

**CHRIST IS RISEN! ~ TRULY, HE IS RISEN!
ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ! ~ ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**



Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

May 14, 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 Delvizi, Parish Priest

**“CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD,
BY DEATH, TRAMPLING DOWN UPON DEATH,
AND TO THOSE IN THE TOMBS,
HE HAS GRANTED LIFE.”**

Χριστὸς Ἀνέστη!

Christ is risen!

Christos Voskrese!

Christos a înviat!

Al-Mashīh-Qām!

Christe Agsdga!

Krishti u ngjall

Ἀληθῶς Ἀνέστη!

Truly, He is risen!

Voistinu Voskrese! - Russian

Adevārat a înviat! - Romanian

Haqqan Qām! - Arabic

Cheshmaritad agsdga! - Georgian

Vërtet u ngjall! - Albanian

Click links for Scripture Readings

Seventh Morning Gospel: [St. John 20:1-10](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Epistle Reading: [Acts 11:19-30](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Gospel Reading [St. John 4:5-42](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Apolytikion of Pascha: “Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.”

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: “The joyful news of Your resurrection was proclaimed by the angel to the women disciples. Having thrown off the curse that fell on Adam, they ran elatedly to tell the apostles: Death has been vanquished; Christ our God is risen from the dead, blessing all the world with His great mercy.”

Apolytikion of Mid-Pentecost: “O Lord, midway through the feast, give drink to my thirsty soul from the living waters of right belief. You, O Savior, proclaimed to everyone, “Let whoever is thirsty come to Me and drink.” You are the Fountain of life, O Christ our God. Glory to You!”

Apolytikion of the Patriarchs: “O Illustrious leaders and shepherd of Byzantium, you have been regarded throughout different ages as wise hierarchs. Wherefore, the Church of Christ praises the manner of your life. Through Her, as eminent luminaries, you give light to those who cry out, ‘Glory to Her who aided you, glory to Him who crowned you, glory to Him who, through you, affirmed the Orthodox faith.”

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: “Though Thou, O deathless One, didst descend into the grave, Thou didst destroy the power of Hades and as Victor, Thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the Myrrh-bearing women, saying: Rejoice! Thou didst bestow peace upon Thy disciples, and resurrection upon those that are fallen.”

Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In loving memory of Theresa Kotsolios†

Vigil Light: In memory of Nicholas S. Pappas†

Large Candles: In loving memory of Theresa Kotsolios†

Prothesis Candles: In loving memory of my parents, Christos† and Euterpe† Papatheodorou

Candilia: In memory of Eftihia Paleologou†



Sacraments and Rites

Memorial: Your prayers are requested this morning at the memorial service for Theresa Kotsolios†, 2 years. May her memory be eternal.

40-Day Blessings: On Sunday we are blessed to have the churching of Elliana Coutu, daughter of Sophia Baurkot and Kurt Coutu.

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, May 21, Sts. Constantine and Helen, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Thursday, May 25, Holy Ascension, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Fellowship Hour

Please join us in the Bouras Center after church for the Fellowship Hour as the parish celebrates Mother's Day, sponsored by the Ladies Philoptochos. The Fellowship Hour is being co-sponsored by Notis Kotsolios in loving memory of Theresa Kotsolios†.

Welcome Visitors

We 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 very much like to meet you. Please visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after services to meet parishioners.

Parish Assembly – Sunday, May 21

Holy Trinity will hold its Spring Parish Assembly meeting on Sunday, May 21, after church services. This is an important meeting as many aspects of parish life will be discussed. Your attendance and participation at the Parish Assembly is important. Notification of this meeting has been mailed to each Steward's home.

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman – St. John 4:5-42

The Holy Martyr Photini, the Samaritan Woman, her sons Victor (named Fotinos) and Joses; and her sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskevi, Kyriaki; Nero's daughter Domnina; and the Martyr Sebastian: The holy Martyr Photini was the Samaritan Woman, with whom the Savior conversed at Jacob's Well.

During the time of the emperor Nero (54-68), who displayed excessive cruelty against Christians, St. Photini lived in Carthage with her younger son Joses and fearlessly preached the Gospel there. Her eldest son Victor fought bravely in the Roman army against barbarians, and was appointed military commander in the city of Attalia (Asia Minor). Later, Nero called him to Italy to arrest and punish Christians. Sebastian, an official in Italy, said to Saint Victor, "I know that you, your mother and your brother, are followers of Christ. As a friend I advise you to submit to the will of the emperor. If you inform on any Christians, you will receive their wealth. I shall write to your mother and brother, asking them not to preach Christ in public. Let them practice their faith in secret."

Saint Victor replied, "I want to be a preacher of Christianity like my mother and brother." Sebastian said, "O Victor, we all know what woes await you, your mother and brother." Then Sebastian suddenly felt a sharp pain in his eyes. He was dumbfounded, and his face was somber. For three days he lay there blind, without uttering a word. On the fourth day he declared, "The God of the Christians is the only true God." St. Victor asked why Sebastian had suddenly changed his mind. Sebastian replied, "Because Christ is calling me." Soon he was baptized, and immediately regained his sight. St. Sebastian's servants, after witnessing the miracle, were also baptized. Reports of this reached Nero, and he commanded that the Christians be brought to him at Rome. Then the Lord Himself appeared to the confessors and said, "Fear not, for I am with you. Nero, and all who serve him, will be vanquished." The Lord said to St. Victor, "From this day forward, your name will be Fotinos, because through you, many will be enlightened and believe in Me."

The Lord then told the Christians to strengthen and encourage St. Sebastian to persevere until the end. All these things, and even future events, were revealed to Saint Photini. She left Carthage in the company of several Christians and joined the confessors in Rome. Nero ordered that St. Sebastian, Fotinos and Joses be blinded and locked up in prison, and St. Photini and her five sisters Anatola, Phota, Photis, Paraskevi and Kyriaki were sent to the imperial court under the supervision of Nero's daughter Domnina. Saint Photini converted both Domnina and all her servants to Christ. Three years passed, and Nero sent to the prison for one of his servants, who had been locked up. The messengers reported to him that Sts. Sebastian, Fotinos and Joses, who had been blinded, had completely recovered, and that people were visiting them to hear their preaching, and indeed the whole prison had been transformed into a bright and fragrant place where God was glorified.

Nero then gave orders to crucify the saints, and to beat their naked bodies with straps. On the fourth day the emperor sent servants to see whether the martyrs were still alive. But, approaching the place of the tortures, the servants fell blind. An angel of the Lord freed the martyrs from their crosses and healed them. The saints took pity on the blinded servants, and restored their sight by their prayers to the Lord. Those who were healed came to believe in Christ and were soon baptized.

In an impotent rage Nero gave orders to flay the skin from Saint Photini and to throw the martyr down a well. Sebastian, Fotinos and Joses had their legs cut off, and they were thrown to dogs, and then had their skin flayed off. The sisters of St. Photini also suffered terrible torments. Nero gave orders to cut off their breasts and then to flay their skin. An expert in cruelty, the emperor readied the fiercest execution for St. Photis: they tied her by the feet to the tops of two bent-over trees. When the ropes were cut the trees sprang upright and tore the martyr apart. The emperor ordered the others beheaded. Saint Photini was removed from the well and locked up in prison for twenty days.

After this Nero had her brought to him and asked if she would now relent and offer sacrifice to the idols. St. Photini spit in the face of the emperor, and laughing at him, said, “O most impious of the blind, you profligate and stupid man! Do you think me so deluded that I would consent to renounce my Lord Christ and instead offer sacrifice to idols as blind as you?”

Hearing such words, Nero gave orders to again throw the martyr down the well, where she surrendered her soul to God in +66 A.D. St. Photini is commemorated on February 26 and on the Fifth Sunday of Pascha.



Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered;
let those who hate Him flee from before His face!

A sacred Pascha is shown to us today; a new and Holy Pascha;
A mystic Pascha; an all-venerable Pascha;
A Pascha which is Christ the Redeemer; a spotless Pascha;
A great Pascha; a Pascha of the faithful;
A Pascha which has opened to us the gates of Paradise;
A Pascha sanctifying all the faithful.

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ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!

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Prayer Request



Art, Joanne, Peter, Constantine, Vasileos, Tina, 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, Ket, Dawn, Nick, Hilary, Nicholas, Matt, Diane, Cynthia, Patty, John, Isabel, Noella, Nevin, George, Diana, Lucia, Rich, Ket, 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



God bless all mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, godmothers, aunts and spiritual mothers!

Happy Mother's Day!

Flowers given after the church service have been generously and anonymously donated in honor of all mothers - those who are with us and those of blessed memory.

And, please join us for a light refreshment in the Bouras Center.

"Her children are raised by her charity and they become rich."

~ Proverbs 31:27

Metropolis of New Jersey to Honor Holy Trinity Parishioners

On Monday, May 15, at the honorees Grand Banquet, parishioners from Holy Trinity will be honored by Archbishop Elpidophoros of America. We thank this year's honorees who give selflessly of themselves to help benefit parish ministries: Mary Psomas-Senior Parish Member; Kristin Tencza-Steward of the Community; Peter Boutsikaris-Parish Council; Ellen Manos Athenson-Philoptochos; Stavroula Mergoupis-Greek Education Teacher; Pascali Kuvalakis-Psalti; Iris Love-Youth Advisor; Molly Sophia Love-GOYA.

OCMC - Orthodox Christian Mission Center

Thank you to our entire Holy Trinity parish for your continued support of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center with the 2023 Lenten Coin Box Drive. In total, your generosity collected \$1285.83 to support the global ministries of the OCMC to spread the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ worldwide. God bless you all.

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.

Adult Greek Dance

Our next class is scheduled for Friday, May 19, 6-7:30 PM. Please register using the following link <https://tinyurl.com/u69b83b8>. For more information contact Mary Carayannopoulos (carayannopoulos@comcast.net or 314-623-5493).

TOTS Playgroup

The next TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) meeting will be on Wednesday, May 24, 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.

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.

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.

Holy Trinity Cultural Committee – Friday, June 2 at 7:00 PM

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee

Cordially invites parishioners, friends, and young adults
to a presentation and discussion on:

The Ecumenical Patriarchate; The Mother Church from Glory to Captivity

Friday, June 2, at 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
at 250 Gallows Hills Road Westfield, NJ 07090

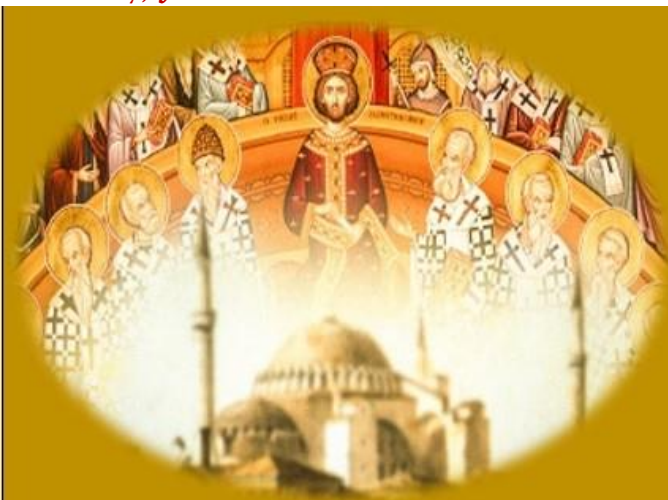
The Ecumenical Patriarchate is also known as the Patriarchate of Constantinople or the Great Church of Christ in Constantinople. Its creation goes back to the year 38, the year in which the Church was founded in the ancient city of Byzantium by Saint Andrew, the "First-called among the Apostles".

Discussion Topics include

Apostolic succession of Patriarchs a direct, uninterrupted line of continuity from the first Apostles of Jesus Christ.
The Seven Ecumenical Councils of the One Holy Catholic Church.
The autocephalous churches of the Eastern Orthodox Church.
The Ecumenical Patriarchate Today.
The struggle for Religious Freedom and Human Rights.
The role of the United States as a leading Eparchy.
Engaging the Modern World via Ecumenical Global Initiatives.

Refreshments will be served as a post event fellowship

For further information please contact the office
at 908-233-8533 or email kathyg@htgocnj.org



Our Guest Speakers



Rev. Protopresbyter Peter Delvizi
Presiding Priest
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church



Honorable B. Theodore Bozonelis
National Vice Commander of the
Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate



Celia Kapsomera
Chair, Cultural Committee
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠