates and announcements. Request at: HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org

2026 Stewardship Campaign Update

Thank you to the parishioners who submitted their pledge cards and stewardship gifts. As of March 10, we graciously received 262 pledges in the amount of \$391,947. Please remember to submit your pledge card which will help us meet our operating budget of \$1,096,400. We need participation and support from all our parishioners to help the church continue to grow and thrive. Stewardship Cards will be mailed to all members who have not submitted their annual pledge yet. They are also available in the pews or at the Pangari. The suggested pledge is \$2,200 per family and \$500 for young adults. The pledge card includes an option to identify your interest in volunteering by ministry.

Holy Week and Pascha Preparations

Special Collection for Easter Decorations

A collection will be taken today for donations to decorate the Church and the Kouvouklion. Flowers are used throughout Holy Week and we request your help. Checks should be made out to HTGOC. Your generosity will ensure a proper and beautiful adornment of Christ's Tomb.



Special Donations for Holy Week and/or Pascha

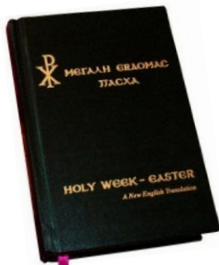
If you desire to make a special donation, call the church office to find out what items are available, such as flowers, icon floral decoration, candles, vigil light, incense, charcoal, and more.

Decorating the Kouvouklion

On Holy Friday, April 10, come in the morning to help decorate the kouvouklion or sepulcher of our Lord. This is no ordinary tomb, for from Christ's tomb blossoms forth life.

Dying Red Easter Eggs - Monday, April 6

Holy Trinity would like to invite you to participate in a community event to dye red Easter eggs for Pascha on Holy Monday, April 6, at 11 AM in the church kitchen. Volunteers can bring donated brown eggs with them on Holy Monday. Please also bring your own apron and your Holy Trinity spirit! If you cannot make it on Monday and would still like to offer red Easter eggs, please bring them to church on Holy Thursday or Holy Friday. Please RSVP by Holy Monday to Christina Colonias at 917-825-5986, by text only, with your name and how many brown eggs or red eggs you will be bringing to the church kitchen. With your help, everyone will receive an Easter Egg on Pascha.



Holy Week Book Available in Bookstore

To help navigate the many services of Holy Week, the "Holy Week - Easter" book is essential. It is currently available in the bookstore. When we attend the services and use the book as a guide, we are spiritually uplifted by participating in a more meaningful way.

2026 Holy Friday Retreat - April 10

Discover more about the "Events and Individuals of Holy Week" - Registration is free! Grades K-6: ~ 10 AM to 3 PM. The Retreat will focus on theology, symbols, and hymns of Holy Week, Holy Friday and Pascha followed by the taking down from the Cross (Apokathelosis) from 3 - 4 PM. Parents are asked to attend the Apokathelosis. A Lenten lunch and midday snack will be included. For further information including how to register contact Pete Markos at pmarkos307@gmail.com



Holy Week

Holy Week can be divided into two parts. The first part (Great and Holy Monday - Wednesday) is dominated by the Bridegroom Service, which is based on the parable of the ten virgins (Matt. 25:1-13). The image of Christ as the Bridegroom of the Church reminds us of the intimate love and union between God and His people, and the absolute commitment and dedication to Christ that should define our relationship with Him. The image of the Church can be seen as the "bride of Christ" reminding us that we are all married to Christ, and therefore complete dedication to Christ and His Church is not the vocation of a select few, but of every member of the Church.

Additionally, there are three key themes that appear these nights: repentance, vigilance, and the Second Coming. The parable of the ten virgins is, after all, a description about the Last Judgment. It may seem curious that the Second Coming is a predominate theme given that Holy Week speaks of the events surrounding Christ's Suffering, Crucifixion, Death, and Resurrection. But this is the reason for Christ's saving Passion and Resurrection. The last words of our Saviour on the Cross were "It is finished." The age of the law has passed, and the age of grace has begun. Through His ultimate Resurrection, the life of the age to come has already broken through.

The second half of Holy Week is the commemoration and celebration of our Lord's Passion, Crucifixion, Death, Burial, and Resurrection. And it is here that we are invited to enter the very essence of Orthodoxy. Holy Week is not simply a religious custom, but the heart of Christianity and the fundamental purpose of the Church in this world: to proclaim the Good News that Christ has Risen, offering us Resurrection to eternal life.

Holy Week is a return to basics, a reintroduction to the very essence of Christian Orthodoxy. In it we see Christ's power and ultimate victory over the darkened world and a loosing of Satan's grip. It is a period whose ending is full of joy, fellowship, renewal, and worship of God whose life has been extended to us for all eternity.



Trinity Circle – April 14

Kindly join us on Tuesday, April 14 for our monthly lunch/meeting 11 AM - 2 PM donated by Joy Daniledes. Steve Xenakis will present: "The Spread of Christianity in Eastern Europe".

TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) - April 22

Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 22, 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 612-801-8608 or vcomprelli@gmail.com to sign-up or with any questions.

Adult Greek Dance Lessons - Thursday, April 23

Lessons will be offered by Ronnie Filippatos Fernandez one Thursday per month, \$25 per class. The next lesson is on April 23, 7 - 9 PM. We will enjoy some light drinks and appetizers while learning Greek dances. If interested, please send your name and phone number to htgocgreekdance@gmail.com. The remaining date is: 5/21.

SAVE THE DATE - Greek Independence Day Parade - Sunday, April 26

Join Holy Trinity on Sunday, April 26, 1:30 PM in New York for the 87th NY Greek Independence Day Parade! This marks 205 years since March 25, 1821, the start of the Greek Revolution for liberation from the Ottoman Turkish yoke. Wear your best blue and white and join us for a march on 5th Avenue from 61st to 74th street! More information and details will be shared closer to the date.

SAVE THE DATE - Ladies Philoptochos Fashion Show - Tuesday, April 28

The Ladies Philoptochos' annually popular Dinner and Fashion Show will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at Brooklake Country Club in Florham Park, NJ. Features include Leslie Patrizio Fashions and fabulous gift raffle prizes. Special VIP Raffle ticket sales for a Dior tote bag and twill scarf are available at the Fashion Show table during Fellowship Hour or online; 1 for \$50, 2 for \$80. Only 250 tickets will be sold. Contact debbie.efthimion@gmail.com or janetzos@comcast.net for additional information.

OPA! Thursday, May 7 - A Night of Greek Dancing, Drinks and Apps!

Join our very own Hellenic dancer, Ronnie Filippatos, for a fun night of learning the most popular Greek dances in the Bouras Center, 7 - 9 PM. Casual/comfortable attire. \$25 per person; adults only. Venmo: @westfieldgreekschool

Attention High School Seniors: Philoptochos Scholarship Applications are due on or before Sunday, May 10. If you are not registered in Religious Education this year, you are ineligible to apply for a scholarship. Applications are available today and will also be emailed. Please contact the Church office with any questions.

GOYA Clothing Drive - Saturday, May 16

Drop off donations 9 - 11:30 AM in the church parking lot. Help provided to remove donations. Acceptable items: clothing for men, woman and children (shoes in a separate clear bag), belts, hats, scarves, handbags, gloves, small toys (2 ft. or less), stuffed animals, towels, sheets and pillowcases, bikes and strollers.

SAVE THE DATE - GreekFest May 29 - 31



The planning for GreekFest 2026 is in full swing and we need your help! This year's event brings back all your favorite foods and festivities to the community. We are excited to announce our special



headliner, Evangelia, from the Eurovision Song Contest, for our Saturday Big Night Out! Information on special ticket purchasing can be found at www.NJGreekFest.com We are actively seeking volunteers! Sign up via the QR code provided or at our Fellowship Hour table where you can also pick up yard signs and post cards to help advertise! Please contribute your time, talents and energy to make this year's event an even greater success!

Camp Good Shepherd - July 12 - 18

Register now by visiting <http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn> For more information visit the updated Camp Good Shepherd (CGS) website <https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd> including videos from CGS 2025. The overall goal of CGS is to give our campers a taste of actively living their Orthodox Christian faith, to connect them to Christ and His Church, and to offer them the chance to develop lasting relationships with their peers.

The poster features a blue and green color scheme with a sun and clouds at the top. It includes three circular photos of campers: one playing instruments, one in a group photo, and one in a canoe. Below the photos are three colored boxes for registration details in Virginia, Maryland, and New Jersey. At the bottom, there is a 'Register here!' button with a QR code and the website URL.

Virginia	Maryland	New Jersey
July 5-11 Camp Piankatank 1586 Stampers Bay Rd Hartfield, VA 23071	July 12-18 Camp Wo-Me-To 1200 Knopp Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084	July 12-18 Camp Linwood MacDonald 1 Flatbrook Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826
Early Bird: \$600 until May 31	Early Bird: \$625 until May 31	Early Bird: \$675 until May 31

Register here!

www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd

Angel Choir (Ages 7-12) - 2026 Update

The Angel Choir has joined the Adult Choir on Sundays. Membership continues to grow and new members are welcome any time of the year. Angel Choir practices are after Sunday School. Children should meet the director for practice in church in the choir pews. For more information contact Anne Kernoski, akernoski@gmail.com



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

Adult Choir for ages 18 to senior citizens



Angel Choir for boys and girls ages 7-12



Byzan "teens" for boys and girls Ages 13-17

For more information, email Anne Kernoski, Choir Director:

akernoski@gmail.com

[Click here to sign up](#)

*Come join us for
Adult Greek Dance*

**Now offering Greek Dance
Lessons for adults!**

Practices will take place once a month in the
Bouras Center

10/16, 11/20, 1/22, 2/19, 3/26, 4/23, 5/21

\$25/class

Scan here to sign up

Please contact the instructor
Ronnie Filippatos
for more information
HTGOCGreekDance@gmail.com



join us for
**GREEK DANCE
LESSONS**



COME BE A PART OF THE HOLY TRINITY
GREEK DANCE GROUP!

Classes offered for grades
PreK-12
and adults as well!

Contact: Ronnie Filippatos Fernandez
908-672-6203
Htgocgreekdance@gmail.com



Upcoming Events

April 5

HOLY TRINITY GREEK SCHOOL PTO 2026 TSOUREKI FUNDRAISER
PRE ORDER COST \$12 EACH
PALM SUNDAY SALE WILL GO UP TO \$14.00



**PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED ORDER FORM WITH PAYMENT TO YOUR CHILD'S
GREEK SCHOOL TEACHER OR TO A PTO MEMBER**
DEADLINE: SUNDAY, MARCH 29th

ORDERS ARE TO BE PICKED UP ON SUNDAY, **APRIL 5th (PALM SUNDAY)**

FAMILY NAME: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CELL PHONE NUMBER: _____

QUANTITY WITH RED EGG: _____

QUANTITY WITHOUT RED EGG: _____

TOTAL QUANTITY: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

TSOUREKIA TO BE SUPPLIED BY VICTORY BAKERY IN ASTORIA, NEW YORK
PAYABLE BY CASH, VENMO (@WestfieldGreekSchool) OR CHECK MADE OUT TO:
HOLY TRINITY GREEKSCHOOL PTO

Order below:

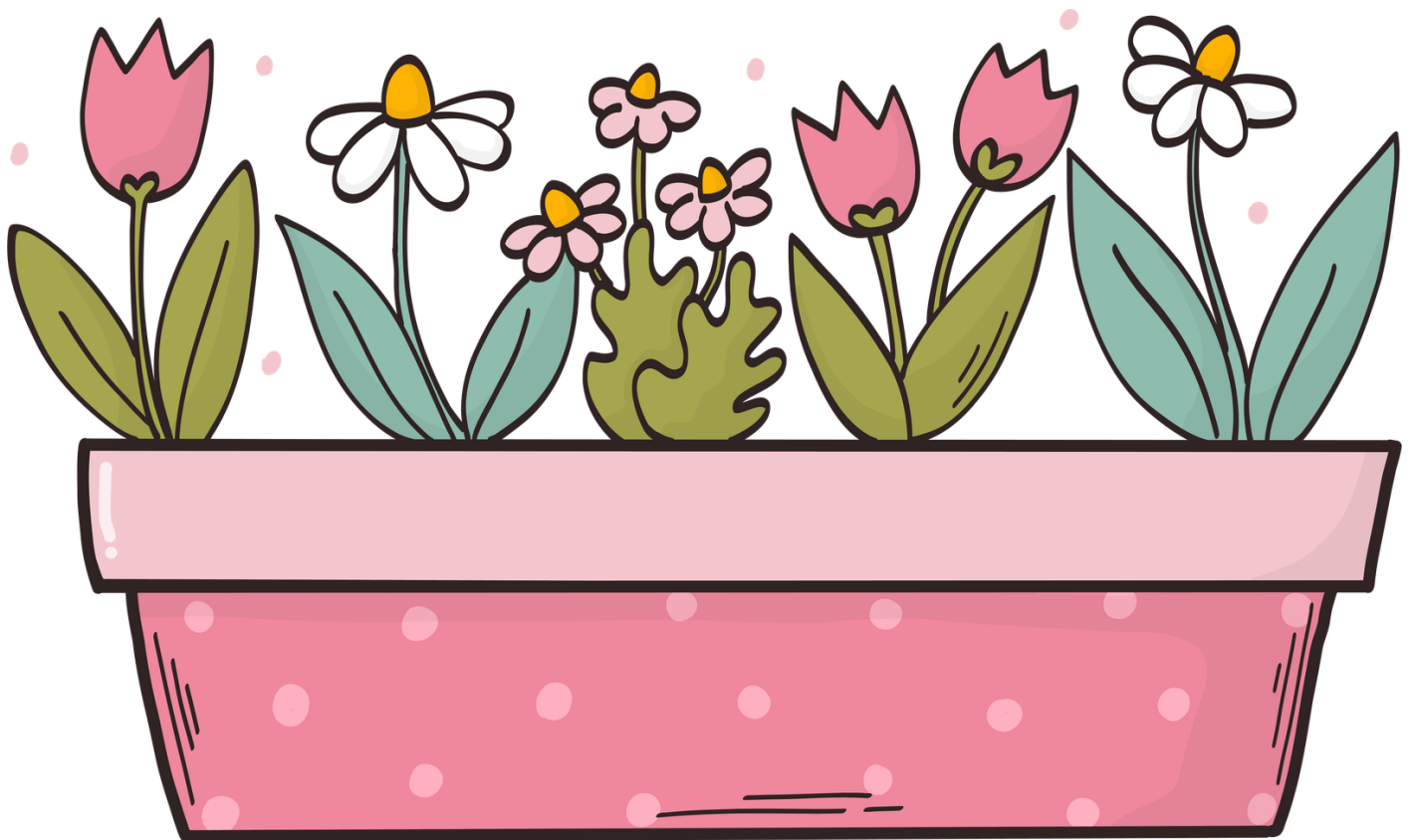
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April 5

**Spring Flowers GOYA Fundraiser
Palm Sunday**

\$12 each

(Proceeds to benefit upcoming GOYA activities)

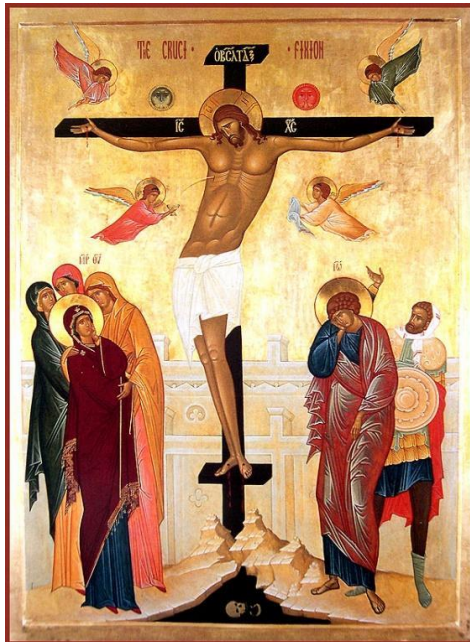


April 10, 2026

2026 Holy Friday Retreat

**The Events and Individuals of Holy Week
for grades K-6**

**Friday, April 10, 2026 ~ 10 am to 3 pm
Registration is free!**



**The Retreat will focus on theology, symbols, and hymns of
Holy Week, Holy Friday and Pascha**

**Followed by the taking down from the Cross:
Apokathelosis from 3pm to 4pm**

Parents are asked to attend the Apokathelosis

A Lenten lunch and midday snack will be included

**[Click here to register](#) or contact Pete Markos pmarkos307@gmail.com
for further information.**

April 26, 2026

Save the Date: Greek Independence Day Parade - Sunday, April 26

Join Holy Trinity Sunday, April 26, 1:30 PM in New York for the 87th NY Greek Independence Day Parade! This marks 205 years since March 25, 1821, the start of the Greek Revolution for liberation from the Ottoman Turkish yoke. Wear your best blue and white and join us for a march on 5th Avenue from 61st to 74th street! More information and details will be shared closer to the date.



SAVE THE DATE TO JOIN HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY APRIL 26, 2026

TIME: 1:30 PM

March on 5th Avenue from 61st to 74th streets for the
87th NY Greek Independence Day Parade.

This marks 205 years since March 25, 1821, the start of the Greek
Revolution for liberation from the Ottoman Turkish yoke.

WEAR YOUR BEST BLUE AND WHITE

INFORMATION & DETAILS WILL BE SHARED CLOSER TO THE DATE



April 28, 2026

Rays of Hope

April 28th, 2026
BROOKLAKE COUNTRY CLUB

Presented by
Holy Trinity Ladies Philoptochos Society
Annual Dinner Fashion Show

In support of Mental Health
Hope Shines Brightest When We Gather Together



— VIP RAFFLE —
Dior Purse & Scarf
Only 250 Tickets

Curated Gift Basket Raffle • 50/50
Grand Raffle Drawing • 5 Winners



TO PAY ONLINE



Featuring *bloomingdales* & Sareh Nouri

RESERVE YOUR SEAT



May 7, 2026

*Come join us for
Adult Greek Dance*

GET READY FOR FESTIVAL SEASON!

Brush up on your Greek dancing skills while supporting our Greek Dance Ministry!

Join our Hellenic dancers
Ronnie Filippatos & Nick Fourniadis for
a fun evening of Learning the most popular Greek dances, Drinks &
appetizers, Music, laughter, and community

Whether you're a beginner or just want to refresh your steps, this will
be a great night to get ready for festival season!

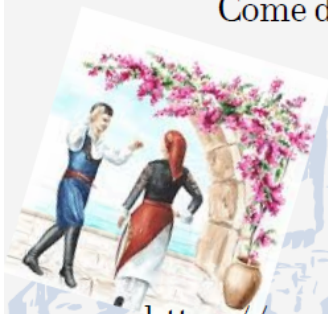
Date: May 7

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Location: Bouras Center

Attire: Casual / Comfortable

Come dance, laugh, and celebrate our Greek culture!



Adults Only
\$25 per person

Venmo: @westfieldgreekschool

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45ABAA28A5FBC34-62862328-fundraiser>

May 16, 2026

**GOYA
CLOTHING
DRIVE**

HOLY TRINITY
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
250 GALLOWS HILL RD.
WESTFIELD, NJ
07090



**please bag items in
kitchen size garbage bags**

Accepting: Clothing for men, women and children, shoes (in a separate clear bag), Clothing accessories: belts, hats, scarves, handbags, gloves, etc.. We take small toys 2 feet or less, stuffed animals, towels, sheets, and pillowcases, bikes and strollers

Not Accepting: quilts, comforters, pillows, and blankets, sports equipment- bikes are ok, no board games, books, puzzles, pots, car seats, no glass or electrical devices, no large toys, highchairs or baby cribs, or scooters, vcr tapes, furniture or outdoor playsets, frames, candles, cards, plastic cups pet accessories or holiday decorations.

**SAT.
MAY 16
2026**

DRIVE THROUGH & DROP OFF

9:00-11:30 AM

May 29 - 31, 2026

Join us!

Westfield, NJ
GREEK FEST 26
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

May 29, 30, 31

Friday
5 p.m. - 11pm

Saturday
Noon - 11 pm

Sunday
Noon - 6 pm



Be an active part of our 2026 GreekFest! Please volunteer your time, talents & treasures. Everyone is needed to make our festival a success!

To sign up, simply scan the QR code or go to:

<https://bit.ly/Greekfest26Volunteers>



T.O.T.S.- (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social)

Mission Statement

The mission of the Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social (T.O.T.S.) of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church is to provide an environment fostering fellowship and prayer for children aged 18 months to 4 years of age and their mother, father and/or caregiver. Children are encouraged to develop a sense of comfort and security in God's house while experimenting in independent and cooperative age-appropriate play under their caregiver's supervision. Concurrently, the toddler social enables these adults the opportunity to meet, pray, and socialize.

TOTS meetings: Wednesdays, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Pre-K Room

2026
April 22
May 13, 27

Bring water, sneakers and a snack. Contact Val Comprelli (vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608) to sign up or to ask any questions.



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠