



Sts. Constantine and Helen, Equal to the Apostles

May 24, 2026

**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



Seventh Sunday of Pascha

Today we commemorate the 318 Holy and God-bearing Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council in Nicea in 325 A.D. and the Post Feast of the Ascension of our Lord; St. Symeon the Stylite of the Mountain; St. Meletios the Commander

Plagal Second Tone

Ἦχος Πλ. Β΄

Tenth Morning Gospel

[St. John 21:1-14](#) Bible pp. 945-946
[Ελληνικά](#)

Epistle Reading: [Acts 20:16-18, 28-36](#) Bible pp. 967-968 [Ελληνικά](#)

Gospel Reading: [St. John 17:1-13](#) Bible p. 941 [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 loving memory of our precious Mother and Γιαγιά, Mary C. Vasilow†, from Chrissy, Tony, Louis, Angel, Kate, George, Mary, John, Georgie, Chris, Sophia and Athina

Vigil Light: In memory of Gus and Eleni Vlangos†

Large Candles: In memory of Konstandinos Genakos†

Kandili: In loving memory of Sierra Nolau†

Prothesis Candles: In loving memory of Theresa Kotsolios †

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday, May 30, Saturday of Souls, Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM

Sunday, May 31, **Holy Pentecost**, Orthros, 9:00 AM; Hierarchical Divine Liturgy,
10:00 AM

Monday, June 1, **Holy Trinity**, Orthros, 9:15 AM; Concelebration with area clergy,
Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM

Sunday, June 7, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM



The office will be closed Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.

"We are forever grateful for the ultimate sacrifice of those who died for our country."

Welcome Visitors

Our parish welcomes those visiting our community. Worshipping the Holy Trinity is the principal act of an Orthodox parish, especially on the Day of the Resurrection (Sunday). Our mission is to live the Holy Gospel and spread the Good News to those in our area. We are sanctified by God's grace through the holy Sacraments and glorify Him each moment of the day. We seek God's mercy, as we confess the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after service to meet parishioners and enjoy our Fellowship Hour.



**Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence
Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey**

Holy Pentecost
Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Sunday, May 31, 2026
9 A.M.

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





Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield, NJ

@holytrinitygreekorthodoxch5509

View Divine Services at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield,

Holy Trinity to Stream Services

If you are unable to attend a service in person, you can watch virtually via the Holy Trinity YouTube page. Visit us at:

[Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield, NJ - YouTube](#)

Please click the "Subscribe" button to become a Holy Trinity follower.



It's our Anniversary

Save the Dates...

In 2026, Holy Trinity celebrates 60 years of Orthodox witness and service. As a parish we will honor this milestone and the founders who with vision and faith established our beloved parish in 1966. The parish will host a grand celebration on Sunday, October 4 and we hope that you can join us for Liturgy and an Anniversary Luncheon. This will be followed by an evening gala and parish dance on Saturday, November 14. Details will be forthcoming but mark your calendars from now.



Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, Constance, Jeremy, John, Gregory, Gus, Thomas, Sean, Betty, Keela, Florence, Sandy, James, John, Athena, Stavroula, Dimetra, Donny, Dominique, Daniel, Elizabeth, John, Robert, Erin, Kevin, Sabrina, Luke, Bill, James, Ria, Eric, Eupraxia, Joanne, Alexandra, Sophia, Nicholas, James, Mary, Chris, Janeen, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, John, Marina, George, Laura, George, Costa

In the Orthodox Church, there are a lot of customs and traditions that are important parts of our worship. Some are cultural; some are pious customs. Some are essential. Some are not. From time to time, we need to address these various etiquette issues to inform our communities how we can best understand each other and work together to worship the all-holy Trinity.

Standing vs. Sitting

The traditional posture for prayer and worship in the Orthodox Church has been to stand. In the Orthodox "old countries", there are usually no pews in the churches. In North America, we have tended to build our churches with pews, and since we have them, we need to figure out when we may sit and when we should stand. When should you definitely stand? Always during the Gospel reading, the Little and Great Entrances, the Anaphora, the distribution of Holy Communion, whenever the priest gives a blessing, and the Dismissal. In many parishes, the Divine Liturgy books in the pew have suggested times when sitting is acceptable. Follow those instructions (it's probably safer than to follow what the people are doing in the first couple of rows). When in doubt, stand. It is never wrong to stand in church.

The Sign of the Cross

For Orthodox, the Cross holds a special place in veneration. Once a primitive means of torture, the Cross now reminds us of Christ's victory over death. You may notice some Orthodox Christians make the sign three times in a row, while others only do it once. Some make large sweeping motions, while others keep things simple and small. With all these variations, which way is the right way? Put simply, there isn't one. Crossing yourself is not an issue of dogma (belief necessary for salvation) but a practice of personal piety. In other words, aside from the arrangement of the three fingers joined together and direction of the movement, all else is up to you. Personal piety and reverence will dictate how you cross yourself. This is how we personally express faith and have it become an expression of the self.

St. Constantine and St. Helen

The God-crowned and Equal to the Apostles – May 21

The Church calls St. Constantine (306-337) "the Equal of the Apostles," and historians call him "the Great." He was the son of the Caesar Constantius Chlorus (305-306), who governed the lands of Gaul and Britain. His mother was Saint Helen, a Christian of humble birth. At this time the immense Roman Empire was divided into Western and Eastern halves, governed by two independent emperors and their corulers called "Caesars." Constantius Chlorus was Caesar in the Western Roman Empire. Constantine was born in 274 and in 294, Constantius divorced Helen to further his political ambition by marrying a woman of noble rank. After he became emperor, Constantine showed his mother great honor and respect, granting her the imperial title "Augusta."

Constantine, the future ruler of all the whole Roman Empire, was raised to respect Christianity. His father did not persecute Christians in the lands he governed. This was at a time when Christians were persecuted throughout the Roman Empire by the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and his co-rulers Maximian Galerius (305-311) in the East, and the emperor Maximian Hercules (284-305) in the West. After the death of Constantius Chlorus in 306, Constantine was acclaimed by the army at York as emperor of Gaul and Britain. The first act of the new emperor was to grant the freedom to practice Christianity in the lands subject to him. The pagan Maximian Galerius in the East and the fierce tyrant Maxentius in the West hated Constantine, and they plotted to overthrow and kill him, but Constantine bested them in a series of battles, defeating his opponents with the help of God. He prayed to God to give him a sign which would inspire his army to fight valiantly, and the Lord showed him a radiant Sign of the Cross in the heavens with the inscription “In this Sign, conquer.” – **ΕΝ ΤΟΥΤΟ ΝΙΚΑ**

After Constantine became the sole ruler of the Western Roman Empire, he issued the Edict of Milan in 313 which guaranteed religious tolerance for Christians. St. Helen, who was a Christian, may have influenced him in this decision. In 323, when he became the sole ruler of the entire Roman Empire, he extended the provisions of the Edict of Milan to the Eastern half of the Empire. After three hundred years of persecution, Christians could finally practice their faith without fear.

Renouncing paganism, the Emperor did not let his capital remain in ancient Rome, the former center of the pagan realm. He transferred his capital to the East, to the city of Byzantium, which was renamed Constantinople, the city of Constantine (May 11). Constantine was deeply convinced that only Christianity could unify the immense Roman Empire with its diverse peoples. He supported the Church in every way. He recalled Christian confessors from banishment, he built churches, and he showed concern for the clergy. The emperor deeply revered the victory-bearing Sign of the Cross of the Lord and also wanted to find the actual Cross upon which our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified. For this purpose, he sent his own mother, the holy Empress Helen, to Jerusalem, granting her both power and money. Patriarch Macarios of Jerusalem and St. Helen began the search, and through the will of God, the Life-Creating Cross was miraculously discovered in 326. While in Palestine, the holy empress did much of benefit for the Church. She ordered that all places connected with the earthly life of the Lord and His All-Pure Mother, should be freed of all traces of paganism, and she commanded that churches should be built at these places. The emperor Constantine ordered a magnificent church in honor of Christ’s Resurrection to be built over His tomb. St. Helen gave the Life-Creating Cross to the Patriarch for safe-keeping and took part of the Cross with her for the emperor. After distributing generous alms at Jerusalem and feeding the needy the holy Empress Helen returned to Constantinople, where she died in the year 327. Because of her great services to the Church and her efforts in finding the Life-Creating Cross, the empress Helen is called “the Equal of the Apostles.”



Stewardship

In the life of the Church, Stewardship is a sacred response to God's abundant blessings. It is how we actively participate in the life of the parish, offering our time in service, our talents in ministry, and our treasure in support of Christ's mission.

Holy Trinity is our spiritual and cultural center, a place like no other, rooted in faith. It nurtures joy and a deep sense of purpose in giving. Our parish remains a vibrant spiritual home thanks to your faithfulness. Stewardship directly impacts:

- Meaningful outreach ministries, serving those in need in our local community and beyond
- It sustains and grows our youth and young adult programs, forming the next generation in the Orthodox faith
- It preserves and expands our liturgical life, education, and parish ministries, ensuring that the fullness of Orthodoxy is lived and experienced

Each of these expressions brings our faith to life, not only within our walls, but in the world. Each year, we prayerfully establish a Stewardship goal that reflects both our needs and our mission.

For 2026, our parish Stewardship goal is \$650,000.

To date, the faithful have committed approximately \$466,000, while in previous years at this point, we were closer to \$490,000. Historically, by May we have 81% of Stewardship Cards received. Currently, we have collected 71%.

This leaves a sizable gap as we seek to fully fund the ministries and mission entrusted to us.

Holy Trinity is a family of believers. As the faithful, we put our personal trust and financial resources in God's hands. Take a leap of faith to move forward. Please offer Holy Trinity as much as possible for God's glory.



Calling All Volunteers for NJ GreekFest - May 29-31

Join us!
Westfield, NJ
GREEKFEST 26
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

We still need 300 slots filled! We need help in all areas of the festival.

Please sign up at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4AADAA2E5-62955044-greekfest#/>
and help us ensure this year's festival is a success!

**Fri May 29-
Sun 31**

Scan QR Code here for Signup Genius



The planning for GreekFest 2026 is in full swing and we need your help! This year's event brings back all your favorite foods and festivities to the community. We are excited to announce our special headliner, Evangelia, from the Eurovision Song Contest, for our Saturday Big Night Out! Information on special ticket purchasing can be found at www.NJGreekFest.com We are actively seeking volunteers via [GreekFest 2026 Volunteer Sign Up](#), QR code or

at our Fellowship Hour table where you can also pick up yard signs and postcards to help advertise! Join us in bringing this special event to life with great food, community, and fellowship. Any volunteer questions, contact Roula Ioannou at htgreekfestivalvolunteers@gmail.com Thank you for your time and support—we couldn't do it without you! We appreciate your participation!



GreekFest Pastry Packaging – Monday, May 25

GreekFest volunteers welcome to help package all pastries for sale at GreekFest!

Monday, May 25, 10 AM – 2 PM

Any questions text Mary Carayannopoulos 314-623-5493

GreekFest 2026 Mega 50/50 Raffle

Please support your community's Ways & Means by sponsoring and purchasing 50/50 raffles available at the GreekFest table during the Fellowship Hour.

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield, NJ presents

MEGA 50/50 RAFFLE

7 CHANCES TO WIN!

Grand Prize – Up to \$10,000

2nd Prize – Up to \$5,000 Five 3rd Prizes – Up to \$2,000 each

Only 1000 tickets to be sold!
\$50 per ticket.



Winners need not be present to win and will be notified. Winners responsible for all taxes. If the offer is oversubscribed, the first 1000 tickets paid for will be honored. All other contributions will be returned. If not completely subscribed, per state regulations, the exact prizes offered will be at the following percentages:

Grand Prize - 20%

2nd Prize - 10%

Five 3rd Prizes – 4% each



NJLGCCC ID# 538-1-17636

Municipal Lic. # RL-2025-33

Join us at the Greek Fest!

Friday May 29, 5pm-11pm

Saturday May 30, 12 pm -11pm

Sunday May 31, 12 pm -6pm

Drawing to be held on Sun. May 31 @ 5 p.m. at

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

All proceeds to benefit Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Westfield, NJ

www.njgreekfest.com

To reserve your ticket(s), please fill out this portion, including signature and return with your payment made payable to:

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

Tickets will be distributed after receipt of payment. Mail in entry deadline: Friday, May 15, 2026

#of tickets to reserve _____ @ \$50 each = _____

NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

PAYMENT TYPE: Please check one: Check # _____ Cash American Express Visa MasterCard Discover

CREDIT CARD # _____ EXP DATE _____ CVV# _____

NAME ON CREDIT CARD _____

SIGNATURE _____



Westfield, NJ
GREEK FEST 26

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

250 GALLOWS HILL ROAD, WESTFIELD

May 29, 30, 31

Friday
5 pm - 11 pm

Saturday
Noon - 11 pm

Sunday
Noon - 6 pm

Greek Food & Pastries → *Greek Music & Dancing*
Kids Zone → *Marketplace* → *Mega 50/50 Raffle*



Big Night Out, SATURDAY, MAY 30 featuring Greek-American pop star and Eurovision finalist, **EVANGELINA** For tickets, simply scan the QR code or visit us at:



www.njgreekfest.com



Admission \$3. Children under 12 free!
Free shuttle from nearby UCNJ parking lot to the GreekFest

We appreciate your participation in supporting our Sponsorship/Advertising Packages fundraising initiative with businesses in our surrounding area. Please see the form below to learn more about how you can help spread the word!



Dear Friend of Holy Trinity,

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church ("HTGOC") in Westfield, NJ will host its annual Greek Festival on the weekend of Friday May 29 through Sunday May 31. Our parish invites you to visit us to experience our community, philoxenia, faith, and authentic Hellenic cuisine and culture. This year the parish is celebrating its 60th Anniversary. It is our privilege to serve and support Westfield and the surrounding communities. Through the good works of our parish, the festival team and our partners support our parish ministries and many local charitable organizations.

Become our partner and join the fun as we plan our largest fellowship event. Your sponsorship or advertising is a testimonial or "confirmation" of your support, generosity, and patronage that directly enables our parish mission. As a business, your advertisement will gain exposure to over 3,000 visitors and volunteers, as well as our 2,000 social media followers and 56,000 impressions across meta platforms in the month leading to the event. Our festival reaches patrons throughout New Jersey, including from Essex, Union, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Bergen, and Somerset counties.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Fr. Peter Delvzizis, Presiding Priest, and the 2026 GreekFest Committee

Visit our Website at www.njgreekfest.com

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

- Grand Benefactor Sponsor \$5,000+ _____
- Station Sponsor \$3,500 _____
- Platinum Sponsor \$2,500 _____
- Gold Sponsor \$1,000 _____
- Silver Sponsor \$500 _____
- Bronze Sponsor \$250 _____

See Below for Package Details

Payment Options for GreekFest26 Donations:

A. By Check:

1. Mark your sponsorship package above.
2. Fill out the contact information below:
 - Name _____
 - Address _____
 - Phone _____
 - Email _____
3. Mail check to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090

B. By Credit Card using this Link: [Holy Trinity Online Donation](#)

Or using this QR code and Selecting "Donate" from the Main Menu:



SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE DESCRIPTIONS	
Bronze Sponsor \$250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition in HTGOC Promise Newsletter (distributed to 800+ people) • Recognition in print materials and e-communications regarding the event • Recognition on Greekfest social media channels • Your name will be displayed at the Greek Festival
Silver Sponsor \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze Sponsor benefits; plus • 5 complimentary admission tickets to Greekfest
Gold Sponsor \$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver Sponsor benefits; plus • Your company's marketing materials will be displayed at the Greekfest Sponsor Table • 5 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 10 total) to Greekfest
Platinum Sponsor \$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold Sponsor benefits; plus • Your Company logo with link to sponsor's website on Greekfest website • 10 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 20 total) to Greekfest
Station Sponsor \$3,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platinum Sponsor benefits; plus • Your company logo and marketing information displayed above the station • Only 4 opportunities for station sponsors are available: Kafenio, Grill, Bar, and Stage • 10 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 30 total) to Greekfest
Grand Benefactor \$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platinum Sponsor benefits; plus • 10 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 40 total) to Greekfest

TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) - May 27

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 27, 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 612-801-8608 or vcomprelli@gmail.com to sign-up or with any questions.

Trinity Circle

Members' year-end luncheon Tuesday, June 9, Galloping Hill Caterers, 11:30 AM - 3 PM. Sign up with Cassandra Romas, Chair. \$20 per member.

No Religious Education classes on May 24 and May 31. Classes will resume June 7.

Religious Education Graduation Ceremony, Sunday - June 21

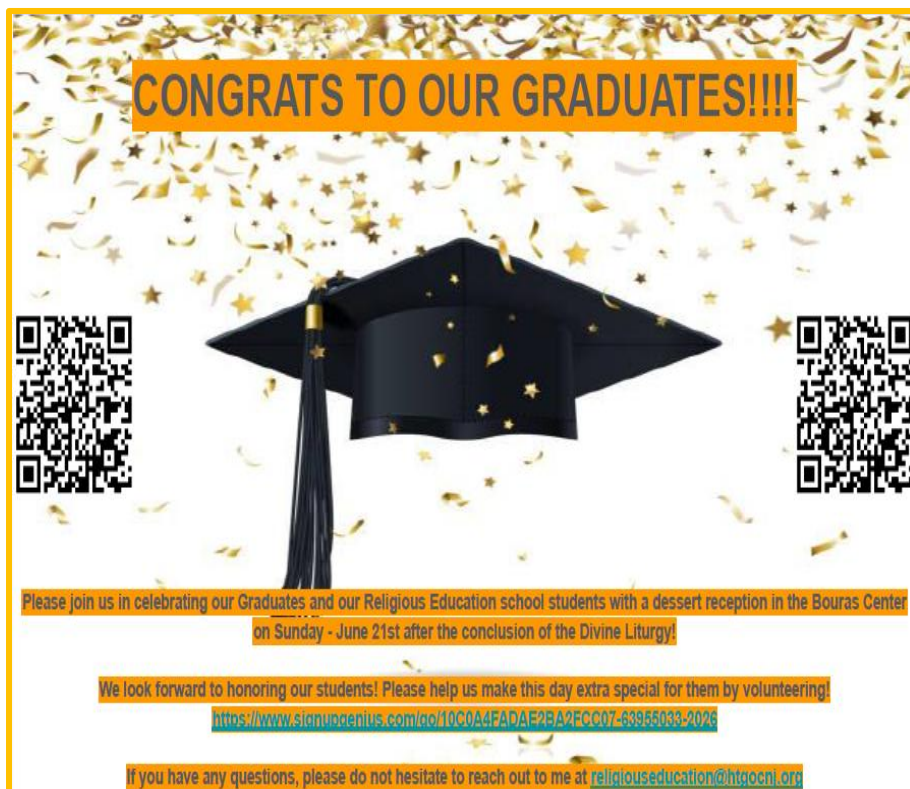
Please join us in celebrating our graduates and our Religious Education students with a dessert reception in the Bouras Center on Sunday, June 21 after Divine Liturgy. We look forward to honoring our students! Please help us make this day extra special for them by volunteering to help or bring a dessert via the QR code or link provided [Volunteers Sign Up for Religious Education Graduation Celebration](#)



Upcoming Events

June 21, 2026

Religious Education Graduation Ceremony



CONGRATS TO OUR GRADUATES!!!!

Please join us in celebrating our Graduates and our Religious Education school students with a dessert reception in the Bouras Center on Sunday - June 21st after the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy!

We look forward to honoring our students! Please help us make this day extra special for them by volunteering!
<https://www.sianuocentrus.com/ao/10C0A4FADAE2BA2FCC07-63955033-2026>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at religiouseducation@htgoonj.org

July 24 - 25, 2026

Drop Off Dates to Bouras Center:

Sunday, July 12 – Monday, July 20

2026 Philoptochos Rummage Sale

Drop Off Dates to Bouras Center:

Sunday July 12th - Monday July 20th

- Household Items
- Holiday Decor
- China & Glassware
- Small Appliances
- Small Furniture
- Home Decor 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:

Friday, July 24th 9:30am - 5:00pm

Saturday, July 25th 9:30am - 4:00pm

(everything ½ price 2pm - 4pm SAT ONLY)

Questions: Elise Savnik (908) 337-5046

July 12 - 18, 2026

Camp Good Shepherd – July 12 - 18

Register now by visiting <http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn> For more information visit the updated Camp Good Shepherd (CGS) website <https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd> including videos from CGS 2025. The overall goal of CGS is to give our campers a taste of actively living their Orthodox Christian faith, to connect them to Christ and His Church, and to offer them the chance to develop lasting relationships with their peers.



The graphic features a blue and green background with a sun and clouds. At the top left is the 'Camp Good Shepherd' logo for the Diocese of New Jersey. At the top right is the 'Orthodox Archdiocese of New York' logo. The central text 'CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD 2026' is in large, bold, orange letters with a white outline. Below this are three circular photos: two campers with bows, a large group of campers in teal shirts, and two campers in a canoe. At the bottom, there are three colored boxes for Virginia, Maryland, and New Jersey, each with dates, location, and early bird pricing. A 'Register here!' button with a QR code and the website URL are at the very bottom.

Virginia
July 5-11
Camp Piankatank
1586 Stampers Bay Rd
Hartfield, VA 23071
Early Bird: \$600
until May 31

Maryland
July 12-18
Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd,
Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Early Bird: \$625
until May 31

New Jersey
July 12-18
Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd,
Sandyston, NJ 07826
Early Bird: \$675
until May 31

Register here!

www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd



T.O.T.S.- (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social)

Mission Statement

The mission of the Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social (T.O.T.S.) of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church is to provide an environment fostering fellowship and prayer for children aged 18 months to 4 years of age and their mother, father and/or caregiver. Children are encouraged to develop a sense of comfort and security in God's house while experimenting in independent and cooperative age-appropriate play under their caregiver's supervision. Concurrently, the toddler social enables these adults the opportunity to meet, pray, and socialize.

TOTS meetings: Wednesdays, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM, Pre-K Room
May 27
June 3

Bring water, sneakers and a snack. Contact Val Comprelli (vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608) to sign up or to ask any questions.

