

# EIGHTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



Procession of the Honorable Cross

August 3, 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 Delvizi, Parish Priest

On this day we commemorate Our Righteous Fathers St. Isaacius, St. Dalmatus, & St. Faustus, Ascetics of the Dalmation Monastery; St. Salome the Holy Myrrhbearer; St. Theoctistus the Wonderworker

**Grave Tone**

Ἦχος Βαρύς

Morning Gospel:	<a href="#">St. John 20:11-18</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Epistle Reading:	<a href="#">1 Corinthians 1:10-17</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Gospel Reading:	<a href="#">St. Matthew 14:14-22</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>

**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 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 Pre-feast of the Transfiguration:** “On the mount [Tabor] Thou wast transfigured, and Thy disciples, as much as they could bear, beheld Thy glory, O Christ our God; that when they should see Thee crucified, they would know Thy Passion to be willing, and would preach to the world that Thou, in truth, art the Effulgence of the Father.”

**Liturgical Schedule**

Wednesday, August 6, **Holy Transfiguration**, Orthros, 8:30 AM;

Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Friday, August 8, **Paraklesis to the Theotokos**, 6:30 PM

Sunday, August 10, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Friday, August 15, **Dormition/Kimisis of the Theotokos**, Orthros, 8:30 AM;

Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

### 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 memory of Ernest Ladas†

**Large Candles:** In memory of Angela Stappas†

### Sacraments and Rites

**Memorials:** Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial services for Ernest Ladas†, 1 year and Angela Stappas†, 25 years. Eternal be their memories.

**Funeral:** On Monday, August 4, the funeral for Sotirios (Sam) Koliopoulos† will be held. Eternal be his memory.



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, Mason, George, Chloe, Yolanda, George, Maria

### 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.

## Procession of the Honorable Cross – August 1

The feast of the Procession of the Honorable Cross was instituted by a mutual agreement between the Greeks and Russians, at the time of the Greek Emperor Manuel and the Russian Prince Andrew, in commemoration of the simultaneous victories of the Russians over the Bulgars, and the Greeks over the Saracens.

In both of these battles, crosses-from which heavenly rays blazed forth-were carried by the armies. Therefore, it was ordained that on August 1 the Cross be carried first to the middle of the Church of the Divine Wisdom [Hagia Sophia] and afterward through the streets for the veneration of the people, as a commemoration of the miraculous help of the Cross in battle. This was not an ordinary cross, but the true Honorable Cross itself, which was kept in the church of the imperial court. On July 31, the Honorable Cross was carried from the imperial court to the Church of the Holy Wisdom, and from there it was carried along the streets, for the consecration of the earth and the air. Finally, on August 14, it was returned to the church of the imperial palace.



The weak man protects himself by hypocrisy, while the strong man protects himself by tyranny. No man can defend his life before God - either by hypocrisy or by tyranny. This is clearly shown to us by the example of the holy elder Eleazar and King Antiochus. When the tyrannical king brought Eleazar to trial and demanded that he eat pork if he desired to save his life, Eleazar adamantly refused. Then those partial to Eleazar offered him meat that was not pork, begging

him to eat it in the presence of the king in order to appease him, thereby to preserve his own life and perhaps assuage his own conscience as well. The elder refused this offer, saying to them: "Hypocrisy is not becoming to me, nor is it meet for me, an old man, to be a scandal and stumbling-block to the young." The elder Eleazar was slain in the body, but he saved his soul. The punishment of God came upon the tyrannical King Antiochus while he was still living. A dreadful disease from within overcame him, and his body swarmed with worms. The stench from his body spread afar. In his despair, the king remembered the shedding of the innocent blood of thousands of human beings who, by his order, were mercilessly slaughtered. Overcome by the fear of God, he began to confess the One God, Whose faithful he had ruthlessly persecuted. However, heavenly mercy did not manifest itself to him.

### **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.

### **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”.

### **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/>

# 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](https://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@htgoenj.org](mailto:FrPeter@htgoenj.org)



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church  
250 Gallows 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"](#)

