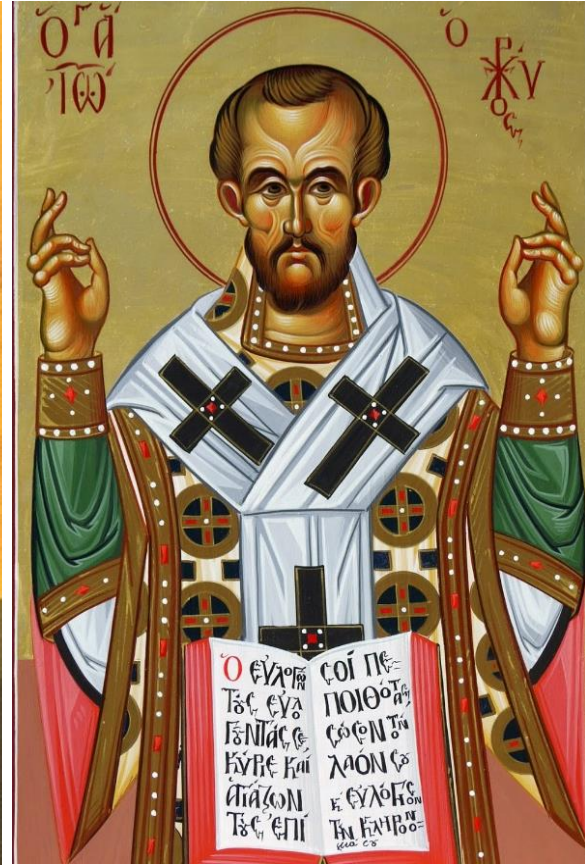


# Fifteenth Sunday of Luke



St. Xenophon and  
His Family



St. John Chrysostom,  
Archbishop of Constantinople

January 26, 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 Delvizio, Parish Priest

Our Righteous Father St. Xenophon & his wife Maria and sons Arcadios and John;  
St. Symeon the Elder of Mount Sinai; St. Ananias the Presbyter and Martyr with  
St. Peter and the seven soldiers with him; St. Phrygia the Martyr

**Plagal Second Tone**

Ἦχος Πλ. Β´

Morning Gospel:	<a href="#">St. John 20:19-31</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Epistle Reading:	<a href="#">1 Timothy 4:9-15</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Gospel Reading:	<a href="#">St. Luke 19:1-10</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>

**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 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**

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  
Saturday, February 8, **St. Theodore the General**, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM  
Sunday, February 9, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

### Altar Donations

**Altar Candles:** In loving memory of Nicholas Michael Mestanas†

**Vigil Light:** For the health of Vasilios Papalitskas†

**Large Candles:** In loving memory of Peter Conelias†

### Sacraments and Rites

**Memorials:** Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial service for Leonidas Balatsos†, 40 days; Nicholas Michael Mestanas†, 1 year and Peter Conelias†, 15 years. Eternal be their memories.

### 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, 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](mailto:HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org)

### Vasilopita Luncheon – Sunday, January 26

Please join us immediately following Divine Liturgy. Walk-ins are welcome. As a reminder, the luncheon is a fundraiser for St. Basil Academy and the children will be joining us! Kathy Maglaras and Debra Vlahakis, co-chairs.



**The January/February Edition of The Promise is Now Available Online!**

[www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise](http://www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise)

A banner with a warm, golden-brown background. The words 'Prayer Request' are written in a large, white, cursive font. To the right of the text is a large, dark brown cross with a bright, glowing light emanating from its center. The background features a silhouette of mountains at the bottom and a sky with soft, white clouds.

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

### **St. Xenophon and those with him – January 26**

The Venerable Xenophon, Maria his wife, and their sons John and Arcadios were prominent and wealthy citizens of Constantinople. They lived a God-pleasing life and dedicated all their attention to the Christian upbringing of their sons. When their sons came of age, they were sent to study in Beirut, but it so happened that a storm capsized their boat. By the providence of God, John and Arcadios were somehow saved. They were tossed ashore by the waves, but in two different places, so that each thought the other had drowned. Out of grief for each other, they both became monks in two different monasteries. After two years, their grieving parents came to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage to venerate the holy shrines. There the brothers met, and after that the parents met their children, all with the help of the clairvoyance of a certain spiritual father. Out of gratitude to God, Xenophon and Maria distributed their entire estate to the poor, and both of them were tonsured. The history of these four souls is touching, and it shows how the Lord wonderfully guides the fate of those who believe in Him: how He permits pain and sorrow to come upon them that later, having been yet more strengthened in faith, they may be led into still greater joy. They lived and reposed in the Lord in the fifth century.

### **Translation of the Holy Relics of St. John Chrysostom – January 27**

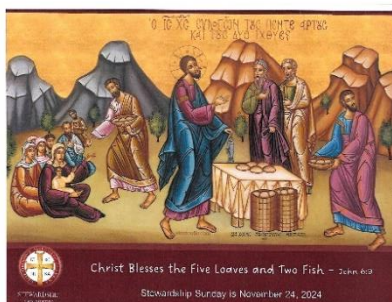
The memory of St. John Chrysostom, great luminary of the Church, is celebrated on November 13 and January 30, but on this date the Church celebrates the translation of his honorable relics from the Georgian village of Comana, where he had reposed in exile, to Constantinople, where he had previously governed the Church. Thirty years after the death of St. John, Patriarch Proclus delivered a homily in memory of his spiritual father and teacher. He so inflamed the love of the people and the emperor, Theodosius the Younger, toward this great saint, that all of them desired that Chrysostom's relics be translated to Constantinople. It was said that the sarcophagus containing the relics of St. John Chrysostom did not allow itself to be moved from its resting place until the emperor wrote a letter to Chrysostom begging him for forgiveness (for Theodosius' mother, Eudoxia, was responsible for the banishment of this saint) and appealing to him to come to Constantinople, his former residence. When this letter of repentance was placed on the sarcophagus, its weight became extremely light. At the time of the translation of his relics, many of the sick who touched the sarcophagus were healed. When the relics arrived in the capital, the emperor, in the name of his mother - as though she herself was speaking over the relics - again prayed to the saint for forgiveness: "While I lived in this transient life, I did you ill; and now, when you are living the immortal life, be of aid to my soul. My glory passed away and did not help me at all. Help me, Father; in your glory, help me before I am condemned at the Judgment of Christ!" When the saint was brought into the Church of the Twelve Apostles and placed on the patriarchal throne, the masses of people heard from St. John Chrysostom's mouth the words: "Peace be unto all." The translation of the relics of St. John Chrysostom took place in the year 438 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.



## Journey to Orthodoxy – January 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.

**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](mailto: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 plan on receiving Holy Communion. Godchildren are encouraged to invite their Godparents and Godparents to bring their Godchildren. Reservations can be made on Sunday, January 26 or February 2. A registration form is also available in our Upcoming Parish Events section. \$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](#)



# 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!*

Together we can **GO RED** to help save more women's lives!

Ladies Philoptochos invites you to **WEAR RED** on Sunday, February 2, in honor of National Wear Red Day® and American Heart Month. Should you wish to support cardiovascular research at the Cleveland Clinic, we will be taking donations at church on February 2. You can also donate electronically at [GO RED Donation Page](#).

### Philoptochos Valentines Bake Sale

Homemade baked goods will be for sale on Sunday, February 9, in the Bouras Center.

### 53<sup>rd</sup> Sights and Sounds - Saturday, March 1, 2025

**Volunteers needed.** Holy Trinity will host approximately 500 Greek Orthodox youth from across NJ to participate in this unique visual, literary and performing arts competition. An average of 150 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, Keli Leunes 917-816-6927 or email [sightsandsoundsvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:sightsandsoundsvolunteers@gmail.com) if interested or for further information.

**Qualified Judges needed.** 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 ASAP: **Sounds**-Yiana Leichtling at 908-413-6213 or [sightsandsoundsjudges@yahoo.com](mailto:sightsandsoundsjudges@yahoo.com) **Sights**-Ellen Manos-Athenson at 908-337-0775 or [ebmanos@yahoo.com](mailto:ebmanos@yahoo.com)





## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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 can be made on **January 26** and **February 2**

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 ✠**