

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



**FINDING OF THE HEAD OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
May 25, 2025**

**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 Delvizis, Parish Priest

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

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!

Christ is risen!

Christos Voskrese!

Christos a înviat!

Al-Mashīh-Qām!

Christe Agsdga!

Krishti u ngjall

ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!

Truly, He is risen!

Voistinu Voskrese! - Russian

Adevārat a înviat! - Romanian

Haqqan Qām! - Arabic

Cheshmaritad agsdga! - Georgian

Vërtet u ngjall! - Albania

**On the Sixth Sunday of Pascha, we remember the Blind Man healed by Christ;
Today we commemorate The Third Finding of the Precious Head of St. John the
Baptist; The Seven Youth Athletes of Kastoria who were martyred**

Eighth Morning Gospel:

[St. John 20:11-18](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Epistle Reading:

[2 Corinthians: 4:6-15](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Gospel Reading:

[St. John 9:1-38](#)

[Ελληνικά](#)

Apolytikion: “Christ is risen from the dead by death has He trampled upon death and to those in the tombs he has granted life.”

Apolytikion: “To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.”

Apolytikion for the Forerunner: “Now Christ has revealed to us your sacred head once again, * a most holy treasure hidden underground for so long, * O Prophet and Forerunner. * Therefore we have assembled for the feast of its Finding, * singing our God-inspired hymns in praise of the Savior, * who saves us from destruction, by your earnest prayers to Him.”

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 Christos Papatheodorou†

Large Candles: In loving memory of our precious Mom and Yiayia, Mary C. Vasilow†, from Chrissy & Tony, Louis & Angel, Kate, George, Mary, John & Georgie, Chris, Sophia & Athina

Sacraments and Rites

Wedding: On Saturday, May 24, the wedding of Alexandra Agathis and Andrew Winn was celebrated. The Koumbara is Sophia Anna Agathis.

Religious Education: No Religious Education classes today. Classes will resume June 1.

Liturgical Schedule

Thursday, May 29, Holy Ascension, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, June 1, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, June 7, Saturday of Souls, Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM

Sunday, June 8, Holy Pentecost, Orthros, 9:00 AM; Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM

Monday, June 9, Holy Trinity, Parish Feast Day, Orthros, 9:00 AM;

Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM

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 or wish to learn more about the Orthodox Faith 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 enjoy our Fellowship Hour.

Office Closed: Memorial Day – Monday, May 26

"We are forever grateful for the ultimate sacrifice of those who died for our country."
In observance of Memorial Day, the office will be closed.



CHRIST IS RISEN!



TRULY, HE IS RISEN!

THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

After the Beheading of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John (August 29), his body was buried by disciples in the Samaritan city of Sebaste, and his venerable head was hidden by Herodias in an unclean place. Saint Joanna (June 27), the wife of King Herod's steward Chuza (Luke 8:3), secretly took the holy head and placed it into a vessel and buried it on the Mount of Olives in one of Herod's properties.

After many years, this property passed into the possession of a government official who became a monk with the name of Innocent. He built a church and a cell there. When they started to dig the foundation, the vessel with the venerable head of John the Baptist was uncovered. Innocent recognized its great holiness from the signs of grace emanating from it. Thus occurred the First Finding of the Head. Innocent preserved it with great piety, but fearful that the holy relic might be abused by unbelievers, before his own death he again hid it in that same place, where it was found. Upon his death the church fell into ruin and was destroyed.

During the days of Saint Constantine the Great (May 21), when Christianity began to flourish, the holy Forerunner appeared twice to two monks journeying to Jerusalem on pilgrimage to the holy places, and he revealed the location of his venerable head. The monks uncovered the holy relic and, placing it into a sack of camel hair, they proceeded homewards. Along the way they encountered an unnamed potter and gave him the precious burden to carry. Not knowing what he was carrying, the potter continued on his way. But the holy Forerunner appeared to him and ordered him to flee from the careless and lazy monks, with what he held in his hands. The potter concealed himself from the monks and at home he preserved the venerable head with reverence. Before his death he placed it in a water jug and gave it to his sister.

From that time the venerable head was successively preserved by devout Christians, until the priest Eustathios (infected with the Arian heresy) came into possession of it. He beguiled a multitude of the infirm who had been healed by the holy head, ascribing their cures to the fact that it was in the possession of an Arian. When his blasphemy was uncovered, he was compelled to flee. After he buried the holy relic in a cave, near Emesa, the heretic intended to return later and use it for disseminating falsehood. God, however, did not permit this. Pious monks settled in the cave, and then a monastery arose at this place. In the year 452 Saint John the Baptist appeared to Archimandrite Marcellos of this monastery and indicated where his head was hidden. This became celebrated as the Second Finding. The holy relic was transferred to Emesa, and later to Constantinople.

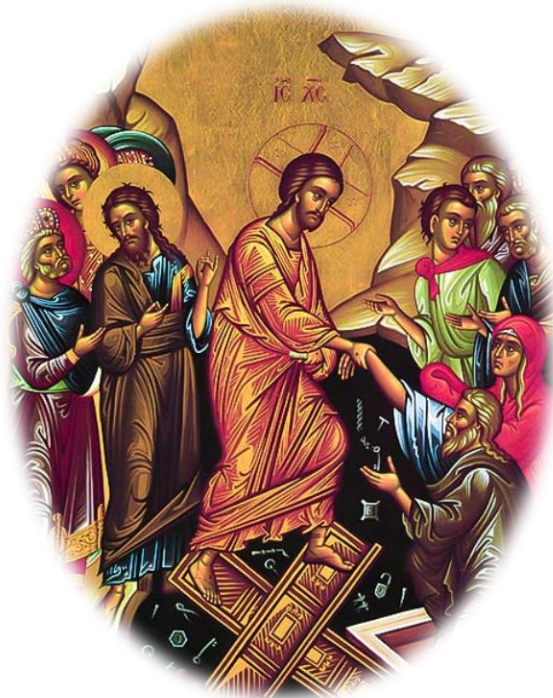
The Third Discovery of the Venerable Head of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John occurred in about the year 850 A.D. It was transferred to Komana during the Saracen raids (about 810-820) and it was hidden in the ground during a period of iconoclastic persecution. When the veneration of icons was restored, Patriarch Ignatius (847-857) saw in a vision the place where the head of Saint John the Forerunner was hidden. The patriarch communicated this to the emperor, who sent a delegation to Komana. There the head was found a third time around the year 850. Afterwards the head was again transferred to Constantinople, and here on May 25 it was placed in a church at the court.

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.



*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
Now and ever, and to the Ages of Ages. Amen.*

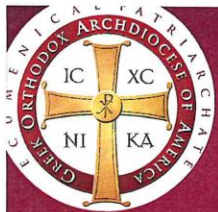
It is the Day of Resurrection!
Let us shine forth in splendor for the Festival,
And embrace one another. Let us say,
“O brethren, even to those who hate; let us forgive all things in
The Resurrection, and thus let us exclaim:
‘Christ is risen from the dead, trampling Death by death, and
Bestowing life to those in the tombs.’”



Prayer Request

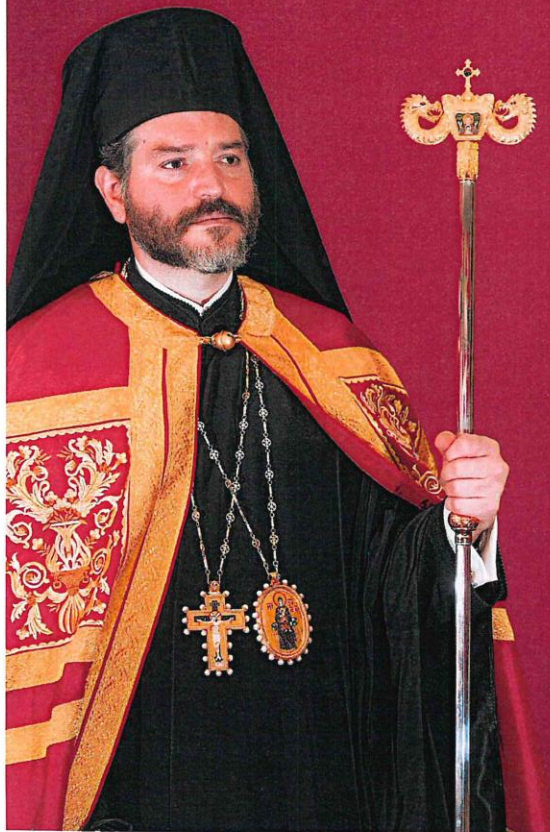


Marina, Pete, George, Laura, George, Costa, Basil, Lemonia, Justin, Evangelia, Brennan, Egon, Marilyn, Tatanya, Robert, Elizabeth, George, Nicholas, Alexander, Vasilios, Danny, Bill, Lou, Foula, Eupraxia, Chris, Arlene, John, Ted, William, Theodora, Michael, Gioula, Nicholas, Hellen, Kevin, Janice, Elaine, Patty, Cynthia, Nicholas, Blace, Christos, Thomas, Rich, Lea, Robert, 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



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of New Jersey

Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey



Orthros,
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy,
and Great Vespers for the
Feast of Holy Pentecost

Sunday, June 8, 2025

9:00 A.M.

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

Stewardship

Thank you to all who submitted their 2025 Christian Stewardship Commitment Card, and for those who expressed an interest to get involved in our parish ministries. The respective ministry leader will contact you soon to explore ways in which you can get involved.

OCMC - Orthodox Christian Mission Center

Our parish donated a record \$2,000 during the 2025 Lenten Coin Box Drive, with special thanks to everyone who participated, the Ladies Philoptochos of Holy Trinity and the Parish Council. Holy Trinity's faithful support will provide a meaningful impact by spreading the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ worldwide and touching lives and hearts globally. God bless Holy Trinity.

Please help us prepare pastries for GreekFest25

Packaging: May 26, 10 AM – 2 PM, Bouras Center. Questions? Text Mary Carayannopoulos 314-623-5493.

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee

The Holy Trinity Cultural Committee would like to share upcoming locally hosted events parishioners may be interested in attending.

Public Orthodoxy at Fordham University. Event details located at: <https://publicorthodoxy.org/events/>

- **June 4** Nicaea and the Church of the Third Millennium. Towards Catholic-Orthodox Unity
- **June 16** Religious Nationalism

Hellenic Film Festival

- Online via Youtube: Family Member. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVYhv4KYp3I&t=15s>

Trinity Circle

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

Greek School

Does helping preserve our Greek language appeal to you? Become a Greek School teacher! The Greek school is looking for teachers and/or substitutes for next school year. No prior experience is required! Please contact the church office for more details if you are interested.

Religious Education Graduation Ceremony, Sunday - June 22

Please join us in celebrating our Graduates and our Religious Education school students with a lunch reception in the Bouras Center on Sunday, June 22 after the conclusion of Divine Liturgy. We look forward to honoring our students! Please help us make this day extra special for them by volunteering. Click [Religious Education Graduation Volunteers](#) or scan either QR code in the below flyer to go to the sign-up genius link. If you have any questions, please contact Pete Markos at religioueducation@htgocnj.org

Upcoming Events

Greekfest 2025

May 30 – June 1

FRI. MAY 30, 5 PM-11 PM; SAT. MAY 31, NOON-11 PM; SUN. JUNE 1, NOON-6 PM

SAVE THE DATES & PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Planning is underway for our upcoming annual NJ GREEKFEST. We need you to join in the fun and fellowship by volunteering to help make Holy Trinity's major church fundraiser a success. We invite you to bring all your talents and expertise to make this the best GreekFest yet! Whether you're a seasoned volunteer or looking to get involved for the first time, we welcome you to join our community efforts at our NJ GreekFest May 30, 31 and June 1. To sign up, simply scan the QR code in the flyer below or click [GreekFest Volunteers](https://bit.ly/GreekfestVolunteers) to go to the sign-up genius link.

Join us!

Westfield, NJ
GREEKFEST 25
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

May 30, 31, June 1

Friday 5 p.m. - 11pm	Saturday Noon - 11 pm	Sunday Noon - 6 pm
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Be an active part of our 2025 GreekFest! Please volunteer your time, talents & treasures. Everyone is needed to make our festival a success! To sign up, simply scan the QR code or go to: <https://bit.ly/GreekfestVolunteers>

Please help us prepare pastries for GreekFest25 - Packaging: May 26, 10 AM – 2 PM, Bouras Center. Questions? Text Mary Carayannopoulos 314-623-5493.

Help us get the word out about GreekFest25 through social media! Please follow our pages on Instagram [@NJGreekFest](https://www.instagram.com/NJGreekFest) and Facebook [NJ GreekFest](https://www.facebook.com/NJGreekFest), and like and share content within your personal groups.

Pick up any remaining marketing materials in the Bouras Center on Sundays after church: yard signs for high traffic areas, posters and postcards for small businesses, discounted entry ticket packs and Mega 50/50 raffle tickets. OPA!



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 30 through Sunday June 1**. Our parish invites you to visit us to experience our community, philoxenia, faith, and authentic Hellenic cuisine and culture. For almost 60 years, our parish has been serving Westfield and the surrounding communities. Through the good works of our parish, the festival team and our partners support 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 2,000 visitors and volunteers as well as our social media followers**. 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 Delvizis, Presiding Priest, and the 2025 Greek Festival Committee

- Visit our website at www.njgreekfest.com.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Grand Benefactor Sponsor* \$5,000 & above _____

Platinum Sponsor* \$2,500 _____

Gold Sponsor* \$1,000 _____

Silver Sponsor* \$500 _____

Bronze Sponsor* \$250 _____

*See below for sponsorship recognition.

Payment Options (for Greek Festival donations)

A. By Check:

1. Mark your sponsorship package from above.
2. Fill out the contact information below:

- Name _____
- Address _____
- Phone _____
- Email _____

3. Mail check to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church at 250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090

B. By Credit Card: Click link: [Holy Trinity Online Donation](#)

Or QR code:



Or visit: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YQBS/home>

*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 on a large banner inside the dining tent at the Greek Festival
*Silver Sponsor \$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze Sponsor benefits; plus • 10 complimentary admission tickets to Greekfest
*Gold Sponsor \$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver Sponsor benefits; plus • Your name and/or logo will be displayed at the entrance of the Greek Festival • Your marketing materials will be displayed at the Sponsor Table at the Greek Festival • 5 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 15 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 • 5 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 20 total) to Greekfest
*Grand Benefactor \$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Platinum Sponsor benefits (with customized banner with your name and/or company logo and website address); plus • 5 additional complimentary admission tickets (i.e., 25 total) to Greekfest

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 500 tickets to be sold!
\$100 per ticket.



Join us at the Greek Fest!

Fri. May 30, 5 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Sat. May 31, Noon – 11 p.m.

Sun. June 1, Noon – 6 p.m.

*Drawing to be held on Sun. June 1 @ 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*

Winners need not be present to win and will be notified. Winners responsible for all taxes. If the offer is oversubscribed, the first 500 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

NJLGCC ID# 538-1-17636

Municipal Lic. #RL-2025-07



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 16, 2025

#of tickets to reserve _____ @ \$100 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 _____

June 3, 2025

TRINITY CIRCLE

End of Year Member Luncheon

Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025
Time: 11:30am – 3:00pm
Place: GALLOPING HILL CATERERS
1085 Galloping Hill Road, Union
Corinthian Room – 908-686-2683

Open Bar

Appetizer - Penne Ala Vodka

Salad – Caesar Salad

Main Course

Choice of: Roast Prime Rib Au Jus,
Breast of Chicken Marsala, Grilled Atlantic Salmon

Dessert - Cake, Coffee, Tea, Soda Included

*Reservations to **Kassandra Romas** – Chairperson*

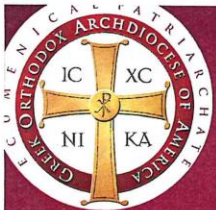
\$20 per person

Name: _____ Tel: _____

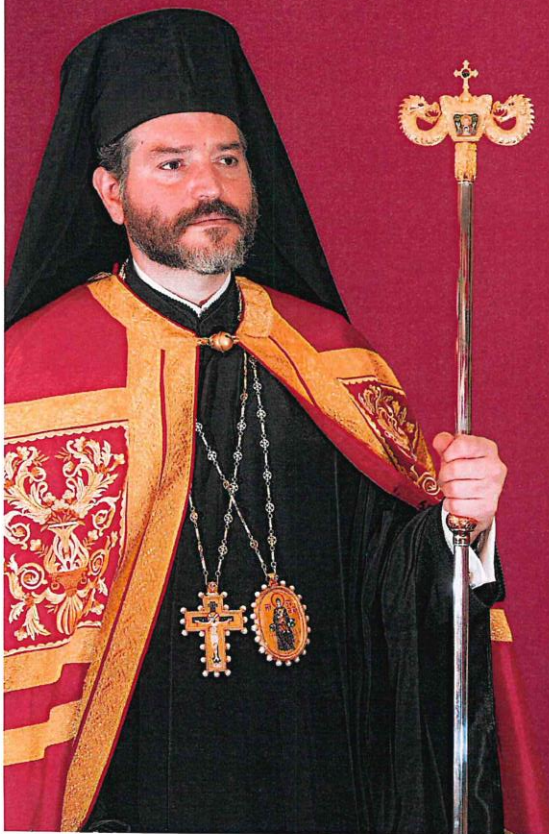
Meal: Prime Rib Chicken Salmon

Paid: Cash Check Check #

June 8, 2025



Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of New Jersey



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

**Orthros,
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy,
and Great Vespers for the
Feast of Holy Pentecost**

**Sunday, June 8, 2025
9:00 A.M.**

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

June 22, 2025

Religious Education Graduation Ceremony, Sunday - June 22

Religious Education Graduation Ceremony, Sunday - June 22

Please join us in celebrating our Graduates and our Religious Education school students with a lunch reception in the Bouras Center on Sunday, June 22 after the conclusion of Divine Liturgy. We look forward to honoring our students! Please help us make this day extra special for them by volunteering. Click [Religious Education Graduation Volunteers](#) or scan either QR code in the below flyer to go to the sign-up genius link. If you have any questions, please contact Pete Markos at religionseducation@htgocnj.org

CONGRATS TO OUR GRADUATES!!!!

Please join us in celebrating our Graduates and our Religious Education school students with a lunch reception in the Bouras Center on Sunday - June 22nd 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.signupgenius.com/go/60B054FAEAD28A5FD0-56767256-2025>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at pmarkos307@gmail.com

Interested in joining the Choir? E-mail [Kathyrn Athanasoulis](mailto:kathyrn.athanasoulis@gmail.com).



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

Adult Choir for ages 18 to senior citizens



Angel Choir for boys and girls ages 8-12



Byzan "teens" for boys and girls

Ages 13-17

Email the Choir Director

kathanasoulas@hotmail.com



**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!
ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**

GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠