

SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



THE HOLY PROPHET ELIAS THE TISHBITE

July 20, 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

On this day we commemorate the Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah); The Synaxis of the Russians who were perfected in France: The Holy New Martyrs of France, St. Alexios Mednedkov, the Protopresbyter; St. Dimitri Skobtsova; and our Righteous Mother Maria Skobtsova, her son Youri Skobtsova, and Elie Fondaminskii

Plagal First Tone

Ἦχος Πλ. Α΄

Morning Gospel:	St. Luke 24:36-53	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	St. James 5:10-20	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Matthew 9:1-8	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion: “Eternal with the Father and the Spirit is the Word, Who of a Virgin was begotten for our salvation. As the faithful we both praise and worship Him, for in the flesh did He consent to ascend unto the Cross, and death did He endure and He raised unto life the dead through His all glorious Resurrection.”

Apolytikion of the Prophet: “The angel incarnate and the Prophets’ pedestal, * the second Forerunner of the coming of Christ, Elias the glorious, * sent down to Elisha the divine grace from heaven. * He drives away diseases and he cleanses lepers. * Therefore he pours out healings to those who honor him.” - *Tacuv prokatalabe*

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: “A protection of Christians unshamable, * Intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, * please reject not * the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. * Instead, come to us for you are good; * your loving help do bring to us, * who are crying in faith to you: * hasten to intercession * and speed now to supplication, * as a protection for all time, * Theotokos, for those who honor you.”

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, July 27, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Friday, August 1, Paraklesis to the Theotokos, 6:30 PM

Sunday, August 3, Orthros, 8:15 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.

Sacraments and Rites

Baptism: Today the baptism of John Jackson Lesnewich, son of John and Laura Lesnewich, will be celebrated. The Godmother is Andrea Ehmann.

Funeral: On Monday, July 21, the funeral for Theodore Panagopoulos† will be held. Eternal be his memory.



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, Alexander, Athena

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 lead 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.

Singing the Liturgy During Summer Months

During the summer months, we have a beautiful opportunity to sing the Divine Liturgy with the chanters. Congregational singing adds to the service by adding a choir of voices while also allowing you to learn these sacred hymns. Please use the blue divine liturgy books found in the pews.

The Holy Prophet Elias – July 20

Elias (Elijah) the Prophet and “God-seer”, was a miracle worker and zealot for faith. He was born of the tribe of Aaron in the town Tishba, for which he was called the Tishbite. When Elias was born, his father Sabbas saw an angel of God hovering around the child, wrapping the child in fire and feeding him flames. That was a foreshadowing of Elias's fiery character and his God-given fiery power.

Elias spent his entire youth in divine contemplation and prayer, withdrawing frequently into the wilderness to contemplate and pray in tranquility. At that time the Jewish kingdom was divided into two unequal parts: the kingdom of Judah consisting of only two tribes - the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, with their capital in Jerusalem; and the kingdom of Israel consisting of the remaining ten tribes, with their capital in Samaria. The former was governed by the descendants of Solomon, and the latter was governed by the descendants of Jeroboam, a servant of Solomon. The greatest confrontation that the prophet Elias had was with the Israelite King Ahab and his evil wife Jezebel, for they worshipped idols and were turning the people away from serving the One Living God. In addition, Jezebel, a Syrian, persuaded her husband to erect a temple to the Syrian god Baal and appointed many priests to the service of this false god. Through great miracles Elias displayed the power and authority of God. He closed up the heavens, so that there was no rain for three years and six months; he called fire down from heaven to consume the sacrifice to God, which the pagan priests were unable to do for the false god, Baal; he brought rain by his prayer; he miraculously multiplied flour and oil in the home of the widow in Zarephath, and resurrected her son; he prophesied to Ahab that the dogs would lick up his blood, and to Jezebel that the dogs would consume her flesh - all of which came to pass. He performed many other miracles and prophesied other events as well. He spoke with God and heard His voice peacefully after the wind, earthquake and fire on Mount Horeb. Before his death, he designated Elisha as his successor in the prophetic calling; and, with his mantle, he divided the waters of the Jordan River. Finally, he was taken up into the heavens in a fiery chariot drawn by fiery horses.

On Mount Tabor he appeared together with Moses beside our Lord Jesus Christ. At the end of the world, St. Elias will appear again with Enoch to put an end to the power of the Antichrist - Revelation, Chapter 11:3-6 “And I will give power unto My two witnesses...” The consensus of the Church Fathers is that Elias will return before Christ’s glorious return to convert people to Christ and turn them away from the deception of the Antichrist who has led humanity astray and darkened their thoughts and hearts. – see Malachi 3:22

The July/August 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

Greek School

Does helping preserve our Greek language appeal to you? Become a Greek School teacher! The Greek school is looking for teachers and/or substitutes for the next school year. No prior experience is required! Please contact the church office for more details if you are interested.

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 but hold an interest in working with children, mentoring, teaching, and learning as a member of the Religious Education team. We look forward to meeting and working with individuals in the capacity of Assistant Teachers and Substitutes. If interested, please contact Pete Markos at religiouseducation@htgocnj.org

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. Your attention is appreciated. Our Online Stewardship Giving Program is a convenient way to automate your offering. To signup, visit the church website 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 29, 2025

44th 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) & Tee Sponsors (18)</i>	<i>\$ 150 (each)</i>

Benefiting:

Windy25 Memorial Fund
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Westfield

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REGISTRATION FORM

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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

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