

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LUKE



ST. DEMETRIOS THE GREAT MARTYR



October 26, 2025

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 Delvzizis, Parish Priest

The Holy, Glorious, and Great Martyr Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer
Commemoration of the Great Earthquake in Constantinople (740)

Third Tone

Ἦχος Γ´

Morning Gospel:	St. John 20:19-31	Ελληνικά
Epistle Reading:	2 Timothy 2:1-10	Ελληνικά
Gospel Reading:	St. Luke 8:26-39	Ελληνικά

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 Earthquake: “You who look upon the earth and make it tremble, rescue us from the frightful threat of earthquake, O Christ our God. Send down Your abundant mercies on us, at the intercession of the Theotokos, O only benevolent Lord.”

Apolytikion of St. Demetrios: “All the world has you, its mighty champion, * fortifying us in times of danger, * and defeating our foes, O Victorious One. * So, as you humbled Lyaaios’s arrogance * by giving courage to Nestor in the stadium, * thus, O holy Great-martyr Demetrios, * to Christ our God pray fervently, * beseeching Him to grant us 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: “O Protection of Christians that never fails, intercession with the Creator that never fails, we sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith. Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos who protect now and ever those who honor you.”

Liturgical Schedule

Sunday, November 2, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Saturday, November 8, Synaxis of the Archangels, Orthros, 8:30 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, November 9, St. Nectarios the Wonderworker, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Altar Donations

Altar Candles: In loving memory of Agyro Markos†

Large Candles: Celebrating Costa and Avi Kiriakatis' 60 years of love and happiness.

Welcome Visitors

The parish of Holy Trinity welcomes those visiting our community today. Worshipping the Holy Trinity is the principal act of an Orthodox parish, especially on the Day of the Resurrection (Sunday). Our mission is to live the holy Gospel and spread the Good News to those in our area. We are sanctified by God's grace through the holy Sacraments and glorify Him each moment of the day. We seek God's mercy, as we confess the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Visit the Philoxenia/Fellowship table in the Bouras Center after service to meet parishioners and enjoy our Fellowship Hour.



James, Ria, Eric, Joanne, Alexandra, Sophia, Nicholas, Panagiota, James, Mary, Chris, Janeen, Harry, Kathy, Jennifer, John, Marina, George, Laura, George, Costa, Basil, Lemonia, Justin, Chris, Evangelia, Brennan, Egon, Marilyn, Tatanya, Robert, Elizabeth, George, Nicholas, Alexander, Vasilios, Danny, Bill, Lou, Foula, Eupraxia, Arlene, John, Ted



QR Code for the Service of Matins

Matins or Orthros is the morning service in the Orthodox Church. It precedes each Divine Liturgy. This QR Code links you to the service. Just select today's date and then matins, in either EN – English and/or GR – Greek



The October Edition of *The Promise* is Now Available Online!

www.HolyTrinityWestfield.org/the-promise

Subscribe to Holy Trinity weekly emails providing news updates and announcements. Request at: HolyTrinity@htgocnj.org

St. Demetrios the Holy, Glorious, Great Martyr and Myrrh-Streamer – Oct. 26

The Great Martyr Demetrios the Myrrh-Streamer of Thessaloniki was the son of a Roman proconsul in Thessaloniki. The parents of St. Demetrios were secret Christians, and he was baptized and raised in the Christian Faith in a secret church in his father's home.

By the time Demetrios had reached maturity and his father had died, Emperor Galerius Maximian had ascended the throne (305). Maximian, confident in Demetrios' education as well as his administrative and military abilities, appointed him to his father's position as proconsul of the Thessaloniki district. The young commander's principal duties were to defend the city from barbarians and to eradicate Christianity. The Emperor's policy regarding Christians was expressed simply: "Put to death anyone who calls on the name of Christ." Accepting the appointment, Demetrios returned to Thessaloniki and confessed and glorified our Lord Jesus Christ. Instead of persecuting and executing Christians, he began to teach the Christian Faith openly to the inhabitants of the city and to overthrow pagan customs and the worship of idols. When Maximian learned that the newly-appointed proconsul was a Christian, and that he had converted many Roman subjects to Christianity, the Emperor's rage knew no bounds. Returning from a campaign in the Black Sea, the Emperor decided to lead his army through Thessaloniki, determined to massacre the Christians. When the Emperor came into the city, he summoned Demetrios, who boldly confessed himself a Christian and denounced the falsehood and futility of Roman polytheism. Maximian ordered Demetrios to be thrown into prison. An Angel appeared to him, comforting and encouraging him.

Meanwhile the Emperor amused himself by staging games in the circus. His champion was a German by the name of Lyaios. He challenged Christians to wrestle with him on a platform built over the upturned spears of the victorious soldiers. A brave Christian named Nestor went to the prison to Saint Demetrios, his instructor in the Faith, asking for his blessing to fight the barbarian. With the blessing and prayers of St. Demetrios, Nestor defeated the fierce German and hurled him from the platform onto the spears of the soldiers. The enraged commander ordered the execution of the holy Martyr Nestor (October 27) and sent a guard to the prison to kill St. Demetrios. At dawn on October 26, 306 soldiers appeared in the Saint's underground prison and ran him through with lances. His faithful servant, St. Lupus, gathered up the blood-soaked garment of St. Demetrios, took the imperial ring from his finger, a symbol of his high status, and dipped it in the blood. With the ring and other holy things which

sanctified the blood of St. Demetrios, St. Lupus began to heal the infirm. The Emperor ordered his soldiers to arrest and kill him. The body of the holy Great Martyr Demetrios was cast out for wild animals to devour, but the Christians took it and secretly buried it in the earth.

During the reign of St. Constantine the Great (306-337), a church was built over the grave of St. Demetrios in Thessaloniki. During the construction of a majestic new church, the incorrupt relics of the holy martyr were uncovered. Since then a miraculous flow of fragrant myrrh has been found beneath the crypt of the Great Martyr Demetrios, so he is called "the Myrrh-Streamer." Several times, those venerating the holy wonderworker wished to bring his holy relics, or a part of them, to Constantinople. Invariably, St. Demetrios made it clear that he would not permit anyone to remove even a portion of his relics. They remain intact at the church in Thessaloniki to this day.

Saying of the Church Fathers....

"You have heard, dearly beloved, that holy women who had followed the Lord came to the sepulcher with spices. They had loved Him when He was alive, and they showed Him their eager tenderheartedness even when He was dead. Their deed points to something that must be done in our holy Church. Thus as we hear of what they did, we must also think of our responsibility to imitate them. We too, who believe in Him Who died, approach His sepulcher with spices if we are strengthened with the sweet smell of the virtues, and if we seek the Lord with a reputation for good works. And the women who came with spices saw angels, since those who advance toward God through their holy desires, accompanied by the sweet smell of the virtues, behold the citizens from on high." - St. Gregory the Great, *Forty Gospel Homilies*

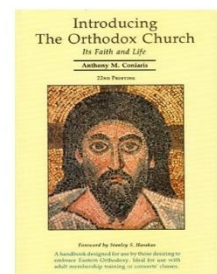
**Bible Study and Orthodox Inquiry – Wednesday, October 29
The Gospel According to St. John**

Join us in person or on *ZOOM* every Wednesday night at 7:00 – 8:15 PM as we read through the Holy Gospel According to St. John. The Holy Trinity Bible Study began October 1 and will run for seven weeks. We will examine this divine book through the lens of the Holy Fathers. This class is open to all parishioners who wish to deepen their knowledge of this Gospel and to those who are inquiring about the Orthodox Faith. As people of faith, we need to know the message of the Good News for the Holy Gospel is: "an embassy of God to men" (St. Maximos the Confessor), "an ocean of spiritual benefits" (St. Ambrose of Milan), "an epitome of all theology" (St. Jerome the Presbyter), "a workshop of souls and a storehouse of spiritual herbs by which any disease can be cured" (St. Basil the Great).

Oct. 29 {Chapters 9, 10, & 11}; Nov. 5; Nov. 12; Nov. 19

ZOOM.US - Meeting ID: 865 1405 9453

Back in Stock



24th Printing

\$27.00



Religious Education

Sunday School classes have resumed. 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 and you do not need to have teaching experience. We are just looking for extra hands! We are looking for Assistant Teachers for the Pre-K class and the combined 9/10 grade class. If interested, please contact Pete Markos at religiouseducation@htgocnj.org

Religious Education Christmas Program - December 14

Please join us for a Stewardship opportunity to help with the Christmas Program, Dessert Reception and Santa, Sunday, December 14, in the Bouras Center following the Divine Liturgy! To help or bring a dessert, please [click here](#).

Altar Boys

Fr. Peter invites all boys ages 12 and older to commit to serve in the altar. An acolyte plays an important role in the ceremonial aspects of the Divine Liturgy. We want our children to remain in the church as they grow up. By committing and serving in this unique role, a deep respect is instilled. This shapes and deepens faith. Please see Fr. Peter for more information.

Angel Choir

The Angel Choir has joined the Adult Choir on Sundays. Angel Choir practices are after Sunday School from 11:45 to 12:15. Children should meet with the director for practice in church in the choir pews. Any children ages 7-12 interested in joining the Angel Choir should attend today's practice. For more information contact the church office or Choir Director, Anne Kernoski, akernoski@gmail.com

Greek School Registration

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

2025 GOYA Registration

<https://forms.gle/hAmPHc4bLkk9eN9F8>



Contact Sophia Saketos at 908-247-6048 or goya@htgocnj.org with questions.

Trinity Circle – November 4

Join us on Tuesday, November 4, for our Lunch/Meeting 11 AM – 2 PM. On November 20, a bus will take us to The Hunterdon Hills Playhouse Christmas Show, shopping and lunch. Members \$85; Non-Members \$95. Contact Cassandra Romas, kromas22409@gmail.com or 908-296-1586 for reservations.

TOTS (Trinity Orthodox Toddler Social) – November 19

Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 19, 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 612-801-8608 or vcomprelli@gmail.com to sign-up or with any questions.

Grow-A-Row with GOYA - Friday, November 7

Join us (all ages welcome) as we gather fresh produce from local farms to donate to local food pantries and soup kitchens. The farm is in Pittstown, NJ. If you are interested in joining us, please stop by the Philoptochos table during Fellowship Hour to sign up.

Adult Greek Dance Lessons, Thursday, November 20

Lessons will be offered by Ronnie Filippatos Fernandez one Thursday per month, \$25 per class. The next lesson is November 20, 7 - 9 PM. We will enjoy some light drinks and appetizers while learning Greek dances. If interested, please send your name and phone number to htgocgreekdance@gmail.com. The remaining dates are: 1/22, 2/19, 3/26, 4/23, 5/21

Ladies Philoptochos Society's 11th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Drive

Kindly share your blessings and support the Ladies Philoptochos Society's 11th 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 Debylahakis@gmail.com

Ladies Philoptochos - Mary's Place by the Sea Walkathon

A heartfelt thank you from The Ladies of Philoptochos to everyone who supported us in Mary's Place by the Sea Walkathon on October 18. It was a glorious day for us. We were proud to share that together; we raised nearly \$1900 for this incredible wellness retreat for women with cancer. Thank you!

Philoptochos Christmas Dinner/General Meeting – December 4

Save the date! Please join us for a fun-filled evening at our annual Christmas Dinner/General Meeting on Thursday, December 4, at 5:30 PM in the Bouras Center. Reservations may be made during Fellowship Hour at the Philoptochos table or by contacting Marina LoAlbo 908-456-0775 or Phyllis Verenes 973-538-2236.

Philoptochos Community Christmas Card - 2025

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 Alzheimer's of New Jersey and Community Personnel Services (a division of ECLC). You can sign up via the QR code in the below flyer, on-line or during our Fellowship Hour each week at the Philoptochos table. The due date is December 7. Please help make this a success! For information, contact Sandy Boutsikaris 908-578-3341 or Christina Colonias 917-825-5986. Thank you!



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

For more information, email Anne Kernoski, Choir Director:

akernoski@gmail.com

[Click here to sign up](#)

*Come join us for
Adult Greek Dance*

**Now offering Greek Dance
Lessons for adults!**

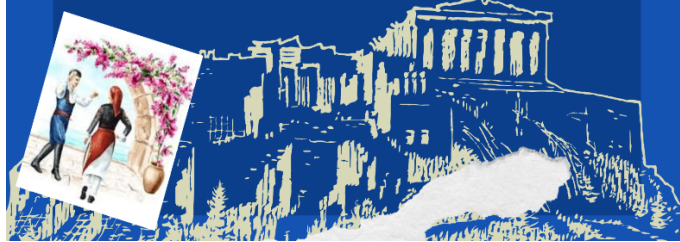
Practices will take place once a month in the
Bouras Center

10/16, 11/20, 1/22, 2/19, 3/26, 4/23, 5/21

\$25/class

Scan here to sign up

Please contact the instructor
Ronnie Filippatos
for more information
HTGOCGreekDance@gmail.com



join us for
**GREEK DANCE
LESSONS**



COME BE A PART OF THE HOLY TRINITY
GREEK DANCE GROUP!

Classes offered for grades
PreK-12
and adults as well!

Contact: Ronnie Filippatos Fernandez
908-672-6203

Htgocgreekdance@gmail.com



HTOGOC Greek School PTO



Our Organization ID:
27610

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!



1. REGISTER

REGISTER now as a participant at www.registercw.com to access our handy invitation tools in the Participant Dashboard. Very Important!

2. SHARE

INVITE 10+ friends and family to support our cause! Share a link to our sale using 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!



Upcoming Events

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Come Join Holy Trinity Greek School in Westfield!



Registration for all classes are open now!

2025-2026 Greek School Tuition

Holy Trinity Stewards

One student.....\$520

Two students.....\$850

Three students...\$1050

Non-Stewards

One student.....\$930

Two students.....\$1,510

Three students...\$1,780

Payments can be made at Holytrinitywestfield.org under Ministries:



[Greek School & PTO Registration](#)



[This QR is for PTO DUES only](#)

Classes will take place on **Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4:00pm-6:00pm**

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 Grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Beginner and 1st Advanced, 2nd and

Thursday, September 11, 2025 Grades, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th.

If you have an **important** conflict please reach out to Principal Stavroula Mergoupis at etsoutsani62@gmail.com

Tuition Assistance If you are experiencing financial difficulty with tuition, please feel free to reach out to Father Peter Delvizis in confidence at FrPeter@htgocnj.org



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



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

2025

November 19

December 10

2026

January 14, 28

February 11, 25

March 11, 25

April 22

May 13, 27

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

November 6, 2025



BRINGING GOOD NEWS

“From Westfield to the World”

40 Years of OCMC: The Mission Continues

Thursday, November 6, 2025: 7-9 PM

Complimentary Wine & Cheese Reception & Program

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church - Bouras Hall

250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield NJ 07090



With OCMC Senior Development Officer Dan Christopoulos & Holy Trinity parishioner Janet O'Sullivan

Dan Christopoulos, the first OCMC missionary, served in Kenya from 1985 to 1988. OCMC Ambassador Janet O'Sullivan participated in an OCMC Donor Trip to Kenya in June 2025.

They will speak about their transformative experiences bringing the Good News 40 years apart and share how we can all continue in this mission from Westfield to the world.



For questions email: OCMC Events at events@ocmc.org

RSVP for this complimentary event by October 30



Scan the QR code or click here to RSVP!
If you can't attend, donate via QR or ocmc.org/westfield-mixer



www.ocmc.org



**HOLY TRINITY
2025 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 kindness, support, and generosity to help us make a difference together! Please join your fellow parishioners by donating to our annual Christmas Card to benefit *Alzheimer's of New Jersey* as well as *Community Personnel Services (a division of ECLC)* that assists the special needs community through education, employment assistance, and life skills development.

- COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND SEND IT IN WITH YOUR DONATION.
- ALL DONATIONS ARE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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

I/We wish to add my/our name(s) to the Community Christmas Card.
_____ **PLEASE USE THE SAME WORDING AS LAST YEAR.**

_____ **PLEASE CHANGE THE WORDING TO THE FOLLOWING:**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Donation Amount: _____

Online: _____ Cash: _____ Check #: _____

RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: *LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY HTGOC*

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

