

Sunday of the Seventh Ecumenical Council



October 13, 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 Delvizi, Parish Priest

The Holy Martyrs Sts. Carpos, Papylos, Agathodoros & Agathoniki; The Holy Martyr St. Benjamin the Deacon and St. Chrysi the New Martyr of Greece +1795; St. Florentios the Martyr of Thessaloniki; Our Holy Father St. Meletios, Patriarch of Alexandria; On this day we observe the memory of the Holy and Blessed Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, convened in Nicea, who rose against the impious Iconoclasts to restore the sacred and holy icons to the Church.

Grave Tone
Ἦχος Βαρύς

Morning Gospel:	St. Luke 24:12-35	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Titus 3:8-15	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Luke 8:5-15	Ελληνικά

Apolytikion: “By Your cross, O Lord, You destroyed death; to the thief You opened paradise. The myrrh-bearers’ sorrow You transformed into joy, and You sent Your apostles forth to proclaim that You had risen from the dead, Christ our God, bestowing on all the world Your great mercy.”

Apolytikion for The 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: “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

Sunday, October 20, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

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

Monday, October 28, **Holy Protection**, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sacraments and Rites

Baptism: On Saturday, October 12, the baptism of Georgios Apostolos Stagias, son of Athena and Apostolos-Panagiotis Stagias, was celebrated. The Godfather is George Douvelis.

Churching: On Saturday, October 12, a 40-day blessing of Roman John Karsos, son of Nikolas and Stephanie Karsos, was held.

Welcome

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.

Holy Trinity Welcomes Metropolitan Apostolos

The parish welcomes His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos Sunday, October 13, in recognition of the anniversaries of Fr. Peter and Presvytera Victoria. His Eminence will preside over the Divine Liturgy and will offer us his hierarchical blessing. At the conclusion of the liturgy, a special blessing and tonsuring will be given to the Altar Boys by His Eminence. His Eminence will tonsure: Antonios Saketos, Minas Saketos, Andreas Saketos, Konstantinos Pangis, Nicholas Kelly, Iakovos (Jack) Kelly, Nearchos Yatromanolakis, Lucas Nadgauda, Alex Spiridonov and Alexander Sultan.




Greek Orthodox
Metropolis of New Jersey

Archpastoral Visit of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey

Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy

Sunday, October 13, 2024
9:00 A.M.

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



Anniversary Luncheon in Honor of Fr. Peter & Pres. Victoria – Sunday, October 13

The parish council extends an invitation to all parishioners to attend a very special anniversary celebration in honor of Fr. Peter's twenty-year assignment to Holy Trinity and thirty-year anniversary to the holy priesthood. The anniversary luncheon will follow the Divine Liturgy. Money raised will support two funds that promote the priesthood: "Support a Mission Priest" (a fund to financially support priests in Africa) and "Walking with Christ" (a fund that supports seminarians from the Metropolis of New Jersey initiated by His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos). Fr. Peter and Presvytera Victoria have served the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America for three decades and their service to Holy Trinity has been a two-decade ministry of love and servant-leadership.

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

The October Edition of The Promise is Now Available Online!

www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise



Explaining the Gospel Reading

Luke 8:5-15

In the Parable of the Sower and the seed, Jesus takes the common process of gardening and speaks to us in terms all can understand. With this parable, you are to think about your own heart and consider how hard or how fertile it might be and how receptive it is to the word of God.

"A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold. As he said this, he called out, 'He who has ears to hear, let him hear' (Luke 8:5-8)."

The Sower is Jesus Christ, and the seed is the word of God. The ground is your heart, where the word of God belongs and tries to take root. The path, the rock, the thorns, and the fertile soil symbolically represent the condition in which your heart is found. Is your heart like the hard-trodden soil of the path? How many times have you heard the teachings of Christ about how you should live a virtuous Christian life and then neglect following His teachings.

You know that you should pray every day; love God with all your heart, mind and soul; fast on Wednesdays and Fridays; respect God's creation; prepare for and receive Holy Communion

often; and treat your neighbor with love, honesty and respect. You know these things; yet they are oftentimes neglected and not done.

Is your heart hardened like a rock? Do you receive the word of God with joy, and find joy being in His Church worshipping His holy name? After a quick initial growth spurt, does your faith dry up and you fall away from the Church and are away from His home for extended periods of time?

Is your heart like the thorny ground? Do you hear God's message, only to have it choked out by the cares of life? One cannot "serve two masters". The thorns of life seek to puncture your soul and bring you harm. Among these are greed, money, lust for power, envy, passions and other excesses.

And then Jesus said, *"And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience (Luke 8:15)."*

You must strive to cultivate the "good soil". When the word of God ~ the seed ~ falls in the good soil of your heart, then it is known that the soil has already been tilled with Christ, fertilized with the teachings of the Church and watered by the Holy Spirit. When your heart is fertile soil ~ you can openly and honestly receive blessings from our Lord. If you "root" yourself in Him, then like a tree with deep roots, will you be able to weather any of life's storms.

Pray that your soul becomes the good soil to accept the seed of the Lord, the Sower. Amen.



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, Leonidas, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Vasileos, Tina, Fran, Dayvon, Sunitha, Neil, Gus, Dimitri, Freddy

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.

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

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

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 begin 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](#).

Mr./Ms. GOYA Pageant – Sunday, October 13

Mr. and Ms. GOYA Pageant will be held Sunday, October 13, 4 PM, at Hanover Manor, East Hanover, NJ. From our parish Mr. and Ms. Westfield are Antoni Manousos and Ava Savvis. We wish them well and much success. GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) is the ministry to teenagers for the purpose of fellowship, worship, service, and witness. Everyone in grades 6-12 is welcome to join. Activities include Christ Encounter Retreat, athletics, outreach, Greek dance, Sights & Sounds, and many others! Register by email goya@htgocnj.org

Philoptochos General Meeting - Wednesday, October 16, 6 PM

We are excited to share that Jeannie Arida will be presenting an important, informative presentation on OCMC. She will be joined by featured guest speaker Anastasia Barksdale, OCMC Ambassador National Program Coordinator, as well as OCMC Board members, Debra Apruzzese & Marina Zazanis, and OCMC Ambassador Janet O'Sullivan. Snacks will be served.

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

Philoptochos Christmas Party/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.



YOU ARE INVITED

Ladies' Philoptochos Board *October General Meeting*

October 16, 2024
6:00 pm

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.
Bouras Hall,
250 Gallows Hill Rd., Westfield, N.J.

Support Mission Priests this October



Agenda

- Overview of Year Ahead
- Upcoming Events
- 2025 Budget Review
- OCMC Presentation

Light refreshments served

For more information or questions please, e-mail jeanniarida@gmail.com for OCMC and info@htphiloptochos.com for general questions.

With Special Guests Speakers
Jeannie Arida, OCMC Board Member
Anastasia Barksdale, OCMC
Parish Engagement Coordinator and
Former Missionary to Albania



www.ocmc.org

SUPPORT A MISSION PRIEST



Support Mission Priests this October



October is SAMP month and we need Orthodox Faithful like you to offer prayerful support that will make their ministries, that transform the lives of thousands, possible!

Scan and give online
www.ocmc.org/SAMP2024



Goya Clothing Drive Fundraiser – October 26

The next GOYA clothing drive will be held on October 26 from 10:45 AM-12:45 PM in the church parking lot. The list of acceptable items to donate are: clothing, curtains, scooters, towels, bed sheets, blankets, bikes, strollers, belts, handbags, scarves. Please help make this event successful.

GOYA CLOTHING DRIVE

HOLY TRINITY
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
250 GALLOW'S HILL RD.
WESTFIELD, NJ
07090



**please bag items in
kitchen size garbage bags**

Accepting: Clothing, shoes (in a separate clear bag), pocketbooks, belts, baby accessories, hats, scarves, gloves, briefcases, ties, blankets, sheets, tablecloths, towels, curtains, bedding, stuffed animals, bikes, scooters, car seats w base, strollers, small toys/games 2 feet or less.

Not Accepting: large toys, board games, books, puzzles, pots & pans, glass, electrical devices, baby cribs, high chairs, VCR tapes, furniture, outdoor playsets, sports equipment.

**SAT.
OCT 26,
2024**

DRIVE THROUGH & DROP OFF

10:45-12:45

Cultural Committee Excursion – Saturday, November 2

Holy Trinity Cultural Committee invites you to participate in a very special excursion to Agia Skepi (Holy Protection) Monastery on Saturday, November 2. Orthodox Monasticism is as ancient as our faith. For almost two thousand years, faithful men and women have left everything to follow Christ. The Cultural Committee sees this excursion as a way to connect with our faith and heritage as Greek Orthodox Christians. We ask you to mark your calendars for this wonderful day of fellowship and faith.

Trinity Circle

Our next lunch/meeting is Tuesday, November 5, lunch/meeting 11 AM - 2 PM in the Bouras Center. Kindly join us if you are over 55 years young for friendship and camaraderie! Trinity Circle has reserved 30 seats for the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Christmas Show & Lunch on Thursday, November 14, 2024. A bus will leave the church parking lot at 10:00 AM and return at 4:00 PM. Members: \$85; Non-Members: \$95. Checks should be made payable to Trinity Circle. Kindly make your reservation with Kassandra Romas. Kassandra can be reached at kromas22409@gmail.com or 908-296-1586.

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.

TOTS: (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social)

It is a fun way to connect with other Orthodox families with small children. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, October 23, from 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 vcomprelli@gmail.com or 612-801-8608 to sign up or with any questions.



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 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

Upcoming Parish Events

October 13, 2024

You are invited to attend a very special
Anniversary Luncheon
Honoring Father Peter Delvizi
Twenty-year Assignment as pastor of Holy Trinity &
Thirty-year Anniversary to the Holy Priesthood

Sunday, October 13, 2024

Orthros, 8:30 AM
Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Metropolitan Apostolos, 9:30 AM
Anniversary Celebratory Luncheon, 12:00 PM

Suggested Donation*
Adults \$30 per person, Children ages 6 - 13 \$10, Children 5 and under free

*Proceeds to benefit the promotion of the priesthood.
"Walking with Christ" – A Fund supporting seminarians from the Metropolis of New Jersey
"Support a Mission Priest" - Program of OCMC*



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Liturgy & Luncheon Reservation Form

Please forward this completed form to the church with your payment by October 6, 2024.

Reservations Requested

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Number of Adults: _____ X \$30 = \$ _____

Number of Children (6 - 13): _____ X \$10 = \$ _____

Number of Children 5 & under: _____

Please accept my tax-deductible contribution = \$ _____

Check Payable to HTGOC. **Total enclosed = \$ _____**

MAIL CHECK TO: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church,
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, NJ 07090
Attn: Diana Waltzak.

Credit Cards Payments are Available (4% fee applies).
Please contact the office to process at (908) 233-8533.

Additional Guests' Names Under This Reservation

Seating Selection

I am a table captain (check here) _____

I wish to be seated at table _____

(Write table captain's name)

Please provide a table assignment for me (check here) _____

November 2, 2024

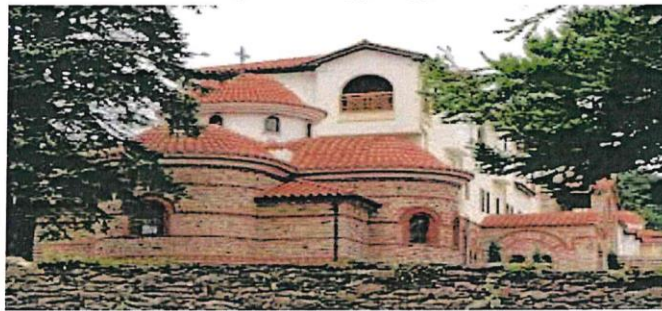
Holy Trinity Cultural Committee

invites all parishioners and friends to join Father Peter in a one-day pilgrimage

Saturday, November 2, 2024

HOLY PROTECTION MONASTERY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Ι.Μ. Αγίας Σκέπης της Θεοτόκου



Location: 1 St. Josephs Way, White Haven, PA 18661

Program

9:30 AM – Depart from Starting Location: Holy Trinity, Westfield, NJ

The monastery is located in a scenic rural area 103 miles away, so the drive will offer peaceful views of the countryside.

11:30 AM – Arrival at the Monastery

Upon arrival, take a moment to enjoy the serene surroundings of the monastery.

The grounds are peaceful and offer a tranquil atmosphere ideal for spiritual reflection.

11:45 AM – Tour of the Grounds

Tour of the monastery's grounds including visiting the chapel, gardens, and other notable areas.

1:00 PM – Lunch and Discussion on the Monastery and the Monastic Life

Lunch will be provided by the monastery.

The calm surroundings make it a perfect setting for a quiet, simple lunch.

2:30 PM – Visit the Monastery Store

The monastery has a small store where items made by the sisters are sold, such as handmade candles, icons, honey preserves, other gift items, and a bake shop to buy bread. Purchasing these items supports the monastic community.

4:00 PM – Great Vespers

5:30 PM – Departure from Holy Protection (Agia Skepi) Monastery back to Holy Trinity, Westfield, NJ

A bus with a capacity of 50 seats is reserved. Ticket prices are \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for the youth

Donations will be requested during the trip as a group gift to the Monastery

Please RSVP by Friday, October 25th, 2024

To reserve your seat or for information contact Gina Sikellis at 908 233 8533 or gsikellis@gmail.com



GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠