SIXTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

The Holy Great Martyr Christina

July 24, 2022

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, Presiding Priest
On this twenty-fourth day of the month, we commemorate St. Christina the Great Martyr of Tyre; St. Athenagoras the Apologist; Sts. Boris and Gleb, the Passion-bearers; Sts. Kapiton, Himenaos and Hermogenes, the Martyrs; St. Theophilos the New Martyr of Zakynthos

Plagal of the First Tone Pl. A'

Click links for Scripture Readings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sixth Morning Gospel:</th>
<th>St. Luke 24:36-53</th>
<th>Ελληνικά</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epistle Reading:</td>
<td>Romans 12:6-14</td>
<td>Ελληνικά</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gospel Reading:</td>
<td>St. Matthew 9:1-8</td>
<td>Ελληνικά</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: “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 Great Martyr: “Your maiden Martyr, like a lamb, cries out, ‘O Jesus, for You,* my pure Bridegroom, I long; and seeking You I compete;* and I am crucified and buried with You in Your baptism. * I suffer for Your sake, that I may reign with You. * I die for You that I may also live in You.* Accept me as an unblemished sacrifice* as I offer myself to You with love.* At her entreaties and intercessions, * save our souls, O Merciful Lord.”

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.”

Altar Donations

Altar Candles in memory of Doris Delvizis†, may her memory be eternal, from Hellen and John Kiriakatis

Vigil Light in memory of Doris Delvizis†
40-Day Blessing: Today the churching of Luca Joseph, son of Irene and Nicholas Liakas will be celebrated.

Funeral: On Thursday, July 14, the funeral for Doris Delvizis† (the mother of Fr. Peter) was held at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Huntington, WV. On Friday, July 22, the funeral for Ariadni Mavridis† was held. Eternal be their memories.

Wedding: On Saturday, July 23 the wedding of Anthony Drimones and Melissa Katsoris was celebrated. Koumbara is Maria Vanikiotis.

Liturgical Schedule
Sunday, July 31, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM
Monday, August 1, Paraklesis to the Theotokos, 6:00 PM
Wednesday, August 3, Paraklesis to the Theotokos, 6:00 PM

THE HOLY GREAT MARTYR CHRISTINA - JULY 24
St. Christina of Tyre in Syria was the daughter of a pagan named Urban. Enlightened in her heart to believe in Christ, she broke her father’s idols, made of gold and silver, and distributed the pieces to the poor. When her father learned of this, he punished her ruthlessly, and cast her into prison. The rulers subjected her to hunger, torments, the cutting off of her breasts and tongue, and finally impalement. These atrocities occurred to her in the year 200, during the reign of the Emperor Septimius Severus.

THE VENERABLE MARTYR PARASKEVI – July 26
St. Paraskevi was born in Rome of Christian parents and from her youth was instructed in the Faith of Christ. Believing strongly and living according to her faith, Paraskevi directed others on the path of salvation with the help of the True Faith and pious living. When her parents died Paraskevi distributed all of her property to the poor and was tonsured a nun. As a nun she preached the Faith of Christ with an even greater zeal, not hiding from anyone, even though at that time the Roman authorities bloodily persecuted the Faith of Christ. First the many Jews accused St. Paraskevi of preaching the prohibited Faith. She was brought to trial before Emperor Antoninus. All the flatteries
of the emperor did not help in the least to cause her to waver in the Faith. They then subjected her to fiery torments and placed a red-hot helmet on her head. The Lord miraculously saved her and Paraskevi was delivered and left Rome. She again traveled from city to city to convert the pagan people there to the True Faith. In two more cities she was brought before princes and judges and was tortured for her Lord, at the same time working great miracles and by the power of God quickly recuperated from her pains and wounds. The pagans, as always, ascribed her miracles to magic and her power of recovery to the mercy of their gods. St. Paraskevi once said to the prince who tortured her: "It is not your gods, O prince, who healed me but my Christ the True God." Finally Prince Tarasius beheaded her. Thus this saint gloriously ended her fruitful life. Her relics were later translated to Constantinople. She suffered honorably for Christ in the second century.

Serving the Lord as an Acolyte (Altar Boy) this Summer!

An acolyte (altar boy) is one who assists the priest as he conducts the sacred and divine services of the Church. The acolyte is permitted to enter the Holy Altar where no one but those serving the Lord is permitted. Serving the Church in this capacity is one of the greatest honors for a young boy. During the summer, if you would like to serve, help the priest, and are the ages of 10-12 or older, please speak with Fr. Peter.
Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us
ὙΠΕΡΑΓΙΑ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΕ, ΣΩΣΟΝ ΗΜΑΣ

Service of Paraklesis to
The Most Holy Theotokos
Η Ακολουθία τῆς Παρακλήσεως
tῆς Παναγίας

Paraklesis to the Holy Theotokos
The first two weeks of August are dedicated to the Panagia. During this time, special intercessory prayers known as the Paraklesis are chanted in church. You are invited to attend these beautiful services during the Dekapentaavgoustos which ask for the protection, guidance, and spiritual comfort (paraklesis) of the Mother of God.

We are always in need of the Panagia’s prayers. This is the perfect time to come together to call upon her for intercession because she is the greatest of all the Saints. By acquiring special favor from God, she stands in constant vigil asking her Son and our God to grant all spiritual goodness that leads to healing and salvation. The Panagia always seeks to help those who encounter misfortune by directing them towards Christ. She is the typos of faith, dedication, obedience, and is adored by all Orthodox Christians.

To request prayers for protection, healing, safety, and good health, please write your name and the names of family members on the provided form and return to church.
2022 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 sign-up 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”.

---

Capital Campaign

How your donation is working...
and making improvements to the church.

Parking Lot – Milling & Paving

- Paving of the church’s parking lot in front and back of the church is completed. Paving took place Monday and Tuesday of last week. You can see first-hand how your donation to the Capital Campaign was used. Thank you for your contribution to this important campaign.

Church Dome

- Work on the dome and protective membrane that covers it from the elements is the next scheduled phase in the Capital Campaign.

Donors as of May 31

- The following is a list of donors who have contributed to the Holy Trinity Capital Campaign. Thank you for your generosity and support.
- Don’t worry, there is still time to give. Offer your donation today!
Η Αγία Χριστίνα, Η Μεγαλομάρτυς

Κτείνουσι πέλται Χριστέ την σην Χριστίναν,
Την Χριστιανών πίστιν ουκ αρνουμένην.
Εικάδι βλήτο τετάρτη Χριστίνα οξέσι πέλταις.

Την Χριστίναν ήνωσε Χριστό νυμφίω, Νόμφην άμωμον, αίμα τού μαρτυρίου.
Εικάδι βλήτο τετάρτη Χριστίνα οξέσι πέλταις.

Η Αγία ιερουργή Χριστίνα, καταγόταν από την Τύρο της Συρίας και ήταν κόρη του στρατηγού Ουρβανού (περί το 200 μ.Χ.).

Ο πατέρας της, της έχτισε έναν ύργο και την έβαλε μέσα σ’ αυτόν. Μάλιστα κατασκεύασε αγάλματα των ειδώλων και την διέταξε να θυσιάσει σ’ αυτά. Εκείνη όμως τα έκανε όλα κομμάτια. Για αυτές της τις πράξεις, η αγία υποβλήθηκε σε βασανιστήρια από τον ίδιο της τον πατέρα και μετά φυλακίστηκε.

Στην φυλακή την άφησαν νηστική για να πεθάνει από την πείνα. Όμως, άγγελος Κυρίου της πήγαινε τροφή και της θεραπεύτηκαν όλες οι πληγές της.

Μετά την έριξαν στην θάλασσα, όπου έλαβε το Άγιο Βάπτισμα από τον ίδιο τον Χριστό και άγγελος Κυρίου την έβγαλε στην στεριά.

Μόλις έγινε γνωστό ότι είχε διασωθεί, ο πατέρας της πρόσταξε και την έκλεισαν πάλι στην φυλακή. Την νύχτα που ακολούθησε ο πατέρας της πέθανε και την θέση του στο αξίωμα του στρατηγού την πήρε κάποιος ονόματι Δίων. Αυτός οδήγησε την μάρτυρα στο δικαστήριο. Και εκεί η αγία ομολόγησε την πίστη της. Αμέσως οργίστηκε και διέταξε να αρχίσουν τα βασανιστήρια.

Κατά την διάρκεια των βασανιστηρίων πολλοί πίστευσαν στον Χριστό. Μετά το Δίωνα ανέλαβε κάποιος Ιουλιανός. Αυτός έριξε την Χριστίνα μέσα σε πυρακτωμένη κάμινο, σε ένα κλουβί με φίδια δηλητηριώδη, τα οποία αντί να την δαγκώσουν της έγλυφαν τα πόδια με ευσπλαχνία, μετά της έκοψαν τους μαστούς από όπου χύθηκε γάλα αντί για αίμα και της έκοψαν και την γλώσσα.
Όλα αυτά τα μαρτύρια τα υπέμεινε με καρτερία και στο τέλος με κοντάρια που την χτύπησαν παρέδωσε το πνεύμα, λαμβάνοντας τον στέφανο του μαρτυρίου, και περνώντας στην αιώνια ζωή.

Το αδιάφθορο Λείψανο της Μεγαλομάρτυρος Χριστίνας, άγνωστο πότε, μεταφέρθηκε από την Συρία όπου μαρτύρησε στην Κωνσταντινούπολη και κατατέθηκε σε Ναό προς τιμή της στην περιοχή του Ιερού Παλατίου, απ’ όπου αφαιρέθηκε κατά την Φραγκοκρατία και μεταφέρθηκε στη Βενετία. Το 1252 μ.Χ. το Λείψανο κατατέθηκε στη Μονή του Αγίου Μάρκου στο Τορσέλλο και το 1340 μ.Χ. μεταφέρθηκε στο Ναό του Αγίου Ματθαίου στο Μουράνο. Το 1435 μ.Χ. ο Πάπας Ευγένιος Δ’ διέταξε την μεταφορά του στο Ναό του Αγίου Αντωνίου, επίσης στο Τορσέλλο. Το 1793 μ.Χ. μεταφέρθηκε στη Μονή της Μάρτυρος Ιουστίνης Βενετίας και το 1810 μ.Χ. στο Ναό του Αγίου Φραγκίσκου της Αμπέλου, όπου και σήμερα φυλάσσεται, κατατεθημένο σε κρυστάλλινη λάρνακα.

GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

‡ AMEN ‡