

Fourth Sunday of Great Lent



THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL

MARCH 26, 2023

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090
908.233.8533 www.holytrinitywestfield.org

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvizis, Presiding Priest

On this the Fourth Sunday of Great Lent, we commemorate our Righteous Father St. John Climacus, Author of the Ladder of Divine Ascent. On the Twenty-sixth Day of the Month, we commemorate Synaxis in honor of the Archangel Gabriel; 26 Martyrs in Crimea; St. Irenaeus the Hieromartyr of Hungary

Plagal Fourth Tone Ἦχος Πλ. Δ

Click links for Scripture Readings

Eighth Morning Gospel:	St. John 20:11-18	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Hebrews 6:13-20	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Mark 9:17-31	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: “From on high You descended, O merciful Lord. You accepted the Cross and three days in the tomb to free us from the bondage of sin, O our Life and Resurrection, Glory to You, O Lord.”

Apolytikion of St. John: “With the rivers of your tears, you have made the barren desert fertile. Through sighs of sorrow from deep within you, your labors have borne fruit a hundred-fold. By your miracles you have become a light, shining upon the world. O John, our Holy Father, pray to Christ our God, to save our souls.”

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: “To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I and your City [Constantinople], dedicate the victory festival as a thanksgiving offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may cry out to you: ‘Hail, Unwedded Bride!’”

Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In Loving Memory of Pericles Gianakis†

Vigil Light: In Loving Memory of Demetrios (James) Baboukis†

Large Candles: In Loving Memory of Andrew G. Andrews†



Sacraments & Rites



Funerals: On Wednesday, March 22, the funeral for Ellen Kalousis† was held. On Thursday, March 23, the funeral for Georgia Egan† was held. Eternal be their memories.



Memorial: Your prayers are requested on March 26 at the memorial service for Demetrios (James) Baboukis†, 3 years.

Artoklasia: An Artoklasia will be offered on March 26 for the Feast of the Annunciation for the health and wellbeing of the Aspromatis Family.

Liturgical Schedule

Tuesday, March 28, Lenten Vespers, 5:00 PM

Wednesday, March 29, Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 PM; Theosis, 7:45 PM

Friday, March 31, Akathist Hymn, 6:30 PM

Sunday, April 2, St. Mary of Egypt, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Wednesday, April 5, Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 PM; Theosis, 7:45 PM

Welcome Visitors

Welcome all visitors to our parish. 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 like very much to meet you. Please visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after services to meet parishioners and receive information about the parish.

Fellowship Hour: Please join us in the Bouras Center after church for the Fellowship Hour which is being sponsored by Connie Baboukis in loving memory of Demetrios (James) Baboukis†

St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival – Parish Results

Last Sunday, the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival was held. We congratulate our speakers and judges. Congratulations to our Junior Speaker Finalist - Ava Savvis; and Senior Speaker Finalist - Elizabeth Connant. The following also participated: Molly Love, Nadia Tarhanidis, Melina Colonias, Bobby Liberatos, Nikolas Skalkotos, and Alexandra Vasilopoulos. Our Speaker Finalists will proceed to the District Festival scheduled for April 1 and hosted at St. George in Piscataway, NJ. We wish them the best!

THE HOLY ARCHANGEL GABRIEL

Gabriel is the herald of the Incarnation of the Son of God. He is one of the seven archangels who stand before the throne of God. He appeared to Zacharias to announce the birth of the Forerunner. Gabriel said of himself: "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God." (Luke 1:19).

The name Gabriel means "man-God." The Holy Fathers, in speaking about the Annunciation, comment that an archangel with such a name was sent to signify Who He was, and what He would be like, Who would be born of the All-pure One. He would be the God-man, the mighty and powerful God. Some of the Fathers understood that this same Gabriel appeared to Joachim and Anna concerning the birth of the Virgin Mary, and that Gabriel instructed Moses in the wilderness to write the Book of Genesis. The Holy Fathers say that Gabriel belongs to the first and greatest order of heavenly powers, that is, the Seraphim, since the Seraphim stand closest to God. He is, therefore, one of the seven Seraphim closest to God. The names of the seven are Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salathiel, Jegudiel, and Barachiel. To this number some add Jeremiel. Each one has his own particular service and all are equal in honor.

Why did God not send Michael? Because Michael's service is to suppress the enemies of the Faith of God, while Gabriel's is the mission of announcing the salvation of mankind.

THE ARCHANGELS

Golden-headed seven, of angelic rank, Seven archangels, the highest spirits:

Michael, the sword against adversaries, is the first;

By the sword he renders payment to those who wage war against God.

Gabriel is the herald of God's Incarnation,

The all-wondrous recorder of human salvation.

Raphael, like a sun, is the servant of the Trinity;

He is the physician of vast human afflictions.

Uriel is the radiant light of God, The enlightener of human souls.

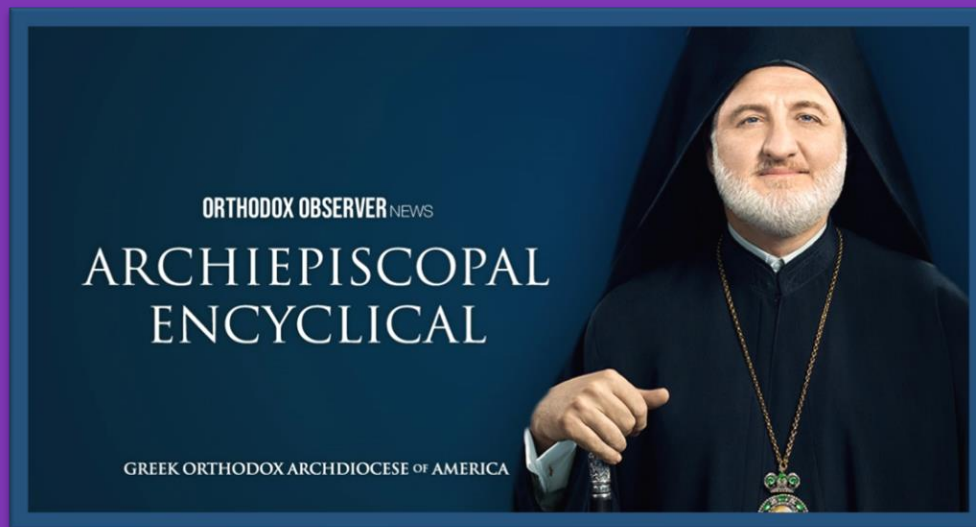
Selathiel, the intercessor, offers up prayers,

And brings the prayers of the people before God.

Jegudiel, glorifier of God the Almighty, Encourages the willing man to glory.

Barachiel, dispenser of the blessing of heaven,

Gives men what they need from God.



Prot. No. 65/2023

**Archiepiscopal Encyclical on the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos
and the Celebration of Greek Independence Day**

March 25, 2023

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:

Hail, unwavering tower of the Church, hail impenetrable wall of the Kingdom!

Beloved Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This Day of Greek Independence – when throughout Greece, Cyprus and the Hellenic Diaspora, the people of God celebrate freedom and remember the cost thereof – let us train our minds on the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, who is the model for what that freedom truly means. We sing her praises throughout Great Lent in the magnificent Akathist Hymn, because March 25 is the date we observe her Annunciation of the Glad Tidings of the Lord’s Incarnation, and because the Rebirth of the Genos is bound to her mighty intercessions.

The Theotokos is truly our “unwavering tower” and “impenetrable wall;” for she stands fast at the Throne of God in constant supplication for her People, the People of the Church, and the citizens of the coming Kingdom. She is the guarantor of our Faith; for she

is the one who offered her humanity to God, so that God, in turn, could offer His Divinity to us. She manifests that each of us has a place in the work of salvation, for through her, we are consubstantial with the Son of God in His humanity, just as He is consubstantial with the Father and the Spirit in divinity.

The fact that the struggle for freedom is forever linked to the exercise of her own freedom, is a cause for celebration every day, and not only on March 25. We can hold in our minds and hearts the champions of 1821 in every kairos, for their example is ever-new and ever-young. Their sacrifices remind us of the costly price of liberty, so that we might never take for granted the freedoms won and what it takes to preserve them.

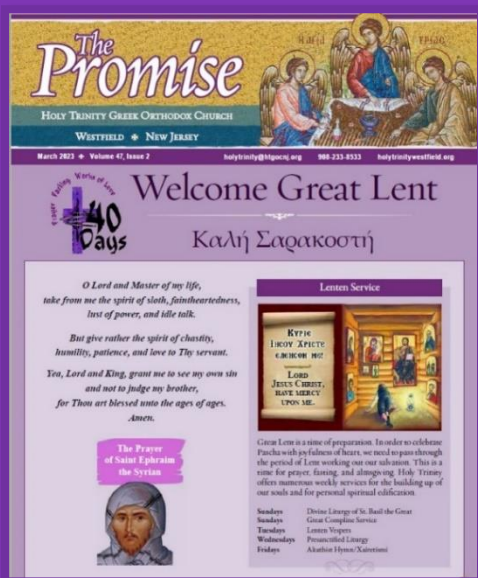
Therefore, my beloved brethren in the Lord, let us chant and magnify the Theotokos with joyous hymns and heartfelt supplications that may ever be worthy of the “unwavering tower” and “impenetrable wall” that surrounds us with love and spiritual protection. And may we ever bring to the exercise of our democracies of Greece, Cyprus, America, and everywhere in the Diaspora where “government of the people, by the people, for the people” is honored, the determination and responsibility to make us worthy of the freedoms that were gifted to us by the Heroes of 1821.

Long live Greece!

With paternal love in Christ,

† ELPIDOPHOROS

Archbishop of America



The March 2023 Edition of
The Promise
Is now available online.

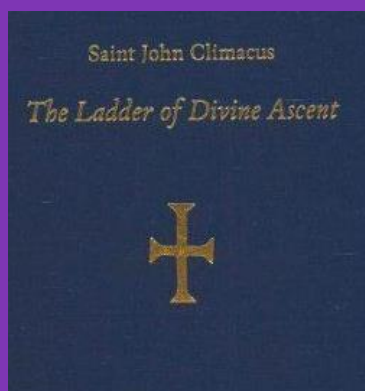
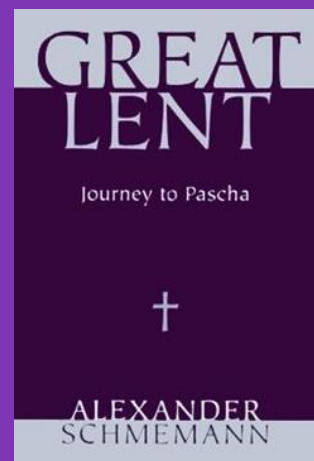
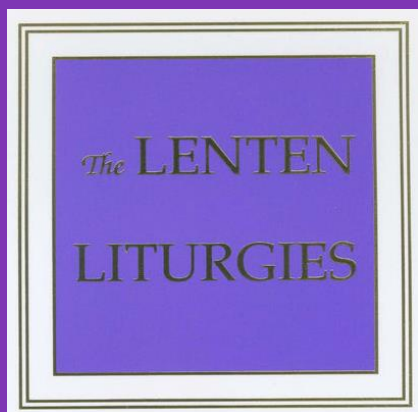
Prayer Request



Gabby, 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, Cathy, James, Christine, Andrea, Molly, Anastasios, Michael, Angela, Lauren, John, Effie, Stella, Denise, Mirka, Stamatia, Theresa, James, Antoinette, William, Angela, Tanner, Stefanos, Helen, Katherine, Ashley, Angela

Suggested Lenten Readings

As promised by Fr. Peter during last weeks sermon, here is a list of some amazing and classic books to read during Great Lent. Much like the “black Holy Week book”, “The Lenten Liturgies” is a book providing all the hymns for the weekly Presanctified Liturgies. It also contains the complete text for the St. Basil the Great Liturgies celebrated during Lent. Both “The Lenten Spring” and “Great Lent” are books that give the reader an understanding of the various themes we encounter during the seven weeks of lent. Lastly, there is no other book more powerful than St. John Climacus’ “The Ladder of Divine Ascent”. To this day in monasteries all over the world, this is the text that is read during mealtimes. A necessity for those in the ascetic struggle. These, plus other titles, are available at Holy Trinity’s Bookstore.



The Prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian



*O Lord and Master of my life, take from
me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness,
lust of power, and idle talk.*

*But give rather the spirit of chastity,
humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.*

*Yea, Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins
and not to judge my brother,
for Thou art blessed unto the ages of ages.
Amen.*

The Presanctified Liturgy and Theosis – Wednesday Nights

Every Wednesday night, the solemn Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts will be celebrated at 6:30 PM. This beautiful and powerful Liturgy lifts us spiritually during Great Lent. Please be reminded that fasting is required before receiving Holy Communion. Since this is an evening service, if you plan to receive Holy Communion, eat a very light luncheon and keep a strict fast thereafter. After the Liturgy, you are invited to attend the Theosis Program at 7:45 PM in Room 101. Discussion topics are: March 29, “Salvation belongs to God”; April 5, “The Cross, Tomb, and Resurrection”.

Salutations to the Theotokos – Friday Nights

The Akathist Hymn is celebrated every Friday night throughout Great Lent. Service begins at 6:30 PM. In this service, we call upon the protection and aid of the Mother of God. She is the one who is “Quick to Hear” and the “Port and Harbor” of those tossed about upon the waves of this world. She is the greatest intercessor with Christ our God.

Parish Lenten Mission Project – OCMC Coin Boxes

OCMC Coin Boxes can be brought to church next Sunday, April 2. We thank you for filling the boxes, not only with money, but with Christian love.

Trinity Circle - St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine

The St. Nicholas Shrine bus trip and luncheon was a great success and enjoyed by 53 attending! Thank you to Kassandra Romas for coordinating this outstanding outing!

Easter Cemetery Palm Cross Sale Ends March 26

March 26 is the last day to place your order with Marina LoAlbo at 908-272-4341. The Palm Cross is \$11. Please pick up your order on Sunday, April 2, during the Fellowship Hour.



The image shows a promotional card for Easter Palm Crosses. At the top center is a small illustration of a palm cross inside a square frame. Below this, the words "EASTER PALM CROSSES" are written in a large, bold, serif font. A decorative banner separates the title from the text below. The text includes: "Place your order for Cemetery Palm Crosses by Sunday, March 26th", "Cost: \$11 each", "Contact Trinity Circle / Marina LoAlbo", the email address "marinaloalbo@hotmail.com", and the phone number "908-272-4341". It also states "Pick-up at Fellowship Hour on Sunday, April 2nd". At the bottom, there are three lines for a form: "Name _____ Telephone _____", "# of Crosses _____ x \$11.00 each = Total _____", and "Paid _____ Cash _____ Check _____". The entire card is framed with a decorative border.

Tsoureki Sale for Greek School – March 26

Our annual Easter Tsoureki Sale (with egg or without) begins March 26; \$12 each. Order during the Fellowship Hour or email Penni Malakates/Soula Campbell at griekschoolhtgoc@gmail.com by Sunday, April 2. Pick up your order on Palm Sunday, April 9.

Parish Lenten Project – Saturday, April 1 “RISE AGAINST HUNGER”

We need your help with this Parish Lenten Project. “Rise Against Hunger,” is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to end hunger around the world. Holy Trinity is sponsoring a meal packaging event with “Rise Against Hunger”. On Saturday, April 1, from 10 AM - 12 PM, please come and help prepare 2,000 bags for 12,000 meals (no cooking needed). We are kindly requesting any small donation to offset some of the related cost. Stop by the Philoptochos table or use the following link

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/HolyTrinity2023> For further information, please reach out to Kathy Maglaras at maglarask@yahoo.com

Trinity Circle - Tuesday, April 4

At this month’s lunch/meeting from 11 AM-2 PM a member of the Westfield police department will speak to us on various fraud cases going on in our area. Kindly join us for a very informative afternoon. Our luncheon is donated by Jasmine Mestanas in memory of her loving sister Barbara Manos.

TOTS Playgroup - April 5

The next TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) meeting will be on Wednesday, April 5, from 9:30-11:30 AM in the preschool room. Children 18 months-Pre-K are welcome with their caregiver (younger siblings welcome!). Bring water, sneakers, and a snack. Contact Val Comprelli at vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608 to sign up or to ask any questions.

Ladies Philoptochos Palm Sunday Fellowship Hour

The Ladies Philoptochos will be sponsoring a special Fellowship Hour after Palm Sunday Liturgy. Kindly assist us with a contribution of one of the following: fruit (e.g., strawberries, orange slices, grapes, blueberries etc. washed and ready for platters), sliced mini bagels or mini muffins. Please sign up at the Philoptochos table or contact Marigo Markos at mchantzis@aol.com or 908-578-9330.

2023 Stewardship Campaign Update




Currently 307 Stewards have pledged \$413,338.

Thank you to the parishioners who submitted their pledge cards and stewardship gifts. As of March, we graciously received 307 pledges in the amount of \$413,338. 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 47% 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@higocnj.org (see enclosed Stock/Security Donation Form)</small>		
Name _____	Signature _____	Date _____
Spouse's Name _____	Email Address _____	
Names of Dependents _____	Telephone Number (____) _____	
Address _____	Cell Number (____) _____	
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Please bring your Commitment Card to Stewardship Sunday Liturgy December 4, 2022	
<small>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.</small>		

Upcoming Parish Events

Saturday, April 1

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Westfield

Lenten Project

Volunteers Needed!

**Join us
in our
meal-packing
event!**

Support us:

- Volunteer: Sign up @ Philoptochos Table
- Donate any amount to help offset costs

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/HolyTrinity2023>

Saturday, April 1, 2023

10-12pm

250 Gallows Hill Road

Westfield, NJ



Rise
AGAINST HUNGER



Scan this
code to open
our page!

We need your help!

For more information, please stop by Philoptochos table or
Kathy Maglaras at maglaras@yahoo.com

Friday, April 7

The Spirit of Lent Concert

The Spirit of Lent Concert, made up of singers from many Greek Orthodox parishes, will return to Holy Trinity on Friday, April 7. It is an uplifting concert featuring Lenten Liturgical Hymns. This year's director is our own Ryan J. Kiel, who grew up singing in the Holy Trinity Choir, alongside Director Emeritus, Kathryn Athanasoulas. Over the years, singers and audiences alike have come to see this event as a heartfelt preparation for the Great and Holy Week. Please attend, and feel free to invite your friends and neighbors. A Lenten reception will follow. A donation of \$10 is requested, with free admission for students.



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road
Westfield, New Jersey

is pleased to host

**The Eastern Federation of
Greek Orthodox Church Musicians**
District of New Jersey

30th Anniversary
The Spirit of Lent Concert

A Choral Offering of
Ancient and Modern Works in
English and Greek

Ryan J. Kiel, Director
E. Hope Demitry, Organist

~~~~~

Friday, April 7, 2023  
8:00 p.m.  
Refreshments following program

Donation \$10.00  
Students free

[www.holytrinitywestfield.org](http://www.holytrinitywestfield.org)



# Thursday, April 27

## "ARISE"

### The Ladies of Philoptochos – Fashion Show

Thursday, April 27, 2023 at Brooklake Country Club, Florham Park, NJ. 5:30 PM Cocktails & Raffles; 7:30 PM Dinner & Fashion Show by Emily's Boutique, Staten Island, NY. Please stop by the Philoptochos Table during the Fellowship Hour to learn more about ARISE!, how you can help, and donate.

### Pre-order "ARISE" Raffle Value Pak(s) and save on raffle tickets!

Limited quantities are available. Stop by the Philoptochos table during the Fellowship Hour for order forms or contact Ellen Manos at [ebmanos@yahoo.com](mailto:ebmanos@yahoo.com) by April 23. Contact the Event Chair, Kassandra Romas, at [kromas22409@gmail.com](mailto:kromas22409@gmail.com) or 908-296-1586.



**SAVE THE DATE**

The Ladies Philoptochos Society  
Of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Westfield, NJ  
Cordially invites you to

# "ARISE"

Living the life of your Dreams

Thursday, April 27, 2023  
Brooklake Country Club  
139 Brooklake Road  
Florham Park, New Jersey

Reception and Raffles - 5:30pm  
Dinner and Fashion Show - 7:30pm

Fashions by 

Ladies Philoptochos Dinner and Fashion Show ... "ARISE"  
Save on Raffle Tickets!! Reserve Today !! Limited Quantities

*Over 80 Fabulous Raffle Gifts and several chances to be part of the 50/50 pool!*

**Pre-order "ARISE" Raffle Value Pak(s)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check Box and indicate quantity of Value Pak(s) you would like to pre-order:

**Value Pak # 1**  
  \* 12 Raffle Sheets  
\* 15 tickets for 50/50 Prize Raffle  
Cost \$165 [Value \$195]

**Value Pak # 2**  
  \* 6 Raffle Sheets  
\* 15 tickets for 50/50 Prize Raffle  
Cost \$95 [Value \$120]

**PAYMENT and PICK UP of Value Pak(s) at**  
Brooklake Country Club  
Night of Event, Thursday APRIL 27<sup>th</sup>  
CONCIERGE TABLE

Please drop off this Pre-Order form at the  
Philoptochos table during fellowship hour or email :  
Ellen Manos – [ebmanos@yahoo.com](mailto:ebmanos@yahoo.com) by April 23, 2023

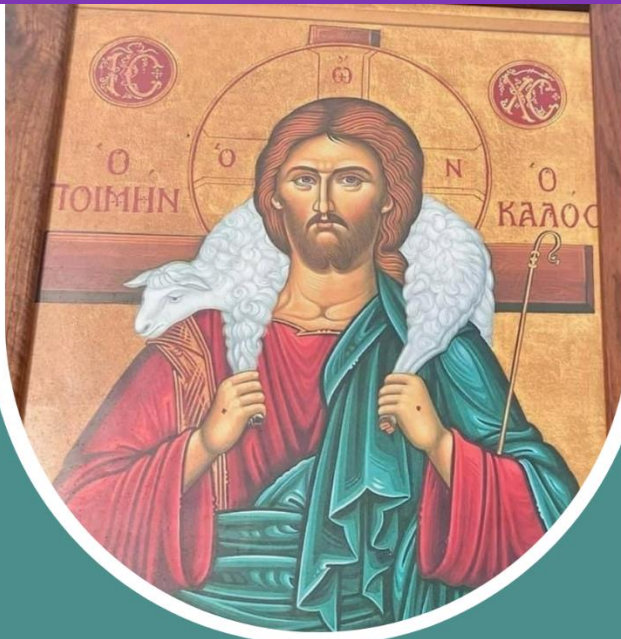
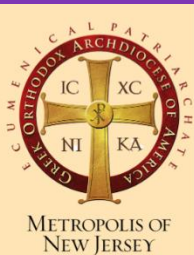
*You must have a paid entry ticket to the "ARISE" Dinner & Fashion Show to attend the cocktail hour.*

(NJ law prohibits payment of pre-orders prior to event)

**Thursday, July 16-22**

# **CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD**

**[Registration now open: Register here](#)**



# CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD



**Register here**

<http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn>

## **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

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

## 2023 Greek Independence Day Celebration – April 1

Please join the NJ Hellenic Heritage Commission for the 2023 Greek Independence Day Celebratory Event & Film Documentary on the Holocaust in Greece. April 1, 12:00 PM, Drew University Concert Hall, Madison, NJ.

  
 COURAGE TO RESIST  
 TO COMMEMORATE GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY  
**THE NJ HELLENIC HERITAGE COMMISSION**  
 PRESENTS:  
  
 AN ORIGINAL FILM BY ANNA MICHAEL  
**'MY PEOPLE'**  
THE SPIRIT OF GREEK RESISTANCE DURING THE 1940s AND 1950s  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023**  
**12PM - 3PM**  
**DREW UNIVERSITY**  
**CONCERT HALL**  
FREE WILL DONATION

| PROGRAM                                                                                                                                                                                  | INVITED GUESTS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12:00<br>• Naming of Resistor<br>• Tribute to Greek Independence<br>• Patriotic Independence Songs<br>• Cultural Dance Performances<br><br>1:00<br>• 'My People' - Anna Michael<br>• Q&A | Bishop Archbishop of Melrose<br>• Consul General of Greece<br>• Representative from the House<br>• Consul General of Cyprus<br>• Hellenic Fellow<br>• NY Secretary of State<br>• Ambassador of the Holy See<br><br>For further information contact:<br>Commission@hellenicnj.org |



**GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS**

**✠ AMEN ✠**