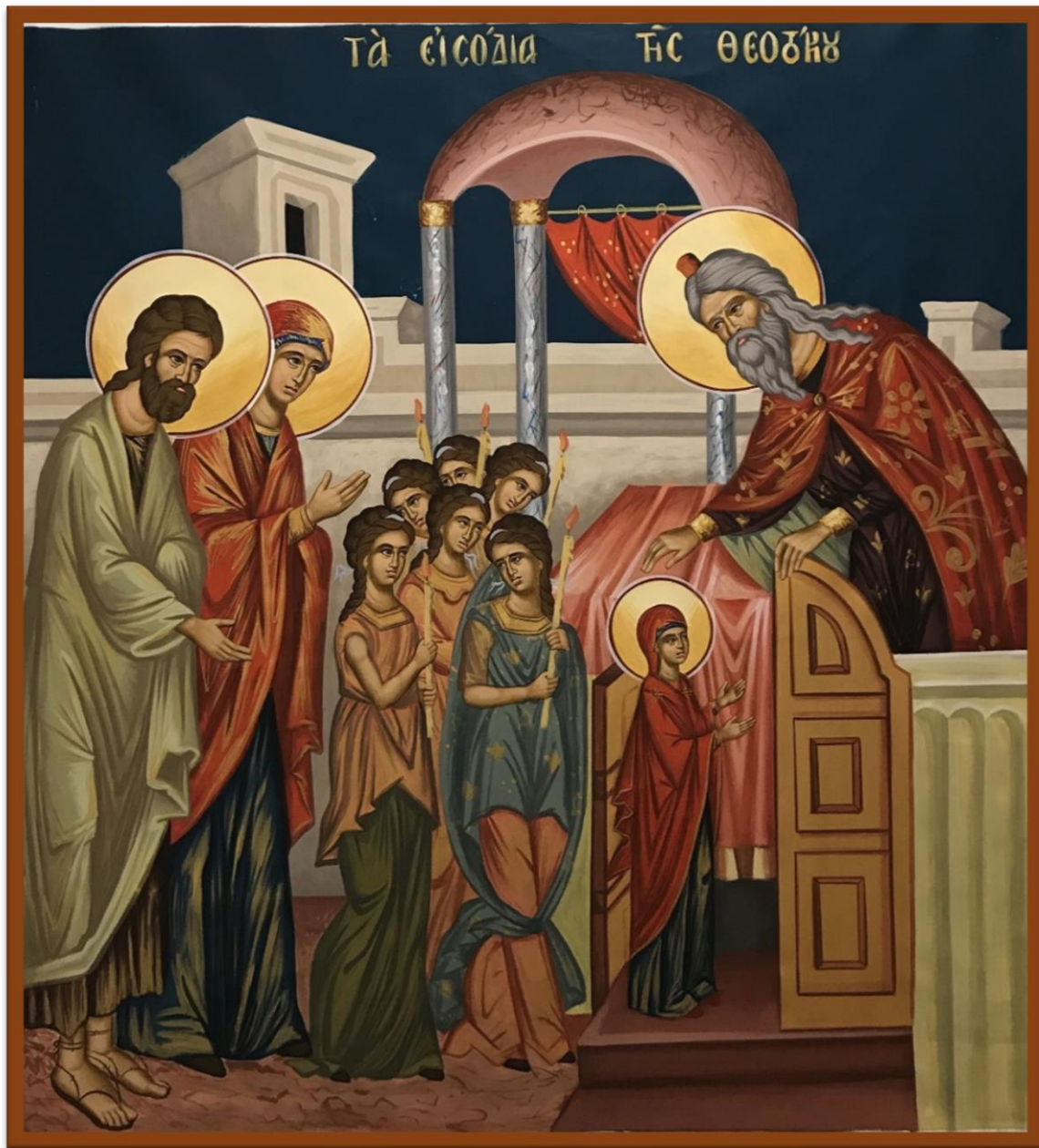


Ninth Sunday of Luke



The Forefeast of the Presentation of the Theotokos into the Temple

NOVEMBER 20, 2022

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, Presiding Priest

On this the Twentieth day of the month, we anticipate the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Holy Temple; On this day we also commemorate, Our Righteous Father St. Gregory of Dekapolis; Our Holy Father St. Proklos, Archbishop of Constantinople

Plagal of the Second Tone Ηχος πλ. β΄

Click links for Scripture Readings

First Morning Gospel:	St. Matthew 28:16-20	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Ephesians 2:4-10	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	Luke 12:16-21	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: *“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 the Forefeast: *“Today righteous Anna solicits joy for us all, * the opposite of pain and sorrow, having brought forth her fruit, * the only ever-virgin Maid; * and today in fulfillment of her prayer and her promise, * to the Temple of the Lord she joyfully leads her * who is truly the temple and pure * Mother of God the Word.*

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: *The whole world is filled today with joy and gladness on the Theotokos's auspicious and resplendent feast, whereon with great voice it crieth out: The heavenly tabernacle is she in truth.*

Altar Donations

Altar Candles in memory of Peter Markos†
Vigil Light in memory of Elias “Lee” Stevens†

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 be 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.



Sacraments and Rites

Baptism: On Saturday, November 19, the baptisms for Sofia and Kori Lioutas, twin daughters of Nicholas and Kristen Lioutas were celebrated. Godmother is Alexandra Lioutas.

Funeral: On Monday, November 14, the funeral for Helen Logothetis† was held. Eternal be her memory.

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, November 21, Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple; Orthros, 8:30 AM;
Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, November 27, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Wednesday, November 30, St. Andrew the First Called, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy,
9:30 AM

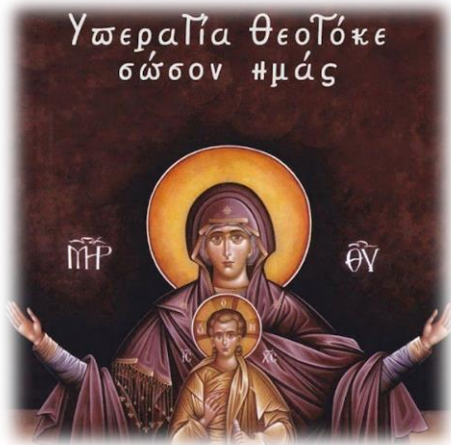
The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple – November 21

The Feast of the Entrance of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary into the Temple is celebrated on November 21 each year. The Feast commemorates when the Virgin Mary, as a young child, entered the Temple in Jerusalem to become dedicated to God. She thus becomes the embodiment of what the Temple symbolizes.

The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary are not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament; however, this information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the Book of James or Protevangelion. When Mary was three years old, Joachim and Anna decided that the time had come to fulfill their promise and to offer her to the Lord. Joachim gathered the young girls of the neighborhood to form an escort, and he directed them to go in front of Mary carrying torches. Captivated by the torches, the young child followed joyfully to the Temple, not once looking back at her parents nor weeping as she was parted from them.

The Holy Virgin ran toward the Temple overtaking her attendant maidens and threw herself into the arms of the High Priest Zacharias who was waiting for her at the gate of the Temple with the elders. Zacharias blessed her saying, "*It is in you that He has glorified your name in every generation. It is in you that He will reveal the Redemption that He has prepared for His people in the last days.*"

Then Zacharias brought the child into the Holy of Holies—a place where only the High Priest was permitted to enter once a year on the Day of Atonement. He placed her on the steps of the altar and the grace of the Lord descended upon her. She arose and expressed her joy in a dance, as wonder seized all who saw this happen. The Virgin Mary dwelt in the Temple for nine years until she reached an age for marriage. She was taken from the Temple by the priests and elders and entrusted to Joseph as the guardian of her virginity.



The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple signifies her total dedication to God and her readiness for her future vocation as the mother of the Incarnate Lord. This is a feast of anticipation. As honor is shown to Mary, the faithful are called to look forward to the Incarnation of Christ, celebrated by the Feast of the Nativity on December 25.

MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS, SAVE US
ΥΠΕΡΑΓΙΑ ΘΕΟΤΟΚΕ, ΣΩΣΟΝ ΗΜΑΣ



John, 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, Connie, Donald, 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, Cloy, Mirka, Stamatia, Theresa, James, Matthew, Antoinette, William, Angela, Tanner, Stefanos, Helen, Katherine, Ashley, Angela, Nick, Lindsey, Alexandria, Evdokia, Chris, Zach, Notis, Erica, Christina, Fran, Joan, Hellen, Joseph, Cleopatra, James, Rosa, George, Kathy, Stephanie, Theresa, Dorothy, Shannon, Jeff, Jeffrey, Rowena, Craig, Paul, John, Marien

Fall Parish Assembly this Sunday, November 20

A Parish Assembly meeting will be held in the Bouras Center immediately following church service on Sunday, November 20. This assembly is for fellow parishioners to learn and hear about the status of Holy Trinity. Discussion about the Capital Campaign progress will be offered, as well as, the work completed and still needed.

Parish Council Elections December 4

Are you eligible to vote? If you are a steward of Holy Trinity, you can verify your eligibility by ensuring that your name is on the list. A member of the Board of Electors will be in the Bouras Center on November 20 and 27 to help you check before the election. Look for the sign on a table near the entrance.

Holy Trinity Office Closed, Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24 and Nov. 25



**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING DAY!**

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

“O Lord my Savior and my Master, I, Thine unprofitable servant, with fear and trembling give thanks unto Thy loving goodness for all Thy benefits which Thou hast poured so abundantly upon me. I fall down in adoration before Thee and offer Thee, O God, my praises; with fervor I cry to Thee: O God, deliver me from all adversities and mercifully fulfill in me such of my desires as may be expedient for me. Hear me, I entreat Thee, and have mercy, for Thou art the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and unto Thee, with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, be ascribed glory, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.”

8th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Drive


Donation deadline is Nov. 20. Share your blessings! A \$3 donation provides a complete Thanksgiving Dinner served at the Market Street Mission. The need is greater than ever before! Look for the Philoptochos donation box during the Fellowship Hour or mail your check to the church marked “Thanksgiving Dinner”. For details, email Debvlahakis@gmail.com



The Promise
 HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
 WESTFIELD ♦ NEW JERSEY

November 2022 ♦ Volume 46, Issue 7
 holytrinity@htgocnj.org 908-233-8333 holytrinitywestfield.org

The Unknown Good



"And do you want to have such power of beautiful and eloquent speech so as to turn sinners to repentance?"
 "No, for repentance is in the hands of God, not in the hands of a weak man. And how can I pray for the conversion of sinners when I myself do not convert. I am the greatest of sinners."
 "Maybe you desire to draw people unto yourself by the radiance of virtue, therefore glorifying God?"
 "No, by drawing people to myself I would draw them away from God."
 "So, what is it that you want?" asked the Angels.

In ages past, there lived a man whose sanctity was so great that even angels marveled at it. The celestial hosts descended from heaven to see how it is possible to be vested with such holiness while still living on earth.

After their encounter, the angels said to God, "Lord, grant this man the gift of wonderworking!"
 "I shall do this," the Lord said, "only ask him if he wants it for himself."
 So, the Angels asked the saint, "Do you wish to grant healing and restoration of health by just your touch?"
 The holy man said, "No! For it is far better thing for the Lord to do this Himself."

The angels were confused, but when directed by the Lord they allowed the shadow of this holy man, which he does not see, to fall upon the sick. And when it falls on them to heal them and to relieve all sorrow and suffering.

From that moment it was so: whenever this saint went, his shadow brought greenery to the paths that were spiritually trampled upon, it watered many thirsty souls, beautiful flowers grew in people's hearts where before there was only sorrow, and it dried the tears of those who suffered. As the saint walked the earth, his simple presence and abiding love for the Lord spread goodness to those all around him. It was like a beautiful field of fragrant flowers spreading its scent with those even being aware of it. Glory to God for the unknown good! ♦


"What more can I want? I only want that the Lord does not deprive me of His mercy. With that, I will have everything!"
 But the angels kept on insisting, "What do you desire, O holy man?"
 The saintly man replied, "Very well, I see that you are pressing me. This I desire to do good in such a manner that I am not aware of it myself!"

Wait for the promise of the Father


[The November Promise is now available](#)

**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



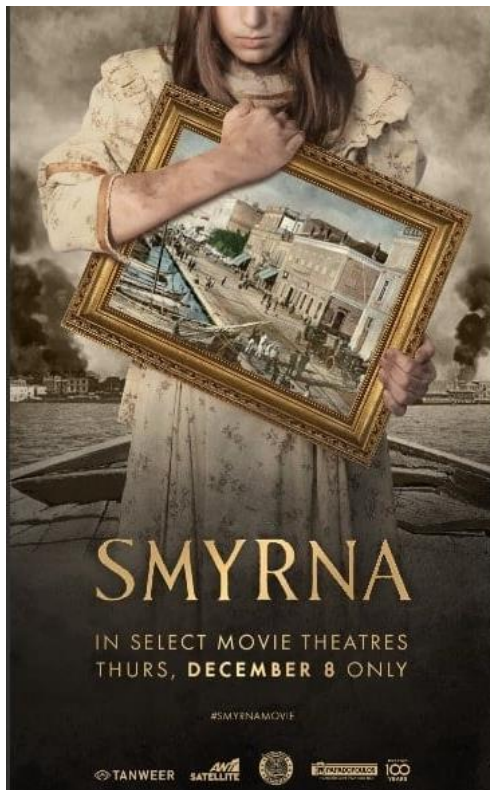
Byzan "teens" for boys and girls
 Ages 13-17

Email the Choir Director
kathanasoulas@hotmail.com

"Smyrna"

The Six-time Hellenic Academy Award-winning epic war drama

**Holy Trinity Private Viewing
 Sunday, December 11, 2:30 PM
 Cinemark in Watchung (1670 US-22)**



Holy Trinity Cultural Committee, in commemoration of the Centennial observance of the Smyrna catastrophe in Asia Minor, invites you to a private screening of *Smyrna*. Based on the truly catastrophic events that changed the course of Greek history. Two-time Academy Award Nominated Director Atom Egoyan says *Smyrna* is "An urgent and multilayered examination of the unspeakable atrocity...told with great passion and brimming with outrage."

Seating is limited for this private event.

Please contact the church office or email Kathy Genakos at kathyg@htgocnj.org for ticket information. Admission is a minimum donation of \$10.50 per ticket.

GOYA Harvest Bread Pick Up

Pick up your Harvest Bread Nov. 20. Proceeds will benefit Goya outreach projects. GOYA Athletics: Goya has one more home game this season. All are invited to attend! 2:00 PM VB and 3:00 PM BB. Nov. 27 vs Trenton. Go Westfield!

Trinity Circle - Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! Kindly sign up with Kassandra Romas for our Annual Members' Christmas Luncheon at Galloping Hill Caterers, Union - \$20 per person on Tuesday, December 6, from 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM.

Greek Dance for Everyone

Holy Trinity is happy to offer Greek dance classes for all ages. Joy/Hope (grades K-6th) classes meet on Sundays at 12 noon in Rm 107; GOYA (grades 7th-12th) classes are Sundays from 1-2:30 PM. The adult Greek dance class is off to a great start! Register using the following link <https://tinyurl.com/u69b83b8>. Please stop by the GOYA table after church for more information or contact Mary Carayannopoulos (carayannopoulos@comcast.net or cell# 314-623-5493).

Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting a cooking class. Food, Fun and Fellowship! Save the Date - Greek Cooking Class Thursday, December 1, 10 AM-12 PM in the church kitchen. We will be learning to make Spanakopita. Space is limited. More details to come.

Women of Faith Ministry

New Bible class to begin in January 2023!

There will be a study led by Fr. Peter, followed by a time of discussion, prayer and fellowship together. Refreshments will be served. Please contact Lauren Karanikolas lkaranikolas@msn.com if you are interested, have any questions or would like to be added to our email distribution list to receive weekly summaries as well as prayer requests. More details to follow.

Religious Education

Please join us for our annual Christmas Program followed by Breakfast with Santa provided by the Parish Council, and Holiday Fun with Joy/Hope! Sunday, December 11 following the Divine Liturgy. To help or donate please go to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d4aabab2ba46-religious>



2022 Christmas for CASA

The 33rd Annual Christmas Program will begin this week! This year, all gifts will benefit CASA of Union County. Visit our table during Fellowship Hour to select a tag or visit our Amazon wish list to have a gift sent

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3HE9ZGYZY8OGW?ref=wl_share. All gifts are due by December 1. Thank you for your generosity to this beloved Holy Trinity tradition!

“Grecian Muse” Raffle

An original painting by Avi Kiriakatis is being raffled with the proceeds to benefit The Smile of the Child, a reputable Greece-based charity. Tickets are being sold during Fellowship Hour for \$10 each until the drawing at the Philoptochos Christmas Party on December 7.

Annual Christmas Dinner Party

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity cordially invites you to join the fun on Wednesday, December 7 in the Bouras Center. A brief General Meeting will be held at 6:30 PM followed by a catered dinner by Marco Polo Restaurant, shopping, and Christmas carols. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Please stop by the Philoptochos table to make your reservation by December 2. You may pay with Zelle, Yiana Leichtling at treasurer@htphiloptochos.com Please include your RSVP information with your payment. Contact Phyllis Verenes at 973-538-2236 or phyllis.verenes@gmail.com



MERRY
Christmas

The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity
cordially invites you to a
CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY
Wednesday, December 7, 2022
7:00 pm at the Bouras Center
Brief General Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm

★

Dinner catered by *Marco Polo Restaurant*, Summit, NJ
Cost: \$35.00 per person

★

Featuring
Christmas Boutique Bake Sale
•
Lovely Hand Knits by *Kassandra Romas*
•
Books for Orthodox Christian Children - Author *Christina Romas Connant*
•
"A Gift of Art is a Gift from the Heart" - by *Avi*
(Original oil paintings & enhanced reproductions)
•
Gina's Traveling Boutique

★

*Monetary donations will be taken for the YWCA of Union County.
Checks made payable to Ladies Philoptochos Society.*

*Please stop by Philoptochos table during Fellowship Hour
to make your reservation or contact Phyllis Verenes at 973-538-2236
or phyllis.verenes@gmail.com*

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS DECEMBER 2ND
You may pay with Zelle, Yiana Leichtling at treasurer@htphiloptochos.com
(please include RSVP info with payment)

Philoptochos Community Christmas Card – 2022

We invite you to participate in this community expression of joy over our Lord's birth. Every member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church will receive a copy of the Community Christmas Card imprinted with the names of those who have donated. This year, the proceeds will benefit Best Buddies International and Cleveland Clinic Women's Alzheimer's Movement for Research. Sign up online or during the Fellowship Hour. Please help make this fundraiser a success! For more information, contact Sandy Boutsikaris 908-578-3341 or Christina Colonias 917-825-5986.



HOLY TRINITY 2022 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD

Our dear Holy Trinity Parishioners, we invite you to participate in this community expression of joy over our Lord's birth. Philoptochos continues its philanthropic work to assist those in need, and we are counting on your support and generosity to enable us to fulfill our mission. This year we will donate the proceeds to Best Buddies International and the Cleveland Clinic's Women's Alzheimer's Movement for Research. Please join your fellow parishioners by donating to our annual Christmas Card.

- COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR DONATION.
- ALL DONATIONS ARE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



THE LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
250 Gallows Hill Road Westfield, NJ 07090-1109

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME(S) CLEARLY AND AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR ON THE "COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD."



Contact Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone _____ Donation Amount _____

RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 4, 2022

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: *LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY HTGOC*

For convenience in handling, you can make your payment by check, credit card, Apple Pay, Google pay or PayPal.



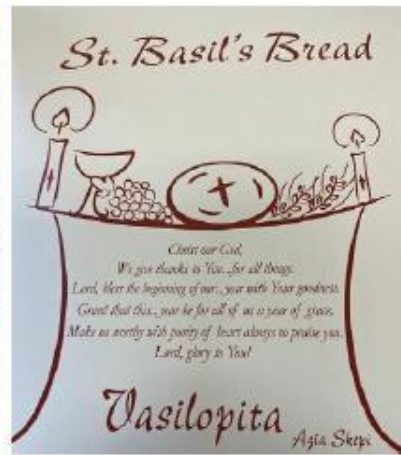
Include your information with the payment and how your family name(s) should appear.

Contact Sandy Boutsikaris 908/578-3341 or Christina Colonias 917/825-5986 for more information.
The Ladies Philoptochos Society – HTGOC is a registered 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

2nd Annual Philoptochos Vasilopita Bread Sale

Vasilopita made at Agia Skepi Bakehouse, \$20 each! Proceeds to benefit Saint Basil's Academy. Order by December 4 and pick your bread up at church on December 18. To order, stop by the Philoptochos table OR use this link to pay/order electronically <https://secure.anedot.com/c4cfeba0-2673-4226-b03e-e7a8a8efa1b5/b7965a92-d75e-47bb-b21b-eea95a13a712>

**The Ladies Philoptochos Society of Holy Trinity
is selling fresh baked Vasilopita from AGIA SKEPI BAKEHOUSE for
the New Year - all proceeds go to Saint Basil Academy**



Large 2 lb bread packaged in a beautiful box-\$20

\$20 per loaf - order by Dec. 4 - pick up at church Dec. 18

**YOU CAN PLACE YOUR ORDER with this form at the Philoptochos table @
church or call/text Denise Eliopoulos 973-568-0938**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Quantity: _____

Total Order Price - \$20 per loaf: _____

Check # _____ to Ladies Philoptochos Society HTGOC

Cash Amount _____

**OR, YOU CAN PLACE/PAY FOR YOUR ORDER ELECTRONICALLY
by check, credit card, Apple Pay, Google Pay or Paypal.**



Capital Campaign Progress



Each week we inch closer to our goal. To date, we have collected \$660,448 in capital campaign donations and pledges. Considering that our campaign started only in December of 2021, this is a tremendous accomplishment of which we all should be very proud. We intend to reach our goal of \$750,000 by December 31, 2022. We are asking for your help to close the variance. Already you can see the results of your labor and donations as we refurbish our church property. Let's work together to bring this important campaign to a successful close. Please remember that we cannot close this gap without the

generosity and kindness of our parishioners. Thank you for your support as we continue to update our donor list in the Promise. Call the church office to donate or donate online by visiting [holytrinitywestfield.org](https://www.holytrinitywestfield.org)

amazonsmile

Please support Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Endowment Fund
Shop at smile.amazon.com and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases,
at **no cost to you**. [Start Shopping](#)