

# NINTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



The Transfiguration of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ

August 10, 2025

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 Delvzizis, Parish Priest

On this day we commemorate the Afterfeast of the Transfiguration of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ; The Holy Martyr and Archdeacon St. Laurence of Rome; St. Chitos of Athens, Bishop of Rome; St. Hippolytus the Martyr of Rome

**Plagal Fourth Tone**

Ἦχος Πλ. Δ΄

Morning Gospel:	<a href="#">St. John 20:19-31</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Epistle Reading:	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 3:9-17</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Gospel Reading:	<a href="#">St. Matthew 14:22-34</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>

**Apolytikion:** “From on high did You descend, O merciful Lord, for us did You endure three days in the tomb that we may be released from passions in this world, You who are our resurrection and our life Glory unto You O Lord.”

**Apolytikion of the Holy Transfiguration:** “You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God revealing Your glory to Your disciples, insofar as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos. Giver of light, glory to You.”

**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:** “Upon the mountain were You transfigured, and Your disciples beheld Your glory as far as they were able, O Christ our God; so that when they would see You crucified they might understand that Your Passion was deliberate, and declare to the world that in truth You are the Father’s radiance.”

**Liturgical Schedule**

Friday, August 15, Dormition/Kimisis of the Theotokos, Orthros, 8:30 AM;  
Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM  
Sunday, August 17, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

**Welcome Fr. Jim Moulketis**

The parish of Holy Trinity welcomes Fr. Jim Moulketis who is presiding over today’s liturgy and substituting for Fr. Peter. We are blessed to have him at our parish.

### Welcome Visitors

The parish of Holy Trinity welcomes those visiting our community. We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are looking for a spiritual home or wish to learn more about the Orthodox Faith, we hope that you consider becoming part of our family. Fr. Peter would very much like to meet you.

### Altar Donations

**Altar Candles:** In loving memory of my mother, Terpfichore Mitchel†

### Sacraments and Rites

**Memorial:** Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial service for Constance (Connie) Efthemios†, 40 days. Eternal be her memory.

**Churching:** Today a 40-day blessing of Steven Abdel-Malek, son of Peter Abdel-Malek and Ioanna Protogiannis, will be held.

**Funerals:** On Tuesday, August 5, the funerals for William Stroh† and Katherine (Kay) Panagos† were held. Eternal be their memories.



Nicholas, Joseph, Adina, James, Mary, Chris, Janeen, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, John, Marina, Pete, George, Laura, George, Costa, Basil, Lemonia, Justin, Evangelia, Brennan, Egon, Marilyn, Tatanya, Robert, Elizabeth, George, Nicholas, Alexander, Vasilios, Danny, Bill, Lou, Foula, Eupraxia, Chris, Arlene, John, Ted, William, Theodora, Michael, Gioula, Nicholas, Hellen, Kevin, Janice, Elaine, Patty, Cynthia, Nicholas, Christos, Thomas, Rich, Lea, Robert, Mary

### Singing the Liturgy During Summer Months

During the summer months, we have a beautiful opportunity to sing the hymns of the Divine Liturgy. Congregational singing adds to the service with your beautiful voices while also allowing you to learn the sacred hymns. Please use the blue Divine Liturgy books found in the pews for music.

**The July/August Edition of *The Promise* is Now Available Online!**

[www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise](http://www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise)

**Subscribe to Holy Trinity weekly emails providing news updates and announcements.**

**Request at: [HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org](mailto:HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org)**

## Communion Prayers

To help prepare yourself before receiving Holy Communion, Fr. Peter asks that you read the Communion Prayers silently as he reads them aloud. The prayers are found on pages 60-63. By following along and contemplating the words, you will gain awareness of the Eucharist and be led to repentance.

The first two prayers are about confessing the divinity of Christ and asking for forgiveness. We also affirm the physical realities of the Eucharist, namely that these gifts are truly the Body and Blood of Christ. The third prayer is the Communion Hymn for Holy Thursday, expressing faith and humility. The fourth and fifth prayers are petitions for cleansing the soul. The last two prayers express feelings of unworthiness and indicate the benefits of receiving the Holy Mysteries which consist of cleansing and purification. There is also reference to a "vesture" or our baptismal garment that we should endeavor to keep it clean or else we risk losing our intimate relationship with Christ. The bridal chamber is a metaphor of an inner sanctification and state of intimacy that we are called to share with Christ.

## Holy Transfiguration of our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ - August 6



In the third year of His preaching, the Lord Jesus often spoke to His disciples of His approaching passion but at the same time of His glory following His suffering on the Cross. So that His impending passion would not totally weaken His disciples and that no one would fall away from Him, He, the All-wise, wanted to partially show them His divine glory before His passion. For that reason, He took Peter, James and John with Him and, with them, went out at night to Mt. Tabor and there was transfigured

before them: *"And His face shone as the sun and His garments became white as snow"* (St. Matthew 17:2). There appeared alongside Him, Moses and Elias (Elijah), the great Old Testament prophets. And, seeing this, His disciples were amazed. Peter said: *"Lord, it is good for us to be here: if You will, let us make here three tabernacles; one for You, one for Moses and one for Elias"* (St. Matthew 17:4). While Peter still spoke, Moses and Elias departed, and a bright cloud overshadowed the Lord and His disciples and there came a voice from the cloud saying: *"This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear Him"* (St. Matthew 17:5). Hearing the voice, the disciples fell to the ground on their faces as though dead and remained that way, lying in fear, until the Lord came near to them and said: *"Arise and be not afraid"* (St. Matthew 17:7).

Why did the Lord take only three disciples on Tabor and not all? Because Judas was not worthy to behold the divine glory of the Teacher, Whom he will betray and the Lord did not want to leave him [Judas] alone at the foot of the mountain so that the betrayer would not, by that, justify his betrayal. Why was our Lord transfigured on a mountain and not in a valley? So as to teach

us two virtues: love of labor and godly thoughts. For climbing to the heights required labor and height represents the pinnacles of our thoughts, i.e., godly thoughts. Why was our Lord transfigured at night? Because the night rather than the day is more suitable for prayer and godly thoughts and because by its darkness, night conceals all the beauty of the earth and reveals the beauty of the starry heavens. Why did Moses and Elias appear? Our Lord manifested His divine power many times to the disciples but, on Mt. Tabor, He manifested His divine nature. This vision of His Divinity and the hearing of the heavenly witness about Him as the Son of God, should serve the disciples in the days of the Lord's passion, in the strengthening of an unwavering faith in Him and His final victory.

### ***HYMN OF PRAISE FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD***

*There, where Israel defeated Sisar; There also condescended, the Heavenly King; Prayer, to go and to nightly vigils; The glory of His Transfiguration, to manifest; And the faith of His followers, to confirm in the eternal victory of Him the Victor. There, divine light from Himself, He released; Dispels the thick darkness, and illuminated Tabor; The Light, for a long time, which in Himself contained; From which, to the world, a little at a time dispensed; Abundant rays, now released; Jubilant rays, sweet rays. The glow of humanity, to reveal to heaven; To earth and to men, the Divine Truth. Let the firmament, its Representative see; Let the earth recognize God, the Savior.*

### **Holy Trinity Choir Director – Kathryn Athanasoulas**

After decades of dedicated service, our beloved choir director Kathryn Athanasoulas has offered her resignation. Accepting her decision, Fr. Peter states that “one can find no greater advocate for church music than Kathryn. Her devotion has promoted, strengthened, steered, and sustained our liturgical tradition while always maintaining an intensely prayerful atmosphere. Her passion for this ministry is unparalleled.” Holy Trinity will celebrate her years of service in the coming months. We thank Kathryn for her love and eagerness to elevate church music.

### **Appointment of new Choir Director**

Fr. Peter is pleased to announce the appointment of Anne Kernoski as the new choir director at Holy Trinity. Anne, an accomplished musician with many years of experience, holds a music degree from Kean University. She has dedicated her entire life pursuing excellence in music. She has directed the Holy Trinity choir since the beginning of the year, and we are blessed that she brings with her much enthusiasm and expertise. We look forward to September when the liturgical choir will be under her supervision.

### **Greek School Registration is Now Open**

Greek School registration is now open for all classes. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 PM – 6 PM. Classes begin Tuesday, September 9, grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st

Beginners and 1st Advanced, 2nd; Thursday, September 11, grades 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th. You can register at <https://holytrinitywestfield.org/ministries/greek-school/>

### **Religious Education Classes Resume on Sunday, September 7**



The first day of classes is Sunday, September 7. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back in Fall! Please complete the online form for each student at your earliest convenience. Click [Religious Education Registration 2025-2026](#) or scan the QR code to register.

### **Greek Dance lessons offered to all Holy Trinity youth in grades Pre-K – 12th**

Greek heritage and identity are important to us at Holy Trinity. Dance is a wonderful way to: preserve Greek traditions, meet other youth members, exercise and have fun, and learn a wonderful skill. Led by Holy Trinity parishioner and member of Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey, Ronnie Filippatos.

HOPE/JOY (Pre-K - 6th) Instructor: Ronnie Filippatos, lessons to be held on Sundays following religious education. 3 groups, exact times for each group to be determined once all are registered.

GOYA (7th - 12th) Instructor: Nick Fourniadis, lessons to be held on Wednesdays 7 - 9 pm.

#### **Dance Fee:**

HOPE/JOY (Pre-K - 6th): \$250 1 dancer, \$400 2 dancers, \$500 3 dancers, \$550 4 dancers

GOYA (7th - 12th): \$350 1 dancer, \$600 2 dancers, \$700 3 dancers, \$750 4 dancers

To Register click on the link: [Greek Dance 2025 - 2026](#). The deadline to Register is September 14, 2025.

Please make payment directly to the church via check payable to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church or pay Online: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YQBS/home>. Select the "Youth Greek Dance Lessons" tile.

For questions, please contact Ronnie Filippatos [ronnie.filippatos@gmail.com](mailto:ronnie.filippatos@gmail.com)

### **44th Annual Holy Trinity Golf Classic - Save the Date!**

Monday, September 29, 2025 at Echo Lake Country Club, 515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090. For more information or to register visit our website at <https://holytrinitywestfield.org/community/golf-classic/>

## 2025 Stewardship Commitment and Online Giving

As you plan your summer vacation, please consider offering your Stewardship Pledge in advance before departing. It is critical that the Parish has ample financial resources during the summer months so as not to encounter any cash flow problems. Visit: [www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org](http://www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org) and click on "Online Giving", then "Stewardship". On this page you can complete the "Stewardship Commitment Card" and/or make a donation by clicking "Secure Online Giving".

# Upcoming Events

## September 9, 2025

**Come Join  
Holy Trinity Greek School in  
Westfield!**



**Registration for all classes are open now!**

2025-2026 Greek School Tuition

Holy Trinity Stewards

One student.....\$520  
Two students.....\$850  
Three students...\$1050

Non-Stewards

One student.....\$930  
Two students.....\$1,510  
Three students...\$1,780

Payments can be made at [Holytrinitywestfield.org](http://Holytrinitywestfield.org) under Ministries:



[Greek School & PTO Registration](#)



[This QR is for PTO DUES only](#)

**Classes will take place on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4:00pm-6:00pm**

**Tuesday, September 9, 2025 Grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Beginner and 1st Advanced, 2nd and  
Thursday, September 11, 2025 Grades, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th.**

If you have an **important** conflict please reach out to Principal Stavroula Mergoupis at [etsoutsani62@gmail.com](mailto:etsoutsani62@gmail.com)

\*Tuition Assistance\* If you are experiencing financial difficulty with tuition, please feel free to reach out to Father Peter Delvizi in confidence at [FrPeter@htgocnj.org](mailto:FrPeter@htgocnj.org)



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
250 Gallones Hill Road  
Westfield NJ 07090

# September 29, 2025

44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

## HOLY TRINITY GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, September 29, 2025

Echo Lake Country Club

515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090



### Schedule

Practice/Driving Range	10:45 am
Lunch	11:00 am
Kapsimalis Putting Contest	11:30 am
Shotgun Start	12:30 pm
Cocktail Hour and Reception	5:00 pm

### Sponsorship Opportunities

<i>Platinum Benefactor</i>	<i>\$ 10,000</i>
<i>Gold Benefactor</i>	<i>\$ 5,000</i>
<i>Silver Benefactor</i>	<i>\$ 3,500</i>
<i>Cocktail Hour Sponsor</i>	<i>\$ 3,000</i>
<i>Lunch Sponsor</i>	<i>\$ 2,000</i>
<i>Kapsimalis Putting Contest Sponsor</i>	<i>\$ 1,500</i>
<i>Halfway House Beverage Sponsor</i>	<i>\$ 1,000</i>
<i>Range Sponsor</i>	<i>\$ 500</i>
<i>Hole Sponsors (18) &amp; Tee Sponsors (18)</i>	<i>\$ 150 (each)</i>

### Benefiting:

Windy25 Memorial Fund  
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Westfield

For information, please contact:

George Colonias  
[gcolonias@yahoo.com](mailto:gcolonias@yahoo.com)  
908-294-7414

Stefanos Arethas  
[stefanos.arethas@gmail.com](mailto:stefanos.arethas@gmail.com)  
301-518-6816

George Paras  
[gparas@parasandparas.com](mailto:gparas@parasandparas.com)  
201-681-5366

# REGISTRATION FORM

To pay and register online: ["Online Giving"](#)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## Players

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Check all that apply:*

	Individual Golfer(s) \$450
	Foursome(s) \$1,800
	Sponsorship: Please indicate level below
	Reception \$100

*To make your reservation, please complete this form and return it with your payment to or pay online:*

### **HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**250 Gallows Hill Road**

**Westfield, NJ 07090**

**Attention: Golf Committee**

**If paying by credit card, please complete the following and sign:**

Name (as it appears on your card): \_\_\_\_\_

Master Card     Visa     American Express

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Month    \_\_\_\_\_ Year    Security Code # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address for this credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed or Authorized \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To pay and register online: ["Online Giving"](#)

