

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA



The Ascension of Our Saviour

June 16, 2024

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 Delvizi, Parish Priest

After Feast of the Ascension. Today we commemorate the 318 Holy and God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea; Our Holy Father St. Tikhon, Bishop of Amathus in Cyprus

Tenth Morning Gospel:

[St. John 21:1-14](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Epistle Reading:

[Acts 20:16-18, 28-36](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Gospel Reading:

[St. John 17:1-13](#)

[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 Holy Ascension: *“You ascended in glory, O Christ our Lord and God. And Your disciples were filled with joy by the promise of the Holy Spirit unto them. And through this blessing You did proclaim and thus assure them, that You are truly the Son of God and the Redeemer of the world.”*

Apolytikion of the Holy Fathers: *“Supremely blessed are You, O Christ our God. You established the holy Fathers upon the earth as beacons, and through them You have guided us all to the true Faith, O greatly merciful One, glory be 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: *“When you had joined earth to heaven and fulfilled your plan of redemption, you ascended in glory, O Christ our God, while remaining in our midst. For you assured us who love you that no one can prevail against us since you yourself are with us.”*



Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In memory of Peter Markos†

Large Candles: In loving memory of Stelios Psarianos†

Sacraments and Rites

Funeral: On Saturday, June 15, the funeral for Thelma Adams† was held. May her memory be eternal.

Fellowship Hour: Please join us in the Bouras Center after church for the Fellowship Hour which is being sponsored by George Psarianos, in memory of Stelios Psarianos†.

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 receive information about the parish.

Liturgical Schedule

Thursday, June 13, **Holy Ascension**, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, June 16, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, June 22, Saturday of Souls, Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM

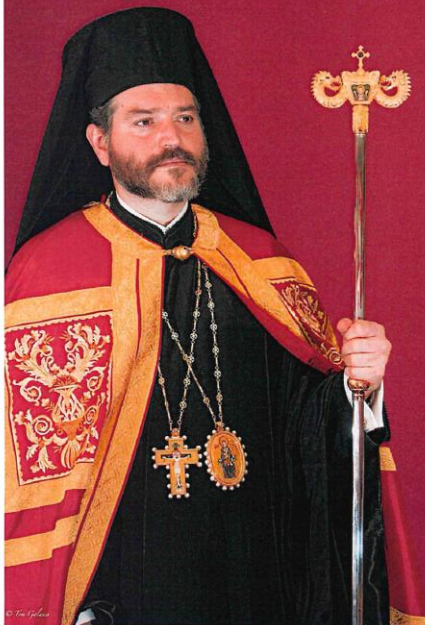
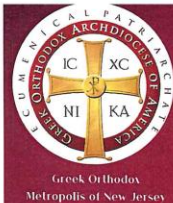
Sunday, June 23, **Holy Pentecost**, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Monday, June 24, **Holy Trinity**, Parish Feast Day, Orthros, 9:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM

Parish Feast Day Celebration – Monday, June 24

Metropolitan Apostolos to Preside

The Family of Holy Trinity will celebrate the parish feast day on Monday, June 24 with Orthros beginning at 9:15 AM and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM. We are blessed to once again welcome our Father and Chief Shepherd, His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos who will preside over the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with area clergy. We are excited about this celebration and ask that you be present both for the liturgy and parish luncheon to follow afterwards. May the All Holy Trinity always bless and keep this parish until the ages of ages.



Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

Orthros and
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy for the
Monday of the Holy Spirit

Monday, June 24, 2024
9:00 A.M.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road
Westfield, NJ 07090



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 180/2024

Archepiscopal Encyclical for Father's Day

June 16, 2024

Unto the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, the Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, the Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, the Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America.

Εφανερώσά σου τὸ ὄνομα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις οὓς δέδωκάς μοι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου. Σοὶ ἦσαν καὶ ἐμοὶ αὐτοὺς δέδωκας, καὶ τὸν λόγον σου τετηρήκασι. (κατὰ Ἰωάννην 17:6)

I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; Yours they were, and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. (John 17:6)

My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year's observance of Father's Day happily coincides with the Feast that bridges Ascension and Pentecost — the celebration of the 318 Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea. We have appropriated this secular occasion in order to highlight the "fathers" of our parishes, the clergy of our Archdiocese. Like the 318, they have been chosen to engage in the spiritual contest to preach and teach the unalloyed Orthodox Faith of Christ. Our parish clergy have kept the Faith and the Divine Word that God the Father delivered to the world through His Son, which is preserved and transmitted from generation to generation by the members of the Holy Priesthood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Knowing how the clergy care for us, we thought it meet and right that we should make a special effort to care for them. For this reason, we beseech every parish to make an extraordinary collection on this Sunday to enhance and support the Clergy Pension Fund. On this Sunday, when we remember our earthly fathers — living and reposed — may we also remember our spiritual fathers who labor for our salvation in Christ.

Let us celebrate this Father's Day by honoring the Saintly 318 Father of the First Ecumenical Council and remembering our faithful clergy and their needs. Thus, we shall prove ourselves to be holders of the word God and worthy heirs of the Faith of Nicaea.

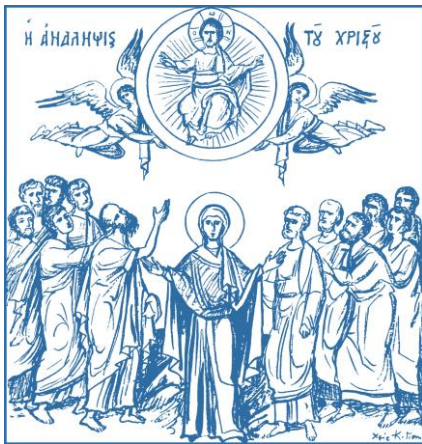
With much gratitude and paternal blessings in Christ,

† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America

Prayer Request



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, Billy, Molly, Leonedas, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Vasileos, Tina, Fran, Dayvon, Sunitha, Neil, Gus, Dimitri, Freddy, Shane, Lula, Christina, Diego, Michael, Katie, Joe, Theo, Barbara, Nicholas, Athanasios, Clarita, Georgia, Savas, Christodoulos, Sophia, Savas, Maria, Dorothy, Bill, Thomas, John, Ketí



The Ascension of Our Lord, God, and Saviour, Jesus Christ

The Feast of the Ascension is a movable feast celebrated on the fortieth day after Pascha. (June 13 this year) Ascension means to arise or go up. Since death is generally considered the normal end to an individual's life on earth, entering heaven without dying is exceptional and unusual; it is a sign of God's special recognition of an individual's piety. According to Orthodox Tradition, only three such pious people were taken up by God's power: Enoch, Elias (Elijah), and the Theotokos.

Being God, Christ ascended to heaven by His own power. {Enoch - see: Genesis 5:21-24 and see Hebrews 11:5} & {Elias - see 2 Kings 2:1} Enoch and Elias were taken up bodily but not to heaven (since Christ's Ascension had not happened yet) but rather they were taken "as if to heaven." They now reside in a mystical place known only to God. "Elijah ascended as if into Heaven, because he was a slave, but Christ ascended into Heaven itself, because He was the Lord." - St. John Chrysostom. "Elijah, sitting upon a fiery chariot, ascended, as if into Heaven, as is written, but not reaching Heaven." - St. Romanos the Melodist.

There is no Scriptural reference to the Theotokos' being taken up into heaven, but according to Holy Tradition, this occurred by Christ, her Son. Coming from mortal loins, the Theotokos had a death conformable to nature. However, her death was to show that all who fall asleep after Christ's Resurrection should not fear death for it has been vanquished by His Resurrection. The Theotokos did not fear death, nor did she seek to avoid it as she knew that death had already been overcome by her Son.

The present feast of the Ascension celebrates Christ's power to gather all people unto Himself and carry them into heaven. "No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven." – John 3:13 It is by the Lord's power alone that we gain access to heaven. He has opened the gates of heaven, "lift up the gates, O you rulers, and be lifted up, you everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall enter." – Psalm 23:9. Now open to us, the King of Glory summons us to enter into the heavenly abode. The great feast of Ascension marks the completion of Christ's glorification and lordship over all creation. It is the culmination of the Mystery of the Incarnation. Christ's Ascension into heaven is understood as a necessary prerequisite for the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Let us now proceed to live eternally with Christ in heaven!

2024 Stewardship Campaign Update



Currently 344 Stewards have pledged \$486,951

Thank you to the parishioners who submitted their pledge cards and stewardship gifts. As of May, we graciously received 344 pledges in the amount of \$486,951. Please remember to submit your pledge card which will help us meet our operating budget of \$939,200. Consider inviting family and friends to come to visit and worship with us. Sponsor a new steward and bring them into our Holy Trinity family. Your gifts to date have allowed our Parish to achieve 51.8% of our budget and to support our annual Archdiocesan commitment, a gift to the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Foundation, and support our growing and vibrant ministries. Thank you!

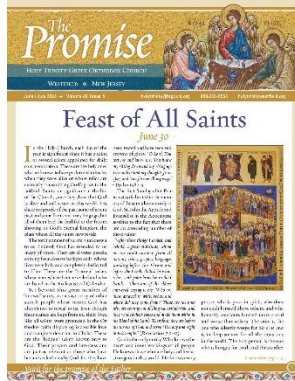
Congratulations to the Fathers of Holy Trinity. May God's blessing be upon you always.



A Psalm for Father's Day

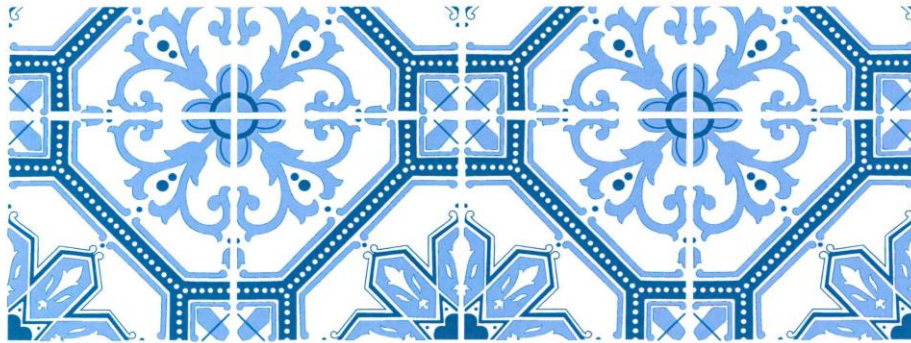
"Blessed is the man who fears the Lord; he will delight exceedingly in His commandments. The generation of the upright man shall be blessed. Glory and riches shall be in his house. For he is merciful, compassionate, and righteous. A good man is compassionate and lends; he will manage his words with judgment. A righteous man shall be in everlasting remembrance. His heart is prepared to hope in the

Lord. His heart is established; he is not afraid as he surveys his enemies. He disperses to the poor and his glory is exalted. Those who hate him will be angry at his reward, they shall gnash their teeth and be consumed."



The June/July Edition of
THE PROMISE
Is Now Available

OPA!! 2024 Westfield GreekFest will take place, September 27-29!! Come volunteer your talent and join the fun to make this our best festival yet. PLEASE sign-up and support OUR community!
Contact Roula Ioannou or Keli Leunes at HTGreekfestivalvolunteers@gmail.com



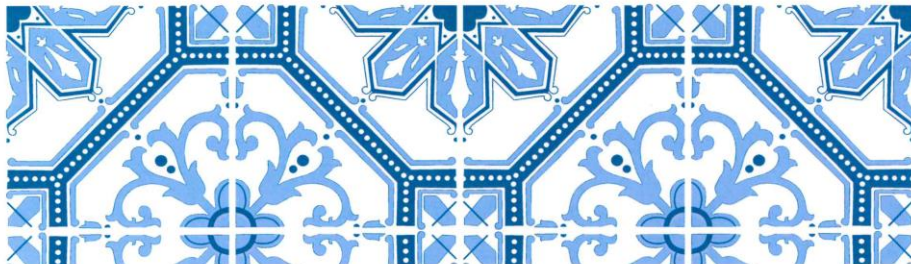
The
WESTFIELD
Greek Festival

Friday - Sunday
September 27 - September 29

**HOLY TRINITY GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

250 gallows hill road
westfield, nj 07090

all are welcome



Upcoming Parish Events

Ladies Philoptochos Rummage Sale

Bring Us Your Treasures!! Drop off to the Bouras Center, Sunday, July 7 through Sunday, July 14. Household items, holiday décor, china and glassware, small furniture, small appliances, linens and dry goods, baskets, frames, toys, games, home décor, sporting goods, jewelry, purses, scarves, and hats. No clothing, shoes, books, TVs, DVDs or CDs. Sale Dates: Thursday and Friday, July 18 and 19, 9:30 AM – 6 PM; Saturday, July 20, 9:30 AM – 4 PM. Questions: Call Elise Savnik 908-337-5046

2024 Philoptochos Rummage Sale

Drop Off Dates: (to Bouras Center)
Sunday July 7th – Sunday July 14th

- Household Items
- Holiday Décor
- China & Glassware
- Small Appliances
- Small Furniture
- Home Décor Items
- Purses, Scarves, Hats
- Linens & Dry Goods
- Sporting Goods
- Crafting Materials
- Baskets & Frames
- Toys & Games
- Jewelry

(NO Clothing, Shoes, Electronics or Books)

Actual Sale Days:

Thursday July 18th 9:30am – 6:00pm

Friday July 19th 9:30am – 6:00pm

Saturday July 20th 9:30am – 4:00pm
(everything ½ price 2pm-4pm SAT ONLY)

Questions: call Elise Savnik 908-337-5046

SAVE THE DATE!

June 23-29, 2024

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

The Metropolis Summer Camp program will take place in the summer of 2024 from June 23-29. Registration is now available. This is an excellent opportunity for children to meet other Greek Orthodox and to learn about the faith in a protected environment.



Camp Good Shepherd

Experience the Best Week of Your Summer!

CGS: MARYLAND

June 16-22, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Registration Fee: \$600 (Early Bird Discount until May 1, then \$675)

CGS: NEW JERSEY

June 23-29, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826
Registration Fee: \$625

CGS: VIRGINIA (2 SESSIONS)

Week 1: July 7-13 (Completed 5th Grade - 8th Grade)
Week 2: July 14-20 (Completed 9th Grade - 12th Grade)
Camp Piankatank
1586 Stammers Bay Rd Box 435, Hartfield, VA 23071
Registration Fee: \$500

REGISTER TODAY!



[HTTP://APP.CAMPDOC.COM/REGISTER/CGSN](http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn)

MORE INFORMATION [HTTPS://WWW.NJ.GOARCH.ORG/CAMP-GOOD-SHEPHERD](https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)



September 23, 2024

**42nd ANNUAL
HOLY TRINITY GOLF CLASSIC**



Monday, September 23, 2024

Echo Lake Country Club

515 Springfield Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090

For information, please contact the Golf Committee: George Colonias admin@htgocnj.org
908-294-7414; George Paras gparas@parasandparas.com 201-681-5366



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠