

Eighth Sunday of Matthew



Dormition or Kimisis of the Theotokos

August 18, 2024

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 Delvizi, Parish Priest

Morning Gospel:	St. John 20:11-18	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	1 Corinthians 1:10-17	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Matthew 14:14-22	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion: “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 Dormition [Kimisis]: “In giving birth, you did preserve your virginity; in your Dormition, you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated unto life, since you are the Mother of Life; and by your intercessions you redeem our souls from death.”

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 Dormition [Kimisis]: “The grave and death could not hold the Theotokos, who is unsleeping in her intercessions and an unfailing hope in her mediations. For as the Mother of Life she was translated to life by Him Who dwelt in her ever-virgin womb.”

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, August 25, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, September 1, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, September 8, **Nativity of the Theotokos**, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sacraments and Rites

Churching: Today a 40-day blessing of Evangelia Christine Manis, daughter of Alex and Kaitlin Manis will be held.

Memorial: Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial service for Demetrios Drivas†, 7 years. Eternal be his memory.

Welcome Visitors

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

Singing the Liturgy During Summer Months

A beautiful opportunity occurs at the Divine Liturgy during the summer months in that the parish begins congregational singing. Our chanters lead the responses, and the faithful are encouraged to participate so that the church may be filled with the sweet sounds of spiritual hymns.

Prayer Request



Luba, Kevin, Janice, Elaine, Patty, Cynthia, Nicholas, Blace, Christos, Thomas, Rich, Robert, Phyllis, Lea, Mary, Mason, George, Chloe, Yolanda, Luke, George, Maria, Alexander, Athena, Demetra, Stavroula, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, Pamela, John, Helen, Chris, Niko, Vicky, Dino, Stephanie, James, John, Theodora, Novlet, Chrysavgi, Alexandra, Sue, Marilyn, David, Basil, Laura, Marylee, Meropi, Adina, Nicholas, Constantine, Billy, Molly, Leonedas, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Vasileos, Tina, Fran, Dayvon, Sunitha, Neil, Gus, Dimitri, Freddy, Shane, Lula, Christina, Diego, Michael, Katie, Joe, Theo, Barbara

Was the body of the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary Taken up into Heaven?

There is no scriptural reference to the physical death of the Theotokos and thus accordingly no reference to her translation into heaven. Yet both are strong traditions kept in the Orthodox Church from the time of her death until now. The Roman Catholic Church also historically celebrated the Dormition of the Virgin Mary, together with the Orthodox, from the beginning of the Church, yet for some reason in the nineteenth century, the teaching was changed to say that the Most Holy Virgin was assumed into heaven without dying a physical death. The Orthodox agree that the Virgin Mary was assumed or translated into heaven but only after her physical death. The reason for this is that all humankind must be awarded the fruits of Christ's Resurrection. No one can enter into the eternal Kingdom but through Christ. The Most Holy Virgin is by far the greatest of all the saints and therefore one who is the most worthy to receive the gift of the Resurrection from her Son but nevertheless she still required this gift to be bestowed upon her.

In the Church's vernacular, only Christ ascended into heaven. Yet there are two instances of bodily translation occurring to humans that are mentioned in the Bible: Enoch [Genesis 5:21, Hebrews 11:5] and Elias (Elijah) [4 Kingdoms 2:11]. Yet even these two figures need to die an earthly death to enter into the fullness of Christ. It is therefore the Tradition of the Church that these two will return to earth to preach Christ before the Second Coming and receive a martyr's death.

The Horologion (the official book of the Orthodox Church) states concerning the bodily translation or going up into heaven of the Theotokos: *"Upon coming to the grave and not finding the Ever-holy body of the Theotokos, the disciples became assuredly convinced that she was translated into heaven in the body after those days, living the same as her Son, for she was resurrected and translated from the dead."*

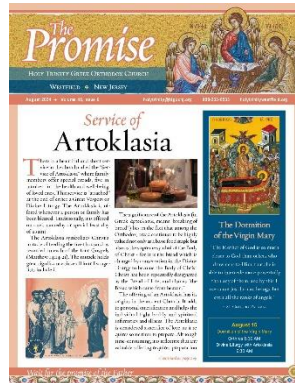
The Panagia's entire life and purpose was simply to bring us to Christ. *"As shown in the icon, Mary is never alone but always with Christ. Thus prayer to her is the prayer of the Church with her to the incarnate Son."*

One should rather see in Mary, the first and fullest of the saints, leading them in a continuous intercession to her Son. The worshipping Church is not only praying to the Theotokos but praying with her to God. She is the animating power, the leader of the continuous intercession of the community of saints to the Trinitarian God.” – Dr. N. A. Nissiotis

Dormition of the Theotokos Icon Donation

In gratitude to Maria and Peter Tarhanidis for their donation of flowers and the beautification of the icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos.

The August Edition of
THE PROMISE
Is Now Available



Religious Education Classes Resume - Sunday, September 8

Please complete the online form for each student at your earliest convenience. The first day of classes is Sunday, September 8. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back in the Fall! Click the link to register: [Religious Education Registration](#)



Greek School Registration is Now Open

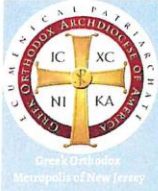
Greek School registration is now open for all classes. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4PM – 6PM. Classes begin Tuesday, September 10, grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Beginners and 1st Advanced and Thursday, September 12, grades 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th.

To register [click here](#).

GOYA Registration is Now Open

All students in grades 6-12 are encouraged to register for GOYA. Sixth graders can only participate in Westfield events; grades 7-12 can participate in all state GOYA events. For more information contact Sophia Saketos at 908-247-6048 or sophiasaketos@gmail.com.

To register [click here](#).



Metropolis of New Jersey Annual Holy Cross Celebration

Celebrated by His Eminence,
Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

Sunday, September 15, 2024

- 8:00 AM Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy:
St. George Greek Orthodox Church 1033 W. Park Avenue Ocean, NJ
- Blessing of the Waters and Youth Dive for the Cross following the
Divine Liturgy: Deal Beach - 111 Ocean Ave., Deal, NJ
- Fellowship Picnic to follow for all at St. George Church in
Ocean, NJ



Upcoming Parish Events

SAVE THE DATE!

September 8, 2024



Kick-Off Event!



**Loukoumades
& Frappe Sale**

Sun, September 8th

Come and enjoy our delicious treats, mingle with fellow parishioners and discover the joy of volunteering at our church festival. Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or looking to get involved for the first time, we welcome you to join our community efforts at our

NJ Greekfest - September 27-29th

Bouras Center immediately following the Divine Liturgy.

September 27-29, 2024

Save the Date

Westfield, NJ 
GREEK FEST 24
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

September 27, 28, 29

Friday
3 pm - 11pm

Saturday
11 am - 11 pm

Sunday
noon - 5 pm



Be an active part of our 2024 Greekfest! Volunteer your time, talents & treasures. Everyone is needed to make it a success! Simply scan the QR code to sign up or contact Roula Ioannou and Kelly Leunes at htgreekfestvolunteers@gmail.com

GreekFest 2024 - September 27 - 29

OPA!! 2024 Westfield GreekFest will take place, September 27-29!! Come volunteer your talent and join the fun to make this our best festival yet. PLEASE sign up and support OUR community! [GreekFest Volunteers Sign-Up](#)

Contact Roula Ioannou or Keli Leunes at HTGreekfestivalvolunteers@gmail.com

Follow us [@NJGreekFest](#) on Instagram and [NJ GreekFest](#) on Facebook to stay up-to-date on all things GreekFest!

Be sure to like and share our content!

www.njgreekfest.com



Westfield, NJ



GREEK FEST 24

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

250 GALLOWS HILL ROAD, WESTFIELD

September 27, 28, 29

Friday
3 pm - 11pm

Saturday
11 am - 11 pm

Sunday
noon - 5 pm



Greek Food & Pastries ◊ **Music & Dancing**
Marketplace ◊ **Kids Zone** ◊ **Mega 50/50**



www.njgreekfest.com



Admission \$2. Children under 12 free!
Free shuttle from Union County College parking lot to the Greekfest

September 23, 2024

**42nd ANNUAL
HOLY TRINITY GOLF CLASSIC**



Monday, September 23, 2024

**Echo Lake Country Club
515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090**

For information, please contact the Golf Committee: George Colonias admin@htgocnj.org
908-294-7414; George Paras gparas@parasandparas.com 201-681-5366



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠