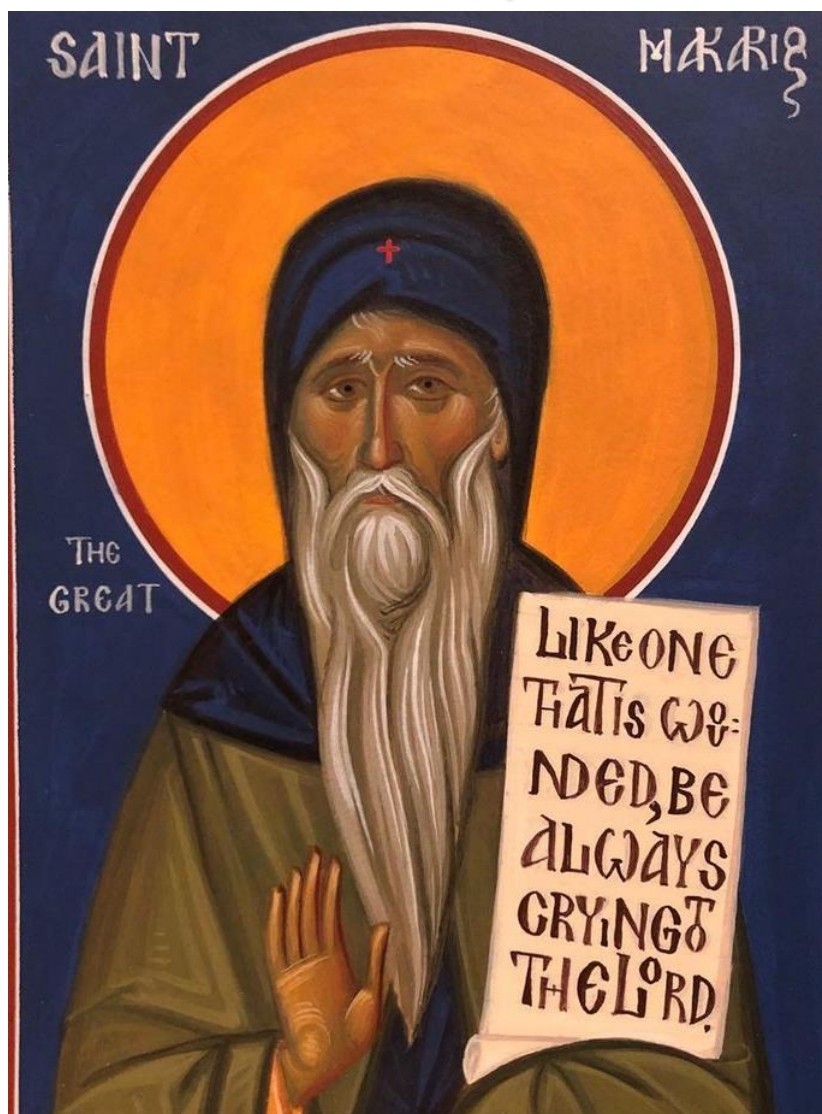


Twelfth Sunday of Luke



St. Macarius the Great of Egypt

January 19, 2025

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 Delvizis, Parish Priest

Our Righteous Fathers St. Macarius the Great of Egypt and St. Macarius of Alexandria; St. Mark of Ephesus; St. Macarius, Hierodeacon of Kalogera, Patmos; St. Arsenius of Corfu;
Removal of the Honorable Relics of St. Gregory the Theologian

Plagal First Tone
Ἦχος Πλ. Α'

Morning Gospel:	St. John 20:11-18	<u>Ελληνικά</u>
Epistle Reading:	Colossians 3:4-11	<u>Ελληνικά</u>
Gospel Reading:	St. Luke 17:12-19	<u>Ελληνικά</u>

Apolytikion: “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 Devout Man: “As a citizen of the desert and an angel incarnate* and a wonder-worker you shone forth, O Macarius our God-bearing father.* Since you received the spiritual gifts* by fasting and vigilance and prayer,* you can cure those who are ailing and heal the souls* of those who run to you with faith.* Glory to Him who gave His might to you;* glory to Him who placed a crown on you;* glory to Him who operates through you, providing cures to all.”

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: “You sanctified the womb of the Virgin by Your birth, and by Your presentation You blessed the hands of Symeon, when You came, and You saved us, O Christ our God. Now we pray You give peace to Your world at war, and let love for Your people prevail in all, O only benevolent Lord.”

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, January 26, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Thursday, January 30, Synaxis of The Three Hierarchs, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, February 2, The Presentation of Our Lord, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In loving memory of Derek James Gearhart†

Vigil Light and Large Candles: In loving memory of Kassiani Dakos Jeffries†

Kandili: In loving memory of Christine Kyreakakis†

Prothesis Candles: In loving memory of Eleni Vlangos†

Sacraments and Rites

Memorials: Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial services for Kassiani Dakos Jeffries†, 40 days; and Christine Kyreakakis†, 3 years. Eternal be their memories.

Fellowship Hour: Please join us in the Bouras Center after church for the Fellowship Hour in loving memory of Christine Kyreakakis†

House Blessings During the Epiphany Season

If you would like to have your home blessed during the Epiphany season, please contact the church office to schedule a time for Father Peter to visit your home in January.

Holy Water Bottles Available

Holy Water bottles from the Epiphany service are available to take home. They can be found in the narthex. Holy Water is used to bless yourself and sanctify houses. It is a gift from the Church and should be used with piety and taken home with deep respect.

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. Please visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after services to meet parishioners and enjoy our Fellowship Hour. Subscribe to Holy Trinity weekly emails providing news updates and announcements. Request at: HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org



The January/February Edition of The Promise is Now Available Online!
www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise

Prayer Request



Anastasios, Vasilios, Danny, Bill, Lou, Foula, Eupraxia, Chris, Arlene, John, Ted, William, Theodora, Michael, Gioula, Nicholas, Hellen, Luba, Kevin, Janice, Elaine, Patty, Cynthia, Nicholas, Blace, Christos, Thomas, Rich, Robert, 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, Molly, Leonedas, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al

St. Macarius the Great of Egypt – January 19

Macarius was an Egyptian and one of the younger contemporaries of Anthony the Great. His father was a priest. Out of obedience to his parents, Macarius married. However, his wife died shortly thereafter, and he withdrew to the wilderness, where he spent sixty years in labor and struggle, both inwardly and outwardly, for the Kingdom of Heaven. When they asked him why he was so thin, both when he ate and when he did not eat, he responded: “From the fear of God.” So much did he succeed in cleansing his mind of evil thoughts and his heart of evil desires, that God bestowed upon him the abundant gift of miracle-working, so that he even raised the dead from the graves. His humility amazed both men and demons. When Macarius was returning from the marsh to his cell one day, he met the devil on the road with a scythe. The latter struck at him as much as he pleased but in vain. He said to him, “What is your power Macarius, that makes me powerless against you? All that you do, I do also. You fast, so do I since I don’t eat. You keep vigil, so do I since I do not sleep at all. In only one area do you beat me.” Macarius asked what that was. The devil replied, “Your humility, because I have none! And because of this, I can do no harm against you.”

Macarius often told Paphnutius, his disciple: “Do not judge anyone, and you will be saved.” Macarius lived to be ninety-seven years old. Nine days before his death, St. Anthony and St. Pachomius appeared to him from the other world and informed him that he would die within nine days; and it came to pass. Before his death, Macarius also had a vision in which a Cherubim revealed to him the blessed heavenly world, commended his effort and his virtue, and told him that he had been sent to take his soul into the Kingdom of Heaven. Macarius reposed in the year 390 A.D.

St. Macarius of Alexandria – January 19

Macarius was born in Alexandria and was at first a fruit vendor. He was baptized at age forty, and as soon as he was baptized he immediately withdrew to lead a life of asceticism. Together with Macarius the Great, he was at first a disciple of St. Anthony. After that, he became the abbot of the Monastery called "The Cells," located between Nitria and Scetis. He was somewhat younger than Macarius the Great, and also died later. He lived to be more than a hundred years old. Tormented by demonic temptations, especially the temptation of vanity, he humbled himself by the most rigorous labors and ceaseless prayer, lifting up his mind constantly toward God. Once, a brother saw him fill a basket with sand, carry it uphill and empty it. Astonished, the brother asked him: "What are you doing?" Macarius answered, "I am tormenting my tormentor," meaning the devil. He reposed in the year 393 A.D.

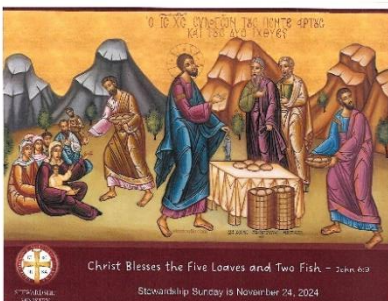


Reading the Communion Prayers – Pages 60-63 in Liturgy Book

In Her wisdom, the Church provides beautiful prayers to read before 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 Holy Communion. 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.

2025 Stewardship Drive is Underway

2025 Stewardship Cards are currently being collected. Holy Trinity is an active and welcoming parish of dynamic stewards. Together we participate and grow in our faith through these ministries which teach the Orthodox Faith and unite us in service to one another and the greater community. The Parish is asking each Steward to contribute \$2,200/family to help make our Stewardship effort successful.



SPAM Messages



In this age, please be mindful of messages sent to your phone or email asking for donations from Fr. Peter. Take note that the email or phone number of the sender has no connection to Fr. Peter or the parish. Fr. Peter's email is FrPeter@htgocnj.org. Spammers will use official looking addresses or in the last attempt a picture of Fr. Peter downloaded from our website to trick you into thinking the request is from him. All staff and employees of Holy Trinity have their email ending in: @htgocnj.org Please disregard any communication seemingly from the parish that does not end this way. And if in doubt just call Fr. Peter at the church office before communicating with an unknown person or giving money.

Journey to Orthodoxy – January 23, 30

This Catechism class provides instruction to those seeking to join the Orthodox Church. However, it is not only for those looking to join but for everyone looking to increase their knowledge about the Orthodox Church, which is the fullness of the Christian Faith. “Journey to Orthodoxy” picks up where it left off in December. Classes begin at 5:00 PM in room 103. Please speak with Father Peter if you're interested in attending as part of the faithful or as one curious about the Orthodox Faith.

TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social)

It is a fun way to connect with other Orthodox families with small children. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 22, from 9:30 - 11:30 AM in the preschool room. Children 18 months-Pre-K are welcome with their caregivers (younger siblings welcome!). Bring water, sneakers, and a snack. Contact Val Comprelli vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608 to sign up or with any questions.

Religious Education Classes Have Begun - Click the link to register: [Religious Education Registration](#) We are looking for Assistant Teachers and Substitutes! If you are interested in teaching, you do not need to be an expert on Orthodoxy to join our Religious Education team! Please contact Pete Markos at pmarkos307@gmail.com

Religious Education Community Communion Breakfast - Sunday, February 9

Join us in the Bouras Center immediately following Divine Liturgy for a delicious breakfast. Please sign-up during Fellowship Hour today, January 26 and February 2. \$14.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children. Volunteers are needed! Please reach out to Andrea Cerini at 908-347-3521 or via [the Sign-Up Genius](#).

Souper Bowl of Caring - February 9

Team up with IOCC and GOYA to make a difference. From now until February 9 the following items can be brought to church and left by the office: cans of beans, medium-size bags of rice, pancake mix and jelly/jam. These collections will be donated to the Westfield Soup Kitchen. On Sunday, February 9, a collection will be taken at the Divine Liturgy. Let's turn the biggest day of football into a super day of giving. [Visit here](#) to donate or learn more.



[IOCC Souperbowl 2025](#)

Regarding the Ten Lepers

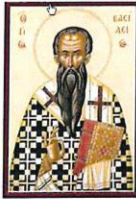
St. Bede remarks, "The name Samaritan means 'guardian'; and by this name that people are aptly signified who, giving thanks, attribute all they have received to Him, saying with the psalmist: 'O my Strength, I will keep watch for Thee, for Thou, O God, art my Helper,... His mercy shall go before me {Ps. 59:9-10}. He falls on his face, ashamed because of the sins he remembers he has committed...And rightly does the Saviour ask where are the nine; as if He knew them not. For, with God, to know is to choose; not to know, is to reject."

St. Kyril remarks, "The nine then, as being Jewish, falling into thankless forgetfulness, did not return to give glory to God, by which He shows that Israel was hard of heart, and utterly unthankful. The stranger, being a Samaritan, was of a foreign race, having been brought thither from Assyria, was not ungrateful."

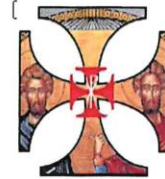
Philoptochos Stewardship and Vasilopita Luncheon – January 26

Reservations are now open. Please join us immediately following Divine Liturgy. Sign up during the Fellowship Hour, by mail or text at 908-327-4295. As a reminder, the luncheon is a fundraiser for St. Basil Academy and Archdiocese Youth Programs. Kathy Maglaras and Debra Vlahakis, co-chairs.

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity



VASILOPITA LUNCHEON & STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY



January 26, 2025

Immediately following Divine Liturgy, Bouras Center

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

RESERVED SEATING

RESERVATIONS DEADLINE BY JANUARY 20, 2025

ADULTS- \$25

CHILDREN 16 & under- \$20

Includes: Buffet Dinner, Salad, Mezethes, Wine & Dessert

Please mail or stop @ Philoptochos table to sign up

RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____ **# Adults** _____ **# Children** _____

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

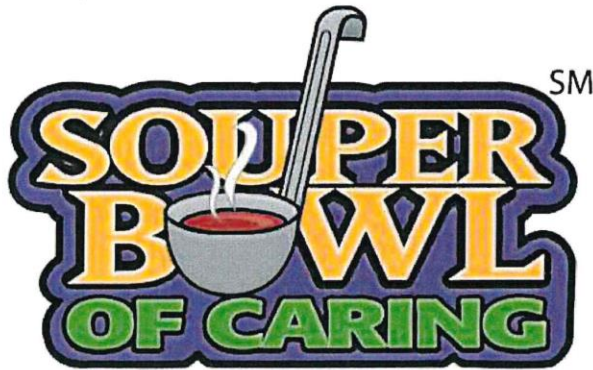
Checks Payable to: The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity

Send to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

250 Gallows Hill Rd, Westfield, NJ 07091

When mailing, mark envelope "Attn: V"

Debra Vlahakis & Kathy Maglaras, Co-chairs



Score a Souper Bowl Victory Against Hunger!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

**41 million people struggle with hunger in the United States,
including 13 million children.**

**Your monetary donation and non-perishable food items can
help change that. Team up with IOCC (International
Orthodox Christian Charities) and the Holy Trinity GOYA
to help feed the hungry.**

IOCC DONATION BASKET - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

FOOD COLLECTION- SUNDAY, JANUARY 19 - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

**REQUESTED FOOD ITEMS: CANS OF BEANS (ANY KIND) , MEDIUM BAGS
OF RICE (ANY KIND), PANCAKE MIX, JELLY/JAM (ANY KIND)**

Let's turn the biggest weekend of football into a super day of giving!



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

2025

January 8, 22

February 12, 26

March 12 (Wed.), 28 (Fri.)

April 11, 25 (Fridays)

May 9, 23 (Fridays)

Bring water, sneakers and a snack. Contact Val Comprelli (vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608) to sign up or to ask any questions.



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

Email the Choir Director

kathanasoulas@hotmail.com

Upcoming Parish Events

February 9, 2025

Religious Education – Save the Date!

Sunday, February 9, will be this year's Community Communion Breakfast. Please plan on receiving Holy Communion and joining us in the Bouras Center immediately following the Divine Liturgy for a delicious breakfast. Godchildren are encouraged to invite their Godparents and Godparents to bring their Godchildren.

Community Communion Sunday

With breakfast to follow



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

February 9, 2025

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

January 26th and February 2th

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 2/8 and/or Sunday 2/9 by calling the chairperson, Andrea Cerini at (908) 347-3521 or <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4DA5A622A75-53359267-community>



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠