

Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council



Sunday, October 15, 2023

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

Live streaming services - 908.233.8533 - www.holytrinitywestfield.org

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvizis, Parish Priest

On the Fifteenth Day of the month, we commemorate: The Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council held in Nicaea. The Righteous Martyr St. Lucian of Antioch; St. Savinos the Bishop of Catania; St. Barsus the Confessor; St. Euthymios the New

Click links for Scripture Readings

Morning Gospel:	St. John 20:11-18	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	Titus 3:8-15	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Luke 8:5-15	Ελληνικά

Second Tone Ηχος Β´

Apolytikion of the Resurrection: “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 of the Holy 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

Wednesday, October 18, St. Luke the Evangelist, Orthros, 8:45 AM; Liturgy, 9:30 AM
Sunday, October 22, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Welcome Visitors

We welcome you to the parish of Holy Trinity in Westfield. We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are looking for a spiritual home, we hope that you will become 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.

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 that all of us can understand. With this parable, think about your own heart and consider how hard or how fertile it might be 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 and the seed is the word of God. The ground is your heart, where the word of God tries to take root and belongs. The path, the rock, the thorns, and the fertile soil represent the condition in which the word finds your heart. Is your heart like the hard-trodden soil of the path? How many times have you heard the teachings of Christ about how to live a virtuous Christian life and then neglect to follow 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 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 causing you to fall away from His Church, and do you find yourself 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 this life that seek to puncture your soul and bring you harm are greed, money, lust for power, envy, passions and all 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)."* The "good soil" you must strive to cultivate. The word of God ~ the seed ~ falls in the good soil of your heart, the soil that has 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" yourselves in Him, then like a tree with deep roots, you will 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.

The October Edition of **THE PROMISE** Is Now Available

Featuring:

- Followers of Christ
- Monthly Calendar
- Novak Djokovic - Grand Slam
- Philoptochos Christmas Card
- GOYA update
- United Nations and the Tower of Babel

 [Click to access.](#)



Religious Education

Fr. Peter is happy to announce the appointment of Peter Markos as the new Director of Religious Education. Being in the field of education, Peter will make a most suitable and knowledgeable director. He has a passion for teaching and wishes to impart the faith to every child attending Sunday School.

Registration is Now Open

Sunday School Classes have begun. We ask that you complete the online form for each student: www.tinyurl.com/2023-24ReligiousEdRegistration

You can find the link on the church website <https://holytrinitywestfield.org/ministries/religious-education/>

★ Teach Religious Education ★

Looking for a fun way to serve the church and use your talents? Teach Religious Education! There are openings in Pre-K, 3, 8 and 9 grades and can use assistant teachers in various grades. Speak to Peter Markos or Father Peter for more details.

Altar Boys

Fr. Peter invites all boys ages 12 and older to commit to service in the altar. An acolyte plays an integral part in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and other services. Please speak to Fr. Peter to assist in this capacity. To serve the Lord in this way is a great privilege and honor.

Christ Encounter Retreat

A retreat for Religious Education students in grades 6 - 12 is being held this weekend at Camp Fairview Lakes. We wish our students a fun and spiritual weekend! Buses will return as Sunday School lets out.

Prayer Request



Leoneias, David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Peter, Constantine, Phyllis, Vasileos, Tina, Gabby, 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, Michelle, Dorothy, Elizabeth, Steve, Clem, Christos, Dorothy, Bill, Thomas, John, Ket, Dawn, Nick, Hilary, Nicholas, Matt, Diane, Cynthia, Patty, John, Isabel, Noella, Nevin, George, Diana, Lucia, Rich, Ket, Georgia, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, Gayle, William, Byron, John, Robert, John, Angela, Andrew, Dianna, Edward, Sue, Thomas

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

Christian Stewardship

An Offering of Love with a Joyful Heart and in the Spirit of Thanksgiving

Giving Thanks Eucharistic Stewardship



In January Holy Trinity started its annual Stewardship Campaign by reaching out to all parishioners. As of August, we graciously received 400 steward pledges in the amount of \$493,223.

Please remember to submit your pledge card to meet our operating budget of \$885,000.00. Your stewardship is crucial to maintaining our spiritual home based

on Christ's teaching and example. Our goal includes spiritual health and growth by actively participating in the life of the church as the body of Christ: attending worship services, praying, fasting, and almsgiving. Our Christian stewardship is a way of life that acknowledges our responsibility before God.

Your offerings of "Time, Talent, and Treasure" to date have allowed our parish to achieve 56% of our budget, fund our annual Archdiocesan commitment, present a gift to the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Foundation, and support our growing and vibrant ministries.

Consider inviting family and friends to come visit and worship with us. Sponsor a new steward and invite them into our Holy Trinity family. Matthew 6:21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." May God multiply your blessings. Thank you.

Check out the New Bookstore Items

Prosphoro Cover and Antidoro Pouch



These beautifully embroidered covers and pouches are perfect to cover your freshly made *prosphoro* (offering bread) and use to place the *antidoron* (blessed bread) inside. Pious Orthodox Christians will take extra *antidoron* home to consume throughout the week as part of their daily devotions. This pouch is ideal to keep the blessed bread covered and placed on the iconostasis.

High Quality Wooden Prosphoro Seal

When making *prosphoro* (offering bread) for the Eucharist and *antidoron*, a good quality seal is of necessity. Plastic and low-quality wooden seals are less than ideal. These new wooden seals, now available in our bookstore, are high quality featuring deep carvings to allow for a better impression on the bread. You can clearly see and distinguish each part of this prosphoro seal.



ΙΣ ΧΣ – This is an abbreviation for **Ιησούς Χριστός** or Jesus Christ

ΝΙΚΑ – Νικά means victory or to conquer

Taken together we translate this as “Jesus Christ Conquers” or in “Jesus Christ is Victory.”

The middle square is carefully extracted by the priest during the Service of the Proskomide and then placed on the paten. This center piece will be consecrated alongside the Offering Wine during the Divine Liturgy to become the very Body of Christ. This portion, also known as the Lamb of God or Amnos, is used for the Eucharist and is the portion that communes the faithful during Holy Communion.



Greek School Registration is Now Open

Greek School registration is now open for all classes. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4PM – 6PM. Tuesday's are grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Beginners and Advanced, and 3rd and Thursday's are grades 2nd, 4th, 5th, and 6th. You can register at <https://holytrinitywestfield.org/ministries/greek-school/>

Greek Dance

Greek dance lessons will again be taught by Petro and Niko from Hellenic Roots. Classes will be held in the Bouras Center. Practice times TBD. Sign-up for GOYA (7th-12th grade): <https://tinyurl.com/yfvpxrr8> Sign up for Joy/Hope (K-6th grades) coming soon. Please email goya@htgocnj.org (GOYA) or kathy@homesbykathyp.com (Joy/Hope) with any questions.



Holy Trinity offers numerous youth programs, including GOYA, JOY/HOPE, Greek Dance and TOTS.

GOYA (Greek Orthodox Youth of America) is the ministry to teenagers for the purpose of fellowship, worship, service, and witness. New members in grades 6-12 are welcome at any time. 6th graders may participate in Westfield

only activities and 7-12th (ages 12-18) may participate in statewide activities. Activities include Christ Encounter Retreat, athletics, outreach, Greek dance, Sights & Sounds (performing and visual arts), and many others! Register at <https://tinyurl.com/53pp88nz> GOYA Advisors: Maria Tarhanidis, Mary Carayannopoulos, Sophia Saketos, Catherine Kelly, Andy Zotos, and Christine Skalkotos. Please contact an advisor or email goya@htgocnj.org with any questions.

TOTS Playgroup – Wednesday, October 25

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, October 25, 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.

JOY/HOPE

JOY and HOPE (the Junior Orthodox Youth group) of Holy Trinity is open to youth between the ages of 5 and 11. The events are geared to bring the youth of Holy Trinity together in a fun and educational way and to start to plant the seeds of giving back to the community. Past and new members can sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/n39edm2f> or contact Kathy Petsinis Paone at kathy@homesbykathyp.com or 201-344-4049.



9th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Drive

Share your blessings and support the Ladies Philoptochos Society's 9th 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 the 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.

Karaghiozi Shadow Puppet Show-Sunday, October 22, at 12:30 PM in the Bouras Center

Robert Rogers Puppet Company will be performing a live shadow puppet show titled "Karaghiozi the Baker." The comedy will be performed in English and promises to delight all age groups. Robert Rogers will also give a behind the scenes explanation of the art form of shadow puppetry for our audience. His company is celebrating its 43rd year! For more information contact: Soula Campbell at soula73@hotmail.com

KARAGHIOZIS THE BAKER!

Yia sou! I'm Karaghiozis, the most famous puppet character in all of Greece! I'm starring in a new show to be performed on the unique and fabulous Greek Shadow Puppet Stage!



This time, I'm going to work for my friend, Hatziavatis, who owns a bakery. Let's see how well I do - or not!

Either way, it's going to be a lot of fun!

It will be performed by the Robert Rogers Puppet Company, which is celebrating its 43rd year!

Sunday, October 22nd, 2023, at 12:30 pm.



“A Sharing of Song, Faith & Unity” – October 24

Holy Trinity Choir will be participating in an evening of song and spirit on Tuesday, October 24 at 7 PM. Join us as Westfield’s houses of worship come together in song at St. Helen Roman Catholic Church, 16 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ.

SPONSORED BY THE WESTFIELD
CLERGY ASSOCIATION

A SHARING OF SONG, FAITH & UNITY

10/24/2023

Start
7:00 PM

Saint Helen
1600 Rahway Ave, Westfield, NJ



Join us for a harmonious evening as Westfield’s houses of worship come together in song. Celebrate our diverse faiths, uplift your spirit, and strengthen our bonds of community and unity. Everyone is welcome! Let’s unite in song and spirit.

GOYA is hosting a clothing drive to raise funds to support our Outreach activities. Please drop off bags of clothes and other items on Saturday, October 28, 10 - 11 AM. See the below flyer for details. Contact Maria Tarhanidis at mytarhanidis@gmail.com with any questions.

GOYA CLOTHING DRIVE

HOLY TRINITY
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
250 GALLOWS 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 28,
2023**

DRIVE THROUGH & DROP OFF

10:00-11:00AM



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

100
CENTENNIAL
1922-2022

ARCHBISHOP ELPIDOPHOROS

Nameday Gala

SAVE THE DATE



5:00 P.M. ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2023
CAPITALE, 130 BOWERY, NEW YORK, NY 10013

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America announces the “Nameday Gala” celebrating the Feastday of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and benefiting the Summer Camp Program. For more contact Fr. Peter or

[Archdiocesan Youth Summer Camp Scholarship Fund.](#)


Upcoming Parish Events

Wednesday, October, 18



ORTHODOXY ON TAP


**TRADITION OF OUR FATHERS:
ORTHODOXY IN A ROMAN CATHOLIC
AND PROTESTANT WORLD**





Guest Speaker:

Sam Williams


M. Div.
Pastoral Assistant,
St. George Piscataway

 18 October, 2023

 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

 The Tavern on George
361 George Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

UPCOMING ORTHODOXY ON TAP:
MON. NOV. 13 – CLYDZ
WED. DEC. 20 – TAVERN ON GEORGE

 @NNJYAL & @GOMNJ_YOUTH

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 will be forthcoming. This is an excellent opportunity for children to meet other Greek Orthodox and to learn about the faith in a protected environment.



SAVE THE DATE!

CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

CGS MD: JUNE 15-22
CGS NJ: JUNE 23-29
CGS VA SESSION 1: JULY 7-13
CGS VA SESSION 2: JULY 14-20

REGISTRATION INFO COMING SOON!

Faith! Fun! Fellowship!

 @gomnj_youth



www.nj.goarch.org/





GLORY BE TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS

✠ AMEN ✠