

SUNDAY AFTER THEOPHANY



“I WILL ENTER YOUR HOLY HOUSE IN FEAR OF YOU AND WORSHIP
AT YOUR HOLY TEMPLE” – PSALM 5:8

January 11, 2026

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 Delvzizis, Parish Priest

Our Righteous Father St. Theodosios the Cenobiarch;
The Holy New Martyr St. Nikiforos of Kritsas; The Righteous St. Vitalis

Plagal Second Tone

Ἦχος Πλ. Β´

Morning Gospel:	St. John 20:19-31	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Hebrews 13:7-16	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Matthew 4:12-17	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion: “The angelic powers appeared at Your tomb, the soldiers guarding it became as dead men, and Mary stood at Your grave seeking, seeking Your most pure body. But You made hell a captive; You were untouched by its might. You came to the virgin and granted life. O Lord, who rose from the dead, glory to You.”

Apolytikion of Theophany: “In the Jordan, You were baptized, O Lord. And the worship of the Trinity was made manifest; for the voice of the Father bears witness to You, by calling You His beloved Son. And the Spirit in the form of a dove confirms the certainty of His word. O Christ our God, Who did appear unto us and enlightened the world, glory to You.”

Apolytikion of the Righteous: “With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O Theodosius, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.”

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: “From above You appeared today, to the earth’s people. And Your light, O dear Lord, has been marked upon us. In true knowledge we sing to You. You came, You appeared, O Light Unapproachable.”

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, January 17, **St. Anthony the Great**, Orthros, 8:30 AM;
Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM
Sunday, January 18, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM
Sunday, January 25, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Altar Donations

Vigil Light and Large Candles: In memory of Nicholas Eniou†

Prayer Request



Dominque, Daniel, Elizabeth, John, Robert, Erin, Kevin, Sabrina, Luke, Bill, James, Ria, Eric, Joanne, Alexandra, Sophia, Nicholas, Panagiota, James, Mary, Chris, Janeen, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, John, Marina, George, Laura, George, Costa, Basil, Lemonia, Justin, Chris, Evangelia, Brennan, Egon, Marilyn, Tatanya, Robert, Elizabeth, George, Nicholas, Alexander, Vasilios, Danny, Bill, Lou, Foula, Eupraxia

Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes those visiting our community. Worshipping the Holy Trinity is the principal act of an Orthodox parish, especially on the Day of the Resurrection (Sunday). 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.

House Blessings During the Epiphany Season



If you would like to have your home or business blessed during the Epiphany season, please send in an "Epiphany House Blessing" card or contact the church office to schedule a time for Father Peter to visit your home in January.

Affirmation of Office of the 2026 Parish Council

After Holy Communion, the newly elected Parish Council members together with the ongoing members will take the Affirmation of Office. The 2026 Parish Council is: Peter Arbes, James Angelides, Stefanos Arethas, Peter Boutsikaris, Leon Carayannopoulos, George Colonias, Christopher Daifotis, Ted Exarhakos, A.J. Karanikolas, Felicia Karsos, Lauren Koniaris, George Koutsaftes, Steven A. Ladas, Peter Markos, Peter Pangis, Penny Mavridis Sales, Dimitri Sidiropoulos, Georgia (Gina) Sikellis, Dean Steele, and Peter Tarhanidis.

The January 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



Sayings of the Church Fathers...

"THE GRACE OF GOD DOES NOT COME TO THE ONE WHO RESTS, BUT TO THE ONE WHO TOILS, WHO STRUGGLES, WHO THIRSTS AND HUNGERS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS." - ST. JOSEPH THE HESYCHAST

Consider the heart...

"THE HEART ITSELF IS BUT A SMALL VESSEL, YET DRAGONS AND LIONS LURK THERE, AND THERE LIKEWISE ARE POISONOUS CREATURES AND ALL THE TREASURES OF WICKEDNESS. BUT THERE ALSO IS GOD."

- ST. MACARIUS OF EGYPT



Religious Education

We have opportunities available to make a difference in the lives of our youth through our faith! You do not need to be an expert on Orthodoxy and you do not need to have teaching experience. We are just looking for extra hands! We are looking for Assistant Teachers for the Pre-K class and the combined 9/10 grade class. If interested, please contact Pete Markos at religiouseducation@htgocnj.org

Church Etiquette

Yes, even with all the bewildering number of "do's" and "don'ts", church etiquette is alive to help foster and express your faith. These include external gestures, but they also entail attire as well as timeliness. All these repeated habits can provide a sense of stability and reverence in the Temple of God.

Attire: Since we meet God at church, it is respectful to present yourself in a clean and neat manner. How we dress is important and it should always express the Christian idea of modesty and appropriateness. It is traditional for women to wear dresses and men, slacks with a jacket. If you plan to receive holy communion do not wear lipstick.

Timeliness: The Divine Liturgy begins when the priest praises God and glorifies the name of the Trinity with the opening "Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." There is no set time on a clock for the Divine Liturgy to begin, since at the opening of the liturgy the Church transcends time. We enter timelessness because we are participating in God's kingdom which is eternity. Late church arrival is a bad habit learned over time and promotes spiritual decay. Arriving late strips you of God's blessings and is an interruption to your fellow parishioner. Everyone should arrive on time or before the reading of the Epistle and Gospel.

Entering the Narthex: The Orthodox believe that as we enter the first part of the church, the Narthex, we are entering heaven. We leave the secular world to enter the sacred. A church service is a beautifully constructed prayer service. We should attach ourselves to pray the moment we walk inside the Narthex. Stop all talking. This is the time to prepare for worship.

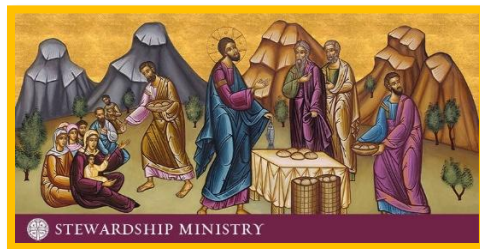
Bow your head, make the sign of the cross, and make an offering for a candle. Light the candle from the one already burning as a sign that we take our faith from others. Venerate the icons and say a short prayer asking God for mercy and the Panagia (the Virgin Mary) for intercession for our souls' salvation.

Enter the Nave: We enter another's house respectfully and with reason. The nave is God's house, and we enter this sacred space also respectfully and with reason. First, we make the sign of the Cross and thank the Lord for being made worthy of entering. Quickly find your seat and take a moment to breathe in. Bodily senses are overwhelmed with the church environment. We smell holiness, we hear joyful words, we make gestures to engage properly in worship, we take and touch the books to guide us, and we receive the Eucharist to "taste and see how good the Lord is." Psalm 34:8

2026 Stewardship Campaign

"Building Up the Body of Christ"

We have commenced our annual 2026 Stewardship Campaign. We thank all Holy Trinity parishioners who always rise to the occasion to support our beloved parish. In 2025 we received 423 signed Stewardship Pledge Cards. For 2026, so far we have received 161 Pledge Cards. Our goal for 2026 is to increase the number of stewards. You can help us on our journey by submitting a signed pledge card. Together we can keep Holy Trinity a special home and spiritual center.



***Holy Trinity is my spiritual and cultural center –
It is a place like no other, rooted in faith.
It nurtures joy and a deep sense of purpose in giving.***

There was a certain man in the Old Testament named Nehemiah, who after seeing the crumbling walls of Jerusalem, called the people to "Rise up and build." Nehemiah knows he can't do it alone. He inspires the people, sharing his vision to rebuild. The people responded, "Let us rise up and build."

Spiritually, this story calls us to build using material that is beyond brick and mortar. As Orthodox Christians, we must use our faith to build up and make our parish stronger. Stewardship calls us to respond to the needs of the Church by using God's gifts faithfully. Together we can "rise up and build" lives that are holy and dedicated to God.

This call of Nehemiah to "rise up and build" invites us to become active members of the Church, the Body of Christ, to join in ministry and contribute according to our abilities. As Orthodox Christians, we understand that Stewardship is a community effort in which everyone plays a role.

To date, the parish has funded our Metropolis, Archdiocese, the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Foundation, several outreach initiatives, and continued support of our growing and vibrant ministries.

Pledge cards are available in the pews, at the Pangari and can be submitted online at <https://form.jotform.com/230346419533151> . The suggested pledge is \$2,200 per steward and \$500 for young adults. The pledge card includes an option to identify your interest in volunteering by ministry.

To be a steward in good standing means one is eligible to vote at parish assemblies & elections, and to run for the Parish Council - please submit your pledge card by the end of the year.

Yours in Christ,

Stewardship Committee

Altar Boys

Fr. Peter invites all boys ages 12 and older to commit to serve in the altar. An acolyte plays an important role in the ceremonial aspects of the Divine Liturgy. We want our children to remain in the church as they grow up. By committing and serving in this unique role, a deep respect is instilled. This shapes and deepens faith. Please see Fr. Peter for more information.

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

2025 GOYA Registration

<https://forms.gle/hAmPHc4bLkk9eN9F8>



Contact Sophia Saketos at 908-247-6048 or goya@htgocnj.org with questions.

TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) - January 14

Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 14, 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.

Holy Trinity Cultural Committee – This Thursday, January 15, 6:30 PM

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee invites all parishioners and friends to an evening with Iphigenia Kanara in the Bouras Center. Ms. Kanara serves as the Consul General of Greece in New York, leading one of Greece's most prominent diplomatic missions abroad. A seasoned career diplomat, she has held senior positions in international relations, multilateral diplomacy, and public affairs. Her work emphasizes cultural diplomacy, diaspora engagement, and the advancement of Greece's strategic, economic, and cultural priorities. She is a strong advocate for women in diplomacy and inclusive global leadership. Please RSVP by contacting the church office at 908-233-8533.

Holy Trinity Family Dance – Saturday, January 17



Holy Trinity Family Dance will be held this Saturday, January 17, from 6 PM – 10 PM at The Galloping Hill Caterers in Union, NJ (Crystal Room). All are welcome, and we invite families to bring their children! The evening will include a delicious buffet, DJ entertainment, a performance by our Greek dancers, and fun activities for children throughout the night.

Tickets: Adults \$100; Teens (13–18) \$60; Children (3–12) \$40. Payment can be made via Venmo @westfieldgreeksschool (via the QR Code) or by check made payable to "HT Greek School PTO".

If you would like to donate a raffle item or sponsor prizes, email - liapapathomas@gmail.com If you have general questions, email asfourmarissa@gmail.com

We look forward to celebrating a fun night together with our Holy Trinity family!

Adult Greek Dance Lessons - Thursday, January 22

Lessons will be offered by Ronnie Filippatos Fernandez one Thursday per month, \$25 per class. The next lesson is January 22, 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 dates are: 2/19, 3/26, 4/23, 5/21.

SAVE THE DATE - Philoptochos Stewardship and Vasilopita Luncheon - January 25

Reservations are now open. Please join us immediately following Divine Liturgy in the Bouras Center. As a reminder, the luncheon is a fundraiser for St. Basil Academy and Archdiocese Youth and Young Adult Programs.

Sign up during the Fellowship Hour, by mail or email: asst-treas@htphiloptochos.com

Adults - \$30; Children 16 and under - \$20. Reservation deadline January 19; reserved seating for tables of 10. Zelle accepted: treasurer@htphiloptochos.com

Checks payable to: Ladies Philoptochos of HTGOC; Send to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ 07090 Attn: Vasilopita Luncheon; Mary Carayannopoulos and Yiana Leichtling, co-chairs.

SAVE THE DATE - Community Communion Breakfast ~ February 8

All are encouraged to receive Holy Communion and join us at breakfast immediately following the Divine Liturgy. Invite all Godchildren and Godparents to this lovely event! Sign up in the Bouras Center Sunday January 18, 25 and February 1.



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

Adult Choir for ages 18 to senior citizens



Angel Choir for boys and girls ages 8-12



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!**

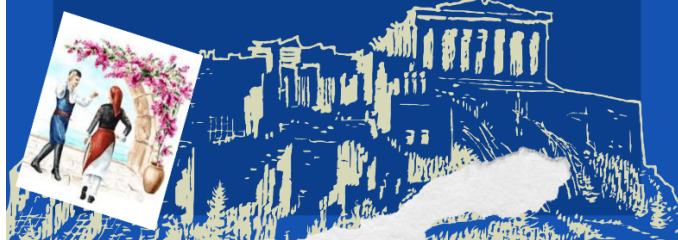
Practices will take place once a month in the
Bouras Center

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

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

January 15, 2026

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee

invites Parishioners and Philhellenes to a reception and discussion on

**Celebrating Hellenic Heritage and
Community Diplomacy**

Where Greece stands today and the role of the Consul General

Featured guest Ms. Iphigenia Kanara



**Consulate General of Greece
New York**

Topics include

Women in Diplomacy

Greece's Foreign Affairs Policy

Community Outreach & Consular Services

Thursday, January 15 at 6:30 PM

Bouras Center at Holy Trinity

250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield NJ

Please RSVP by contacting the office at 908-233-8533

January 17, 2026

We are excited to invite you to our Holy Trinity Family Dance on Saturday, January 17, 2026, from 6 - 10 PM at The Galloping Hill Caterers in Union, NJ (Crystal Room). All are welcome, and we invite families to bring their children! The evening will include a delicious buffet, DJ entertainment, a performance by our Greek dancers, and fun activities for kids throughout the night.

[Please sign up for the Family Dance here.](#) Payment can be made via Venmo (@westfieldgreeksschool or QR code below) or by check made payable to "HT Greek School PTO".

If you would like to donate a raffle item or sponsor prizes, email liapapathomas@gmail.com If you have general questions, email asfourmarissa@gmail.com

We look forward to celebrating a fun night together with our Holy Trinity family!



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US AT

*Holy Trinity
Family Dance*

GALLOPING HILL CATERERS
1085 GALLOPING HILL ROAD, UNION NJ
THE CRYSTAL ROOM

JANUARY
SATURDAY | **17** | AT 6 PM
2026

TICKETS
ADULTS \$100, TEENS 13-18 \$60, KIDS 3-12 \$40
TO PURCHASE VENMO @WESTFIELDGREEKSCHOOL OR BRING A CHECK TO THE GREEK SCHOOL
TABLE AT COFFEE HOUR (MADE OUT TO HOLY TRINITY GREEK SCHOOL PTO)

INCLUDE YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME AND TICKET QUANTITY.

Westfield Greek School
@WestfieldGreekSchool

*Thank you for supporting the
Holy Trinity Greek School*



venmo

January 25, 2026

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity



VASILOPITA LUNCHEON & STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY



January 25, 2026

Immediately following Divine Liturgy in the Bouras Center

All proceeds to support St. Basil Academy and youth and young adult programs throughout the Archdiocese and in all Metropolises

ADULTS - \$30

CHILDREN 16 and under - \$20

Includes Buffet Luncheon, Salad, Mezethes, Wine & Dessert

Please mail or stop by Philoptochos table to sign up

RESERVATION FORM

Deadline by January 19th - Reserved seating for tables of 10

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ # Adults: _____ # Children _____

Amt Enclosed: _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ Credit Card _____

Checks payable to: Ladies Philoptochos Society of HTGOC
Zelle accepted: treasurer@htphiloptochos.com

Send to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ 07090
Attn: Vasilopita Luncheon

Mary Carayannopoulos & Yiana Leichtling, Co-Chairs

February 8, 2026

Community Communion Sunday

With breakfast to follow



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

February 8, 2026

Sponsored by Holy Trinity Religious Education

All are encouraged to invite their godchildren & godparents and come together in fellowship and faith in receiving Communion as a community and enjoying the breakfast to follow.



Orthros 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM
Breakfast in the Bouras Center after Sunday School classes



Reservations during Fellowship Hour on
Jan 18th, Jan 25th & Feb 1th

This form and payment can also be dropped off or mailed to the church office,
ATTN: Communion Breakfast



\$14.00 for adults
\$6.00 for children under 12

NAME: _____

Number of adults: _____ Number of children (12 & under): _____

Total: \$ _____ Cash / Check # _____

Please volunteer to help Saturday 2/7 and/or Sunday 2/8 by calling the chairperson, Andrea Cerini at (908) 347-3521 or via <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4DA5A622A75-61389618-copy>



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

January 14, 28

February 11, 25

March 11, 25

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 ✠