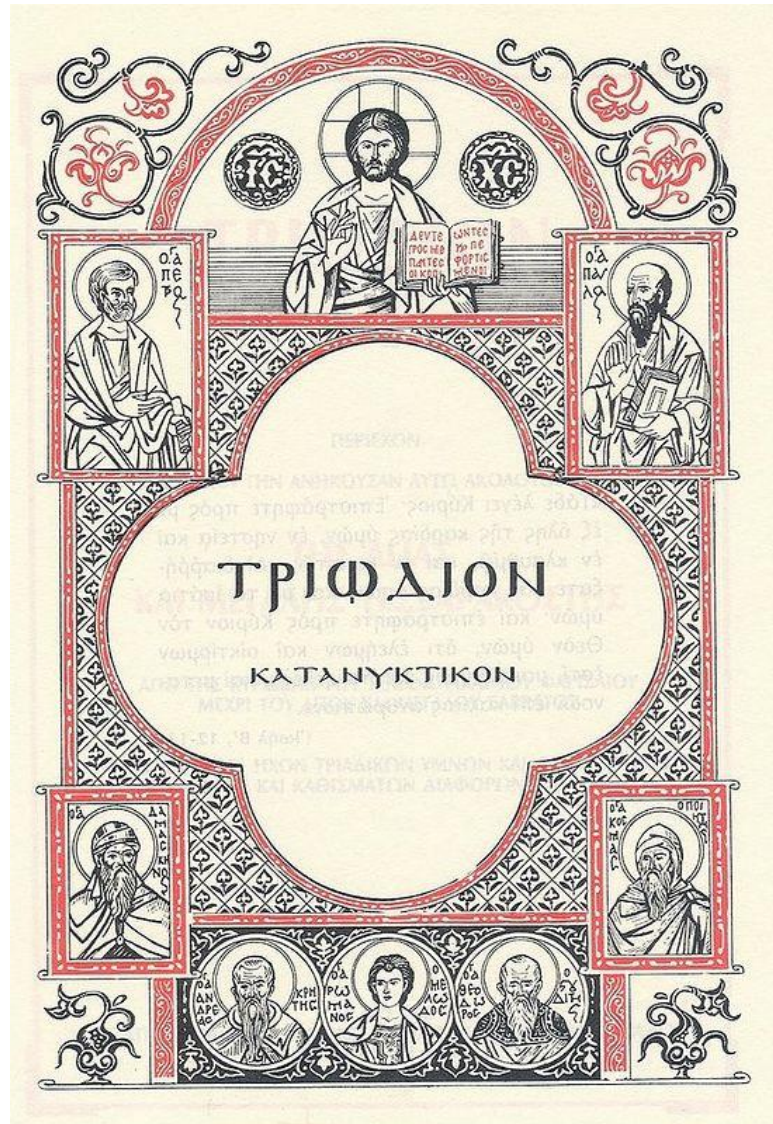


Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee



The Start of the Triodion

Sunday, February 25, 2024

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 Delvzizis, Parish Priest

On the Twenty-fifth Day of the month, we commemorate: Triodion Begins; Our Righteous Father St. Tarasios, Patriarch of Constantinople; Holy Hieromartyr St. Reginos, Bishop of Skopelos; Holy Martyr St. Alexander of Thrace

Click links for Scripture Readings

Morning Gospel:	St. Luke 24:12-35	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	2 Timothy 3:10-15	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Luke 18:10-14	Ελληνικά

Plagal First Ηχος Πλ. Α´

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: “To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.”

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: “Let us flee the Pharisee’s* conceited vaunting; * let us learn the Publican’s* humility, and cry with groans* unto the Saviour: Thou Who alone* art swiftly reconciled, be gracious unto us.”

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, March 3, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, March 9, Holy 40 Martyrs of Sebaste, 1st Saturday of Souls, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

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

Saturday, March 16, 2nd Saturday of Souls, 9:00 AM

Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In Loving Memory of Roy D. Soppas†

Large Candles: In Loving Memory of Polemnia Andrews†

Sacraments and Rites

Funeral: On Monday, February 26, the funeral service for George Skorinko† will be held. Eternal be his memory.

Partaking of Holy Communion

Receiving Holy Communion is a clear and visible sign of unity in faith. Please know that Holy Communion can only be received by those who are baptized and confirmed in the Orthodox Church. Additionally, all Orthodox Christians must prepare themselves through prayer and fasting before approaching the Chalice.

Welcome Visitors

We welcome all those visiting our parish today and are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are looking for a friendly spiritual home, we invite you to become part of the Holy Trinity family. Fr. Peter would very much like to meet you. Please visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after services to meet parishioners and enjoy our Fellowship.



What is the Triodion?

This time of year, we often hear reference or read on the parish calendar that the “Triodion is beginning”. What exactly is the Triodion?

In simplest terms, the Triodion is a book. This liturgical book contains all the services leading up to the start of Great Lent (*which begins today*) and includes the entirety of Great Lent and Holy Week. Because of the ground it covers in addition to the Menaion (*the liturgical book that includes daily services throughout the year*), the Triodion is also a period of time reaching from the four Sundays prior to the start of lent until the Service of the Resurrection on Pascha. When we hear the priest say, “The Triodion begins”, what he means is that lent will soon be upon us. He reminds us of our duty to prepare and engage in this most sacred time of the liturgical calendar so that our celebration of Pascha will be heightened and more meaningful.

The Orthodox Church celebrates two types of feasts, namely movable and immovable feasts. Examples of immovable or fixed feasts are Christmas, the Dormition, Epiphany, and saints’ days; these celebrations occur every year on the same date. Every movable feast is connected to the celebration of Easter/Pascha. This establishes the fact that the holiest day on the Christian calendar is Pascha – the Day of Christ’s Resurrection. It is natural that all feasts that depend on Pascha are also movable. Examples of such feasts are: Ascension, Pentecost, Sunday of Thomas, Mid-Pentecost.

The whole period of the Triodion is intended to prepare us, through fasting, prayer, and repentance, to accept our Savior as He “makes ready for His Passion” and to become communicants of His Passion and Resurrection. Unfortunately, however, this is only theoretical. In action, many of our Christians use the period of the Triodion in a way that only makes the devil rejoice; dances, disguises (commonly known as “masks”), immoral songs, carnivals, drunkenness, sinful fun, and a variety of other wretched things. How can these be the things that thousands of people do in preparation for Lent!!! These things are unworthy of Christian behavior and a debasement of our nature. Idol-worshippers celebrate with dances, carnivals, drunkenness, and “masks”. Christians honor lent with prayer, almsgiving, and fasting, and with the sense of “joyful-sorrow” which is an acknowledgement of our sins but overcome by solemnity and spiritual gladness in God’s power.

“The arena of the virtues has been opened. Let all who wish to struggle for the prize now enter, girding themselves for the noble contest of the Fast; for those that strive lawfully are justly crowned. Taking up the

armor of the Cross, let us make war against the enemy. Let us have faith as our invincible wall, prayer as our breastplate, and as our helmet almsgiving; and as our sword let us use fasting that cuts away all evil from our heart. If we do this, we shall receive the true crown from Christ the King of all at the Day of Judgment.”

Reading the Communion Prayers - Pages 60-63 of Divine Liturgy Book

In Her wisdom, the Church provides beautiful prayers to say before and after receiving Holy Communion. These prayers are part of our Eucharistic preparation which also includes a complete fast in the morning (i.e., nothing by mouth) before receiving the Precious Gifts. As these prayers are read by the clergy in the altar, the faithful should join in at the same time by reading them silently. These Communion Prayers speak to us about faith and forgiveness; humility and cleansing of sins; and a feeling of unworthiness in the presence of the Almighty God. Finally, they reveal the benefits of receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. The conclusion of these prayers is seen in the priest who asks for forgiveness from his co-celebrants in the altar and then from the entire congregation. In like manner, each of us must ask for forgiveness from our brethren before approaching the Holy Chalice.

Metropolis of New Jersey Facebook Page

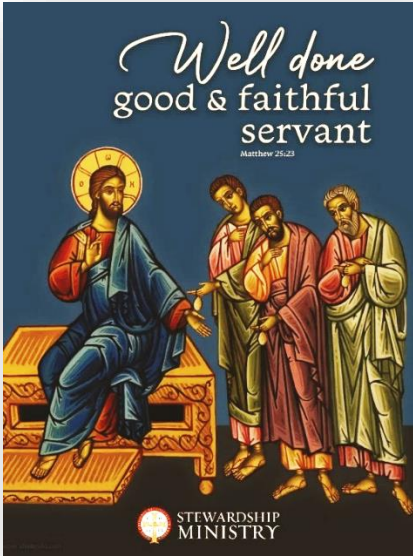
His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos wishes to inform all that the Metropolis has created a new Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Facebook Page. Please visit and follow this page and share the link with fellow parishioners. www.facebook.com/people/Greek-Orthodox-Metropolis-of-New-Jersey/

Stewardship Cards due by March 1



Thank you to the parishioners who submitted their pledge cards and stewardship gifts. As of February, we have received 261 pledges in the amount of \$380,526. Please remember to submit your pledge card which will help us meet our operating budget of \$939,200. Consider

inviting family and friends to come to visit and worship with us. Sponsor a new steward and bring them into our Holy Trinity family. Your gifts to date have allowed our Parish to achieve 40.5% of our budget. Holy Trinity is blessed in that we do not have a mortgage as do many other parishes. This allows for a greater percentage of your Stewardship pledge to be utilized for ministry rather than given to the bank. As you can see, the parish has many thriving ministries, and we want every parishioner to be involved with our ministries.



As Christian Stewards we are called to give back to God from the “first fruits” of our labor. We do this in large part by supporting Our Church, Our Spiritual Home. Each year during this time, I ask you to support our parish and her ministries in an intentional and meaningful way. We can do this by offering the first and the best of our fruits!

The 2024 Christian Stewardship Cards have been mailed to all Stewards of Holy Trinity. If you did not receive it, please pick up a card from the church or call the church office to receive it by mail.

Thank you for your stewardship of time, talent, and treasure!

Click here to complete your [2024 Stewardship Commitment Card](#) online.



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ 07090 • Tel. (908) 233-8533 • www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org

“Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant”

2024 CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD



The operating expenses of our Church for the year 2024 are estimated to be \$939,200 (or an estimated \$2,200 per family).

In gratitude for God’s blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ’s work at Holy Trinity Church in 2024 a total amount of:

\$2,200 \$3,000 \$2,000 \$1,000 Young Adults (25-30) \$500 Other \$ _____

For additional information on Legacy or Planned Giving including donations of property, stock, or other securities, please contact the church office (908) 233-8533 or email HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org (see enclosed Stock/Security Donation Form)

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Spouse’s Name _____

Email Address _____

Names of Dependents _____

Telephone Number (_____) _____

Cell Number (_____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please bring your Commitment Card to Stewardship Sunday Liturgy, on Sunday November 19, 2023

To vote or seek elective office in the administration of the parish in 2024, your signed Stewardship Commitment Card must be received by March 1, 2024

Prayer Request



Helen, Chris, Niko, Vicky, Dino, Stephanie, James, John, Theodora, Novlet, Chrysavgi, Alexandra, Sue, Marilyn, David, Basil, Laura, Marylee, Meropi, Adina, Nicholas, Constantine, Billy, Molly, Leonidas, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Constantine, Phyllis, Vasileos, Tina, Gabby, Fran, Dayvon, Sunitha, Neil, Gus, Dimitri, Freddy, Shane, Lula, Christina, Diego, Michael, Katie, Joe, Theo, Barbara, Nicholas, Athanasios, Clarita, Georgia, Savas, Christodoulos, Sophia, Savas, Maria, Michelle, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Steve, Clem, Christos, Dorothy, Bill, Thomas, John, Ket, Dawn, Nick, Hilary, Nicholas, Matt, Diane, Cynthia, Patty, John, Isabel, Noella, Nevin, George, Diana, Lucia, Rich



Altar Boys

Fr. Peter invites all boys ages 12 and older to commit to service in the altar. An acolyte plays an integral part in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and other services. Please speak to Fr. Peter to assist in this capacity. To serve the Lord in this way is a great privilege and honor.

The February Edition of
THE PROMISE
 Is Now Available





**HOLY TRINITY
WESTFIELD**

**YOUTH
REGISTRATION**

Holy Trinity offers numerous youth programs, including GOYA, JOY/HOPE, Greek Dance and TOTS.

GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) is the ministry to teenagers for the purpose of fellowship, worship, service, and witness. New members in grades 6-12 are welcome at any time. 6th graders may participate in Westfield only activities and 7-12th (ages 12-18) may participate in statewide activities. Activities include Christ Encounter Retreat, athletics, outreach, Greek dance, Sights &

Sounds (performing and visual arts), and many others! Register at <https://tinyurl.com/53pp88nz>
GOYA Advisors: Maria Tarhanidis, Mary Carayannopoulos, Sophia Saketos, Catherine Kelly, Andy Zotos, and Christine Skalkotos. Please contact an advisor or email goya@htgocnj.org with any questions.

TOTS Playgroup – February 28

The next TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) meeting will be on Wednesday, February 28, 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.

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee would like to share Hellenic and Orthodox cultural events and exhibits from organizations and institutions available to all. **East Mediterranean Business Culture Alliance** webinar events on <https://www.youtube.com/@embca>

- February 25 - “Nostos and Citizenship for Hellenic Adoptees” Webinar Panel Discussion
- March 21 - “Ioannis Kapodistrias - Hellenic Governor and International Statesman” Live Panel Discussion at the Demos Center in Athens, Greece
- March 24 - “Hypatia of Alexandria “Martyr for Philosophy”” Webinar Panel Discussion

The Metropolitan Museum of Art Exhibition Africa & Byzantium is on view until March 3

- For a virtual tour of Africa & Byzantium watch now at: <https://youtu.be/NHIT9vq6mJU>
-

Trinity Circle – March 5

At our monthly lunch/meeting, 11:00 AM-2:00 PM, Steve Xenakis will speak to us on APOKRIES, Greek Mardi Gras. Luncheon donated by Joy Daniledes in memory of her loved ones.

SAVE THE DATE - 2024 Ladies Philoptochos Annual Dinner Fashion Show

It will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at Brooklake Country Club in Florham Park, NJ. Fashions will be provided by Emily's of Staten Island. Invitations to this wonderful event will be forthcoming. For information, please contact Cassandra Romas, 2024 Fashion Show Chairman, kromas22409@gmail.com

Sights and Sounds



2024

Sights and Sounds – Saturday, March 2

Holy Trinity is hosting the 52nd year of Sights and Sounds on Saturday, March 2, when approximately 500 Greek Orthodox Youth from across NJ participate in this unique visual, literary, and performing arts competition.

About 100 volunteers are needed. Volunteers also gain access to view performances of our talented youth!

Please consider donating your time as a door monitor; morning and afternoon time slots are available. Please contact Roula Ioannou 908-451-3005 or Keli Leunes 917-816-6927. The email address is: sightsandsoundsvolunteers@gmail.com if interested or for further information.

Sights and Sounds is looking for qualified judges. Do you have colleagues, friends, relatives who are art or music teachers, professional artists, musicians? (Cannot be parishioners of Holy Trinity). Please contact the following individuals: Sounds: Yiana Leichtling at sightsandsoundsjudges@yahoo.com or 908-413-6213; Sights: Ellen Manos-Athenson at ebmanos@yahoo.com or 908-337-0775.

Westfield GOYA

proudly presents the

2024 Sights & Sounds Showcase



**Join us for a light lunch and show
featuring the Westfield GOYA group and individual performances
and displays of artwork**

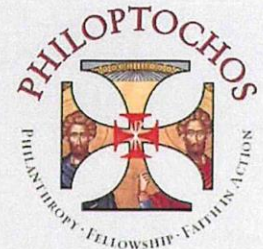
Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 12 noon

**Suggested Donation: \$5 per person or \$20 per family
Venmo @westfieldgoya or
Cash or Checks payable to HTGOC YHT at the door**

PLEASE SIGN UP SO WE CAN GET AN ESTIMATED HEADCOUNT: <http://tinyurl.com/m86jft5b>



GREEK ORTHODOX
METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY



WALKING WITH CHRIST

First Seminarian Benefit Luncheon



**St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church
35 N Malin Rd, Broomall, PA 19008**

March 16th

11 A.M.

2024



**Follow the QR code for Ticket Sales and Event
Sponsorships. All Proceeds Will Benefit the
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey
Seminarians and Masters of Divinity Students**

Upcoming Parish Events

SAVE THE DATE!

April 14, 2024

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE



SAVE THE DATE

The Greek Independence Day Parade in New York will be held on

Sunday, April 14, 2024



June 23-29, 2024

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

The Metropolis Summer Camp program will take place in the summer of 2024 from June 23-29. Registration is now available. This is an excellent opportunity for children to meet other Greek Orthodox and to learn about the faith in a protected environment.



Camp Good Shepherd

Experience the Best Week of Your Summer!

CGS: MARYLAND

June 16-22, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Registration Fee: \$600 (Early Bird Discount until May 1, then \$675)

CGS: NEW JERSEY

June 23-29, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826
Registration Fee: \$625

CGS: VIRGINIA (2 SESSIONS)

Week 1: July 7-13 (Completed 5th Grade - 8th Grade)
Week 2: July 14-20 (Completed 9th Grade - 12th Grade)
Camp Piankatank
1586 Stampers Bay Rd Box 435, Hartfield, VA 23071
Registration Fee: \$500

REGISTER TODAY!



[HTTP://APP.CAMPDOC.COM/REGISTER/CGSN](http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn)

MORE INFORMATION [HTTPS://WWW.NJ.GOARCH.ORG/CAMP-GOOD-SHEPHERD](https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)





GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠