

# Fifth Sunday of Luke



Christ the Saviour

November 3, 2024

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

908.233.8533 [www.holytrinitywestfield.org](http://www.holytrinitywestfield.org)

[Live streaming services](#)

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvizis, Parish Priest

The Holy Martyrs of Persia St. Acepshimas the Bishop, St. Joseph the Presbyter, & St. Aeithalas the Deacon; Dedication of the Temple of the Holy Great Martyr St. George in Lydda; St. George of Neapolis the New Martyr; Holy Father and New Hieromartyr St. Gregory of Neapolis; St. Theodore the Confessor, Bishop of Ancyra

**Second Tone**

Ἦχος Β΄

Morning Gospel:	<a href="#">St. John 20:11-18</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Epistle Reading:	<a href="#">2 Corinthians 11:31-33; 12:1-9</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Gospel Reading:	<a href="#">St. Luke 16:19-31</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>

**Apolytikion:** “When You descended into death, Life immortal, You vanquished the power of hell by Your resplendent divinity, and when You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out triumphantly: O giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You.”

**Apolytikion for the Martyrs:** “Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You \* the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. \* Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, \* dashing the demons’ powerless displays of defiance. \* O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.”

**Apolytikion for St. George:** “As the one renowned for setting captives free and for defending those in poverty, the physician of the sick and the champion of emperors, great and victorious Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, beseeching Him to save our souls.”

**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:** “A protection of Christians unshamable, \* Intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, \* please reject not \* the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. \* Instead, come to us for you are good; \* your loving help do bring to us, \* who are crying in faith to you: \* hasten to intercession \* and speed now to supplication, \* as a protection for all time, \* Theotokos, for those who honor you.”

### *Liturgical Schedule*

Friday, November 8, **Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel** and all the Heavenly Hosts  
Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, November 9, **St. Nektarios the Wonderworker**, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, November 10, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Monday, November 11, **Sts. Victor, Vikenzios and Menas**, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Liturgy, 9:30 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, 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.

**Get Weekly Emails by Subscribing** - Subscribe to Holy Trinity weekly emails providing news, information, and weekly announcements by request at: [HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org](mailto:HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org)

The October Edition of The Promise is Now Available Online!  
[www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise](http://www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise)

### **Great Hierarchical Vespers at Holy Trinity - Thursday, November 21**

It is with great honor that Holy Trinity will host for the first time the Feastday of the new patron saint of the Metropolis of NJ, St. Iakovos of Evia. Great Vespers, presided by His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos with area clergy, will begin at 6:00 PM. Altar boys from around the area also will be in attendance to be given a special cross to wear at all services. All Holy Trinity parishioners with the faithful from the area are invited. A celebratory reception will follow in the Bouras Center. Make plans from now to mark your calendar for this beautiful feast of St. Iakovos.



### **Anniversary Funds**

By God's grace, your faithfulness, and generosity, at the 30/20 Anniversary Celebration for Fr. Peter and Presvytera Victoria, the parish raised substantial money for the two highlighted funds. Fr. Peter's desire was to offer funding to programs that assist in the promotion of the priesthood. "Walk with Christ", an initiative of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos which offers financial aid to seminarians from the Metropolis of NJ, raised over \$6,145. "Support a Mission Priest", an initiative from OCMC that helps financially support Orthodox priests and their families in Africa, raised \$7,745. There is still time to donate funds to these worthy causes. Please call the church or speak with Fr. Peter if you would like to add your name to these worthy causes.

**Explaining the Gospel Reading of the  
Rich man and Lazarus – St. Luke 16: 19-31  
A Hard Lesson to Learn**

Ah! To have riches so great as to remove all of life's worries. How many people desire such great wealth? How many people corrupt their prayers by asking God to win the lottery or by gambling! Wealth brings power and this type of power brings dominance over others who have not. Great wealth can blind us to the needs of others. It separates us from those poor and less fortunate and in the end, it robs us of our humanity.

The main idea of today's parable is that the wrong use of riches can result in the loss of the kingdom of heaven. In exchange, this wrong use of riches ushers in eternal suffering in hell. A certain rich man lived sumptuously and completely hedonistically, feasting every day. At the entrance of his grand house, lay a poor man named Lazarus. He suffered greatly having utterly nothing and the dogs around him made him suffer even more by licking his open sores. Apparently, he did not have enough strength to drive them off. In this poor man, the rich man could have found himself a friend who would lead him after death into the eternal habitations, but the rich man was evidently heartless and cruel, and he gave nothing to the poor man, seeing him only contemptuously. Upon the death of the two, Lazarus is brought to the bosom of Abraham, while the rich man now receives the fruit of his evil life. Lazarus is consoled and the rich man is in anguish. Just as Lazarus desired in his life to have only a few crumbs from the rich man's table, so now the formerly rich man becomes the poor man and begs for a few drops of water to cool his burning tongue.

In great fear the man who was formerly rich asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his brothers, who like him were very rich, to warn them lest they too might follow his example. Abraham denies this request and says, "They have Moses and the prophets." The man admits that his brothers, like him, are deaf to the Law of God, and only an extraordinary appearance of a dead man could sober them up and force them to change their manner of life. Abraham counters saying if they have reached such a moral low point that they do not hear the voice of God, expressed in His Word, then any other assurances would be useless.

A faithless and corrupt man, even when faced with the incredible sight of a man raised from the dead, later will rationalize the vision in some way and remain in the same state of moral decay. This is evident from those who rejected the countless signs and miracles of Christ. These faithless and corrupt people refused to believe even when they saw Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha, raised from the dead. Nor will faithless and corrupt people believe that Jesus has risen from the dead and thus reject the saving gift of Christ's Resurrection. Thus, how can one who remains unrepentant, unbelieving, and morally corrupted possibly gain the favor of God, having rejected Him throughout the course of his human existence? The fact is that the heart corrupted by sin stubbornly refuses to believe in the future sufferings that await sinners, and no miracle can convince it otherwise.

“Lazarus was a pauper in this world, but a rich man before God...yet, not all poverty is holy nor riches sinful, but as excess dishonors riches, so sanctity commends poverty.” - St. Ambrose



Theodora, Michael, Gioula, Nicholas, Hellen, Luba, Kevin, Janice, Elaine, Patty, Cynthia, Nicholas, Blace, Christos, Thomas, Rich, Robert, Phyllis, Lea, 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, 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

### **Standing in Christ's Presence**

The most sacred part of the Divine Liturgy is when Christ is among us. The most clear and visible display of this is when the Eucharist (the Body and Blood of Christ) is present on the solea during the distribution of Holy Communion. Orthodox Tradition teaches us to remain standing during this sacred moment. Moving forward, you are asked to remain standing when the Holy Chalice is presented to the faithful for Eucharistic Communion. As always, exceptions apply to those unable to physically stand during this time.

### **Greek School Registration is Now Open**

Greek School registration is now open for all classes. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 PM - 6 PM. Classes began Tuesday, September 10, grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Beginners and 1st Advanced and Thursday, September 12, grades 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th. To register [click here](#).

### **Religious Education Classes Have Begun**

Please complete the online form for each student at your earliest convenience. We are looking forward to seeing everyone back in the Fall! Click the link to register: [Religious Education Registration](#)

We have opportunities available to make a difference in the lives of our youth through our faith! You do not need to be an expert on Orthodoxy but hold an interest to teach and learn by being a part of the Religious Education team! We are looking for Assistant Teachers and Substitutes! If interested, please contact Pete Markos at [pmarkos307@gmail.com](mailto:pmarkos307@gmail.com)

<b>HOLY TRINITY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>		
<b>TEACHER AND CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS</b>		
<b>2024-25</b>		
<b>GRADE</b>	<b>ROOM</b>	<b>TEACHERS</b>
<b>PreK</b>	105	Anna Darity
<b>Kdg</b>	107	Alexandra Mavridis Ariadne Monfalcone
<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	102	Anna Decavalles Melissa Krikos
<b>3 &amp; 4</b>	101	Felicia Karsos
<b>5 &amp; 6</b>	207	Maria Tarhanidis Beth Grivoyannis
<b>7 &amp; 8</b>	202	Leon Carayannopoulos Elias Grivoyannis
<b>9 &amp; 10</b>	204	Tony Drivas
<b>11&amp;12</b>	Boardroom	Peter Tarhanidis Nik Karsos

### **Ladies Philoptochos Society's 10th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Drive**

Share your blessings and support the Ladies Philoptochos Society's 10th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Drive. 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 our Fellowship Hour or mail your check to the church office marked "Thanksgiving Dinner". Make checks payable to "Ladies Philoptochos of HTGOC". For details, email [Debvlahakis@gmail.com](mailto:Debvlahakis@gmail.com)

## **Philoptochos Christmas Dinner/General Meeting**

Please join us for our annual Christmas Dinner/General Meeting on Thursday, December 12, at 5:30 PM, in the Bouras Center. Reservations may be made during Fellowship Hour at the Philoptochos table or by contacting Marina LoAlbo 908-272-4341 or Phyllis Verenes 973-538-2236.

### **Trinity Circle**

Our next lunch/meeting is Tuesday, November 5, 11 AM - 2 PM in the Bouras Center, donated by Jim Christo in memory of his beloved wife, Remila. "The Greek Orthodox Christian Nomads of Greece" will be presented by Steve Xenakis. The deadline for tickets to the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse is at our November 5 meeting.

Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Christmas Show & Lunch on Thursday, November 14, 2024. A bus will leave the church parking lot at 10 AM and return at 4 PM. Members: \$85; Non-Members: \$95. Checks should be payable to Trinity Circle. Kindly make your reservation with Cassandra Romas who can be reached at [kromas22409@gmail.com](mailto:kromas22409@gmail.com) or 908-296-1586.

### **TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social)**

It is a fun way to connect with other Orthodox families with small children. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 6, from 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 [vcomprelli@gmail.com](mailto:vcomprelli@gmail.com) or 612-801-8608 to sign up or with any questions.

### **Sights and Sounds – Vocal Coach Needed**

The GOYA is looking for a vocal coach for the Religious, Greek, and English singing groups in preparation for Sights and Sounds on March 1, 2025. Please reach out to Sophia Saketos 908-247-6048 if you are interested or if you know of anyone who could assist the GOYA.

### **Annual GOYA Wreath and Grave Pillow Fundraiser**

Our GOYA will again be selling Christmas wreaths and Cemetery Grave pillows as a fundraiser during the Christmas Season. Please stop by the GOYA table during Fellowship Hour for details. We appreciate your support in advance! Any questions, please contact Christine Skalkotos (847-830-1530).

### **Philoptochos Community Christmas Card - 2024**

We invite you to participate in this community expression of joy over our Lord's birth. Every member of HTGOC will receive the Community Christmas Card imprinted with the names of those who have donated. This year we will donate the proceeds to Mary's Place by the Sea, a place for women with cancer to heal: mind, body & soul. You can sign up on-line or during our Fellowship Hour each week at the Philoptochos table. The due date is December 1. Please help make this a success! For information, contact Sandy Boutsikaris 908-578-3341 or Christina Colonias 917-825-5986. Thank you!



## HOLY TRINITY 2024 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. Please join your fellow parishioners by donating to our annual Christmas Card. All proceeds to benefit Mary's Place by the Sea, a place for women with cancer to heal: mind, body, and soul.

- COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR DONATION THAT IS 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." If it is the same from last year, please indicate by writing "same as last year".



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

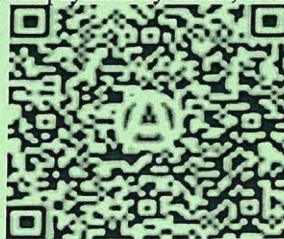
Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

- If you would like your contact information added to our HTGOC Community on-line Directory, please check this box.

**RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 2024**

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.



# *Trinity Circle*

## *Annual Members Christmas Luncheon*

Date: Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Time: 11:30-3:00 pm

**\$20 per person**

### *Menu*

Salad, Penne Pasta

Choice of: Chicken Marsala, Salmon or Prime Rib

Coffee, Tea and Cake with Ice Cream

Open Bar

Galloping Hill Caterers

1085 Galloping Hill Road, Union NJ 07083

Tel. 908-686-2683

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of People: \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

\$20.00 per person -      Cash \_\_\_\_\_  
Check \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

## Greek School Fundraiser

We are excited to announce that we will be working with Charleston Wrap again this year to raise funds for our beloved school. Last year, we were able to raise over \$600. Our goal this year is to surpass \$1000 to support our various school activities. Supporting this fundraiser is easy; people just log-in and shop!! Charleston Wrap offers high-quality gift wrap and beautiful gifts that are perfect for the holiday season. By participating in this fundraiser, not only will you be able to find great gifts for your loved ones, but you will also be supporting the Greek School.

### HTOGOC Greek School PTO



### REGISTER. SHARE. SHOP. SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER

Check-off your holiday gift list today and help our important cause.  
From holiday to hostess to corporate gifts and more,  
our online store has something for every occasion - even if it's just for you!

Our Organization ID:

**27610**



#### 1. REGISTER

REGISTER now as a participant at [www.registercw.com](http://www.registercw.com) to access our handy invitation tools in the Participant Portal. Very important!

#### 2. SHARE

INVITE 10 + friends and family to support our cause! Share a link to our sale using the **TEXT & EMAIL** invitation tools. Don't forget to share on **SOCIAL MEDIA**, too!

#### 3. SHOP

SHOP online and help us reach our GOAL today! With over 2,500 gift ideas there is something for everyone, including you!





## **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**

### **2024**

September 25  
October 9, 23  
November 6, 20  
December 11

### **2025**

January 8, 22  
February 12, 26  
March 12 (Wed.), 28 (Fri.)  
April 11, 25 (Fridays)  
May 9, 23 (Fridays)

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



**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](mailto:kathanasoulas@hotmail.com)

# Upcoming Parish Events

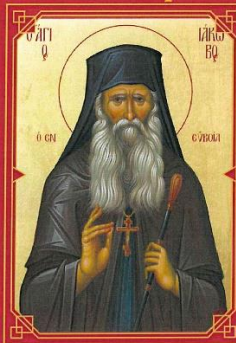
## November 21 & 22, 2024



**His Eminence  
Metropolitan Apostolos  
of New Jersey**



**Invites All the Faithful to the  
First Celebration of the Feast of St. Iakovos of Evia  
Patron Saint of the Metropolis of New Jersey**



Hierarchical Great Vespers,  
Acolyte Blessing,  
and Dinner Reception

**Thursday, November 21, 2024  
6:00 P.M.**

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

Orthros,  
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy,  
and Reception

**Friday, November 22, 2024  
9:00 A.M.**

Greek Orthodox  
Metropolis of New Jersey  
215 E. Grove Street  
Westfield, NJ 07090



**Holy Trinity Altar Boys Tonsuring - ΑΞΙΟΣ**

