

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



Sunday of the Paralytic

May 26, 2024

**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 Delvizio, 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.”**

On this the Fourth Sunday of Pascha, we commemorate the Healing of the Paralytic as described in the Gospel of St. John; St. Carpos and St. Alphaeus, Apostles of the 70; St. Alexandros the New Martyr of Thessaloniki; St. George the New of Sofia

Fifth Morning Gospel:	St. Luke 24:12-35	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Acts 9:32-42	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. John 5:1-15	Ελληνικά

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

Apolytikion: “Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord has shown the mighty power of His arm. He has trampled down death by death, becoming the firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell and has granted to all the world His great mercy.”

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 John Prokos†

Vigil Light: In loving memory of Gus and Eleni Vlangos†

Sacraments and Rites

Baptism: On Saturday, May 25, the baptism of Antonis William Sidiropoulos, son of Dimitrios and Danielle Sidiropoulos, was celebrated. The Godparent is George Aprilakis.

Memorial: Your prayers are requested on Sunday at the memorial service for John Prokos†, 2 years. Eternal be his memory.

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, 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 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 Margaret Prokos, in loving memory of John Prokos✝.

Paschal Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, June 2, Fifth Sunday of Pascha and the Samaritan Woman, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Office Closed

In observance of Memorial Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, May 27.

CHRIST IS RISEN!



TRULY, HE IS RISEN!

Prayer Request



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, Chrysavgi, Alexandra, Sue, Marilyn, David, Basil, Laura, Marylee, Meropi, Adina, Nicholas, Constantine, Billy, Molly, Leonedas, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, 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, Dorothy, Bill, Thomas, John, Keti

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.



*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.’”

Sunday of the Paralytic

Who among us can boast that he is strong, courageous, bearing all the misfortunes of this age, fulfilling all of Christ's commandments? Deliver us, O Lord, if such a person stands in our midst-for that person is a fraud! The Apostle Paul says: Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong (2 Cor 12:10). But the Apostle did not deprive himself of one thing: strong faith and undoubting hope in the Savior. "The power of God is made perfect in weakness!"

How can the world, which does not believe in God and preaches the illusory omnipotence of mankind, understand this? The Lord came into the world to save paralytic sinners, and us among them. Let us recognize ourselves for who we are in fact. The Apostle James writes: For what is your life? It is a vapor that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away (James 4:14). No matter how strongly our pride rebels against this, let us look dispassionately at the universe: the myriads of planets, the thousands of generations, endlessly following one another, the billions of people who are erased from the memory of their descendants and their neighbors.

Something within us tells us unmistakably that man is something more than vapor. Our life, yes, is transient and withering, like the grass under the hot summer sun. Recall in the Psalter: as the flower of the field, so hath he blossomed forth (Ps. 103:15). But the soul - a unique human personality created by God - its story in time and eternity is altogether different. If the soul is united with its Creator and God, then it becomes the most beautiful, the most precious of everything that is on earth. In the memory of God, in God such a soul receives not simply life, but life "more abundantly," as the Apostle Paul writes. He cannot with human words express in any other way the mystery revealed to him of the future age. And the same Apostle writes: Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him (1 Cor 2:9).

In the lives of each one of us, there will still be moments of weakness and failures, what we call paralysis. They can last for many years, just as with the paralytic at the Sheep pool, of which the Gospel speaks. The paralytic lay for many years awaiting healing, but he believed that a messenger of God would come and heal him. The Lord, "trampling down death by death," can give eternal life to us, who one day will be in the grave, and who will free us from this eternal and final paralysis.

Let us not think highly of ourselves; let us not be surprised by our infirmities; let us not, because of them, fall into despair and despondency. Let us sincerely, with all our strength, strive towards correction, struggling against the evil and sin living within us. Let us firmly believe that our Lord Jesus Christ will help us in this. He loves us, because we are His children. We, who recognize ourselves as paralytics and who are asking help from our Heavenly Father, will not be left behind, for He gives us His invincible power. Only by this are we strong.



TOTS Playgroup – Friday, May 31

The next TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) meeting will be on Friday, May 31, 9:30-11:30 AM in the preschool room. Children 18 months-Pre-K are welcome with their caregivers (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.



Parish Assembly – Sunday, June 2

Holy Trinity will hold its Spring Parish Assembly meeting on Sunday, June 2, 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.

Trinity Circle – Tuesday, June 4

Members' end of year luncheon will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 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, Sunday, July 7 through Sunday, July 14. 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 18 and 19, 9:30 AM – 6 PM; Saturday, July 20, 9:30 AM – 4 PM. Questions: Call Elise Savnik 908-337-5046

Upcoming Parish Events

June 9, 2024

Religious Education Graduation and Lunch, Sunday - June 9

Please join us in celebrating our Graduates and our Religious Education school students with a lunch reception in the Bouras Center on Sunday, June 9 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/60B054FAEAD28A5FD0-49365084-religious>. If you have any questions, please contact pmarkos12@gmail.com.



2024 Philoptochos Rummage Sale

Drop Off Dates: (to Bouras Center)
Sunday July 7th – Sunday July 14th

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

Thursday July 18th 9:30am – 6:00pm

Friday July 19th 9:30am – 6:00pm

Saturday July 20th 9:30am – 4:00pm

(everything ½ price 2pm-4pm SAT ONLY)

Questions: call Elise Savnik 908-337-5046

SAVE THE DATE!

June 23-29, 2024

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

The Metropolis Summer Camp program will take place in the summer of 2024 from June 23-29. Registration is now available. This is an excellent opportunity for children to meet other Greek Orthodox and to learn about the faith in a protected environment.



Camp Good Shepherd

Experience the Best Week of Your Summer!

CGS: MARYLAND

June 16-22, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Registration Fee: \$600 (Early Bird Discount until May 1, then \$675)

CGS: NEW JERSEY

June 23-29, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826
Registration Fee: \$625

CGS: VIRGINIA (2 SESSIONS)

Week 1: July 7-13 (Completed 5th Grade - 8th Grade)
Week 2: July 14-20 (Completed 9th Grade - 12th Grade)
Camp Piankatank
1586 Stammers Bay Rd Box 435, Hartfield, VA 23071
Registration Fee: \$500

REGISTER TODAY!



[HTTP://APP.CAMPDOC.COM/REGISTER/CGSN](http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn)

MORE INFORMATION [HTTPS://WWW.NJ.GOARCH.ORG/CAMP-GOOD-SHEPHERD](https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)





**ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!
ΑΛΗΘΩΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!**

GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠