

Holy Pentecost And the Parish Feast Day of Holy Trinity



June 4, 2023

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 Delvzizis, Parish Priest

On this day, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Holy Disciples and upon all mankind.

Click links for Scripture Readings

For Holy Pentecost, June 4

Morning Gospel:	John 20: 19-23	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Acts: 2:1-11	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	John: 7:37-52; 8:12	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion of the Feast and 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: “Once, when He descended and confounded the tongues, the Most High divided the nations; and when He divided the tongues of fire, He called all men into unity; and with one accord we glorify the All-Holy Spirit.”

Parish Feast Day

On the Monday following Holy Pentecost, we celebrate the All-Holy, Life-Giving, and All-Powerful Holy Spirit, the same in essence and equally glorified with the Father and the Son.

For the Parish Feast Day, June 5

Epistle Reading:	Ephesians 5:8-19	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	Matthew 18:10-20	Ελληνικά

As is the custom in the Orthodox Church, on the day after every Great Feast, we honor those through whom it came to pass – our Lady on the day after the Lord’s Nativity, Joachim and Anna after our Lady’s Nativity, the holy Baptist the day after Theophany, and so forth. On this day, we honor our God, the All-Holy Spirit, the Comforter promised by our Saviour to His disciples (John 14:16), Who descended upon them at Holy Pentecost and guided them into all truth (John 16:13), and through them, to us.

Parish Feast Day – Monday, June 5

On the Monday following Pentecost, Holy Trinity celebrates its feast day. You are invited to attend and be part of this unique day. A special hierarchical liturgy presided by His Grace Bishop Apostolos and a number of area clergy will highlight this illustrious day. Let us all attend and welcome our guests praying to our Lord and thanking Him for the parish we call home. Orthros begins at 9:15 AM with Hierarchical Divine Liturgy and Artoklasia at 10:00 AM. A special festive luncheon will be served at the conclusion in the Bouras Center.



Saturday of Souls

Memorials: The memorial service at the Liturgy of the Saturday of Souls was offered for all pious and Orthodox Christians and for the souls of Avgi Koutroumbis†, 6 years; and Marcus Scarkos†, 5 years.

Holy Pentecost Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In memory of Magdaline Genakos†

Vigil Light: In memory of Nicholas S. Pappas†

Large Candles: In loving memory of Athanasios† and Athanasia† Kontorvaki, and Stergio Poulos†

Prothesis Candles: In memory of Ioannis† and Eftihia† Paleologou



Pentecost and Parish Feast Day Icon Floral Decoration

In loving memory of Frieda Anast, Godmother of Holy Trinity, Westfield†

Sacraments and Rites

Wedding: On Saturday, June 3, the wedding of Nichol Armellino and George Vasiliadis was celebrated. The Koumbara is Barbara Kavchok.

Funeral: On Wednesday, May 31, the funeral for Sonja Evans† was held. Eternal be her memory.

Liturgical Schedule

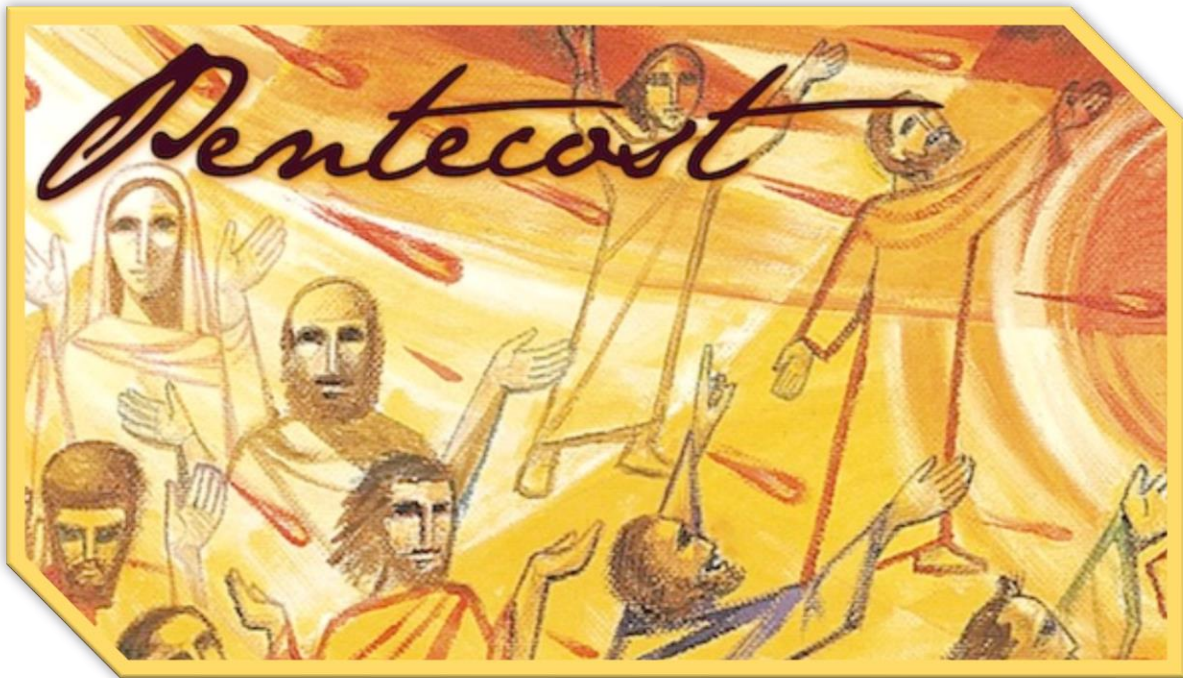
Monday, June 5, Holy Trinity, Parish Feast Day, Orthros, 9:15 AM; Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with area clergy, 10:00 AM

Sunday, June 11, All Saints, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, June 18, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Welcome Visitors

We welcome you to the parish of Holy Trinity in Westfield. We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are looking for a spiritual home, we hope that you will become 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.



After the Saviour's Ascension into the Heavens, the eleven Apostles and the rest of His disciples, the God-loving women who followed after Him from the beginning, His Mother, the most holy Virgin Mary, and His brethren-all together about 120 souls returned from the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem. Entering into the house where they gathered, they went into the upper room, and there they persevered in prayer and supplication, awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit, as their Divine Teacher had promised them. In the meanwhile, they chose Matthias, who was elected to take the place of Judas among the Apostles.

Thus, on this day, the seventh Sunday of Pascha, the tenth day after the Ascension and the fiftieth day after Pascha, at the third hour of the day from the rising of the sun, there suddenly came a sound from Heaven, as when a mighty wind blows, and it filled the whole house where the Apostles and the rest with them were gathered. Immediately after the sound, there appeared

tongues of fire that divided and rested upon the head of each one. Filled with the Spirit, all those present began speaking not in their native tongue, but in other tongues and dialects, as the Holy Spirit instructed them.

The multitudes that had come together from various places for the feast, most of whom were Jews by race and religion, were called Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and so forth, according to the places where they dwelt. Though they spoke many different tongues, they were present in Jerusalem by divine dispensation. When they heard that sound that came down from Heaven to the place where the disciples of Christ were gathered, all ran together to learn what had taken place. But they were confounded when they came and heard the Apostles speaking in their own tongues. Marvelling at this, they said one to another, "Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?" But others, because of their foolishness and excess of evil, mocked the wonder and said that the Apostles were drunken.

Then Peter stood up with the eleven, and raising his voice, spoke to all the people, proving that that which had taken place was not drunkenness, but the fulfilment of God's promise that had been spoken by the Prophet Joel: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that I shall pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy" (Joel 2:28), and he preached Jesus of Nazareth unto them, proving in many ways that He is Christ the Lord, Whom the Jews crucified but God raised from the dead. On hearing Peter's teaching, many were smitten with compunction and received the word. Thus, they were baptized, and on that day about three thousand souls were added to the Faith of Christ.

Such, therefore, are the reasons for today's feast: the coming of the All-holy Spirit into the world, the completion of the Lord Jesus Christ's promise, and the fulfilment of the hope of the sacred disciples, which we celebrate today. This is the final feast of the great mystery and dispensation of God's Incarnation. On this last, and great, and saving day of Pentecost, the Apostles of the Saviour, who were unlearned fishermen, now are made wise by the sudden rush of Holy Spirit, clearly and with divine authority spoke the heavenly doctrines. They became heralds of the truth and teachers of the whole world. On this day they were ordained and began their apostleship, of which the salvation of those three thousand souls in one day was the comely and marvellous first fruit.

Some erroneously hold that Pentecost is the "birthday of the Church." But this is not true, for the teaching of the holy Fathers is that the Church existed before all other things. In the second vision of The Shepherd of Hermas we read: "*Now brethren, a revelation was made unto me in my sleep by a youth of exceeding fair form, who said to me, 'Whom thinkest thou the aged woman, from whom thou receivedst the book, to be?' I say, 'The Sibyl.' 'Thou art wrong,' saith he, 'she is not.' 'Who then is she?' I say, 'The Church,' saith he. I said unto him, 'Wherefore then is she aged?' 'Because,' saith he, 'she was created before all things; therefore is she aged, and for her sake the world was framed.'"* Saint Gregory the Theologian also speaks of "*the Church of Christ ... both before Christ and after Christ*" (PG 35:1108-9).

Saint Epiphanius of Cyprus writes, *"The Catholic Church, which exists from the ages, is revealed most clearly in the incarnate advent of Christ"* (PG 42:640). Saint John Damascene observes, *"The Holy Catholic Church of God, therefore, is the assembly of the holy Fathers, Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Evangelists, and Martyrs who have been from the very beginning, to whom were added all the nations who believed with one accord"* (PG 96, 1357c).

According to Saint Gregory the Theologian, *"The Prophets established the Church, the Apostles conjoined it, and the Evangelists set it in order"* (PG 35, 589 A). The Church existed from the creation of the Angels, for the Angels came into existence before the creation of the world, and they have always been members of the Church. Saint Clement, Bishop of Rome, says in his second epistle to the Corinthians, the Church *"was created before the sun and moon"*; and a little further on, *"The Church existeth not now for the first time, but hath been from the beginning"* (II Cor. 14).

That which came to pass at Pentecost, then, was the ordination of the Apostles, the commencement of the apostolic preaching to the nations, and the inauguration of the priesthood of the new Israel. Saint Cyril of Alexandria says that *"Our Lord Jesus Christ herein ordained the instructors and teachers of the world and the stewards of His divine Mysteries ... showing together with the dignity of Apostleship, the incomparable glory of the authority given them ... Revealing them to be splendid with the great dignity of the Apostleship and showing them forth as both stewards and priests of the divine altars . . . they became fit to initiate others through the enlightening guidance of the Holy Spirit"* (PG 74, 708-712).

Saint Gregory Palamas says, *"Now, therefore ... the Holy Spirit descended ... showing the Disciples to be supernal luminaries ... and the distributed grace of the Divine Spirit came through the ordination of the Apostles upon their successors"* (Homily 24, 10). And Saint Sophronius, Bishop of Jerusalem, writes, *"After the visitation of the Comforter, the Apostles became high priests"* (PG 87, 3981B). Therefore, together with the baptism of the Holy Spirit which came upon them who were present in the upper chamber, which the Lord had foretold as recorded in the Acts, *"ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days hence"* (Acts 1:5), the Apostles were also appointed and raised to the high priestly rank, according to Saint John Chrysostom (PG 60, 21). On this day commenced the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by which we become *"partakers of the Divine Nature"* (II Peter 1:4). For before Pentecost, it is said of the Apostles and disciples only that they abode in *"prayer and supplication"* (Acts 1:14); it is only after the coming of the Holy Spirit that they persevered in the *"breaking of bread,"* that is, the communion of the Holy Mysteries *"and in prayer"* (Acts 2:42).

The feast of holy Pentecost, therefore, determined the beginning of the priesthood of grace, not the beginning of the Church. Henceforth, the Apostles proclaimed the good tidings *"in country and town,"* preaching and baptizing and appointing shepherds, imparting the priesthood to them whom they judged were worthy to minister, as Saint Clement writes in his first Epistle to the Corinthians (I Cor. 42).

All foods allowed during the week following Pentecost, so there is no fasting until June, 12 when the Apostles Fast begins.



Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Peter, Constantine, 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, Michelle, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Steve, Clem, Christos, Dorothy, Bill, Thomas, John, Keti, Dawn, Nick, Hilary, Nicholas, Matt, Diane, Cynthia, Patty, John, Isabel, Noella, Nevin, George, Diana, Lucia, Rich, Keti, Georgia, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, Gayle, William, Byron, John, Robert, Terry, John, Angela, Andrew, Dianna, Edward, Sue, Thomas, Andrea, Thomas, Alexandra, Ronald, Galina, Angela, Lubove, Despina, Maria, John, Paraskevi (Parri), Dianna, Stephanie, Edward, Brian, Janeen

Religious Education Graduation – Sunday, June 11

Please join us in celebrating our Graduates and our Religious Education School students on Sunday, June 11, after church services in the Bouras Center. We look forward to honoring our students. Help us make this day extra special for them by volunteering. Please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/y7ussfh5>. Contact Kathy Paone at 201-344-4049 with any questions.

Trinity Circle

Members' end of year luncheon will be held on Tuesday, June 13, at Galloping Hill Caterers, 11:30 AM-3 PM. Kindly sign up with Kassandra Romas, Chair. Cost per member is \$20.

Ladies Philoptochos Rummage Sale

Bring Us Your Treasures!! Drop off to the Bouras Center, Saturday, July 8 through Sunday, July 16. 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 20 and 21, 9:30 AM – 6 PM; Saturday, July 22, 9:30 AM – 4 PM

2023 Stewardship Campaign Update




Currently 348 Stewards have pledged \$445,433.

Thank you to the parishioners who submitted their pledge cards and stewardship gifts. As of May, we graciously received 348 pledges in the amount of \$445,433. Please remember to submit your pledge card which will help us meet our operating budget of \$885,000. 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 50% 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!

Submit your stewardship card online: [Stewardship Commitment Card](#)

	HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ 07090 • Tel. (908) 233-8533 • www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org	<input type="text"/>
<i>"Giving Thanks: Eucharistic Stewardship"</i>		
2023 CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT CARD		
The operating expenses of our Church for the year 2023 are estimated to be \$885,000 (or an estimated \$2,200 per family).		
In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's work at Holy Trinity Church in 2023 a total amount of:		
<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,200 <input type="checkbox"/> \$3,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adults (25-30) \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____		
<small>For additional information on Legacy or Planned Giving including donations of property, stock, or other securities, please contact the church office (908) 233-8533 or email HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org (see enclosed Stock/Security Donation Form)</small>		
Name _____	Signature _____	Date _____
Spouse's Name _____	Email Address _____	
Names of Dependents _____	Telephone Number (_____) _____	
_____	Cell Number (_____) _____	
Address _____	Please bring your Commitment Card to Stewardship Sunday Liturgy December 4, 2022	
City _____ State _____ Zip _____		
To vote or seek elective office in the administration of the parish in 2023, your signed Stewardship Commitment Card must be received by March 1, 2023.		

To set-up online giving: [Secure Online Giving](#)

Upcoming Parish Events

YOUNG ADULT NETWORKING & LECTURE SERIES

LIVING A PURPOSEFUL & FLOURISHING LIFE - A YOUNG ADULT'S JOURNEY

GUEST SPEAKER: EUGENE GENTILE, DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF CAREER MANAGEMENT, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
(Reception to Follow)



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH & Y2AM

Thursday, June 22, 2023 @ 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ

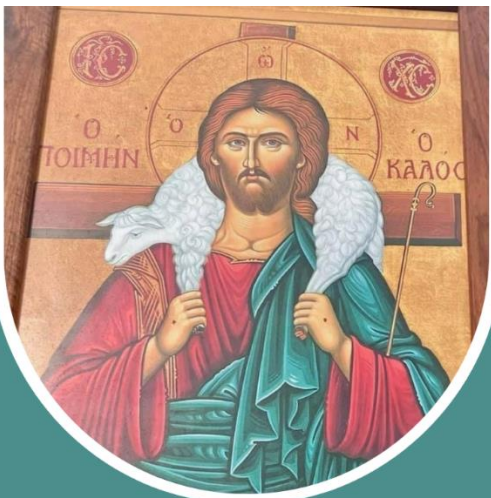

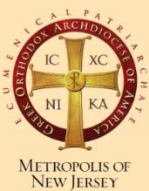
Recommended Age Group: 18 - 30




Thursday, July 16-22

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

Registration now open: Register here




CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD



Chesapeake (Maryland) July 3-7
Ages 8-18
Location: Camp Wo-Me-To, Jarrettsville, MD

Virginia July 9-15
Ages 10-18
Location: Camp Piankatank, Hartfield, VA

New Jersey July 16-22
Ages 8-18
Location: Camp Linwood Macdonald, Sandyston, NJ

 **Register here**
<http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn>

More Information <https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd>



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠