

# The Sunday Before the Elevation



The Elevation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross

Sunday, September 10, 2023

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

[Live streaming services](#)

908.233.8533

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

On the Tenth Day of the month, we commemorate: The Holy Martyrs St. Menodora, St. Metrodora, and St. Nymphodora; Today is also the Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

*Click links for Scripture Readings*

Morning Gospel:	<a href="#">St. Mark 16:9-20</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Epistle Reading:	<a href="#">Galatians 6:11-18</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>
Gospel Reading:	<a href="#">St. John 3:13-17</a>	<a href="#">Ελληνικά</a>

**Apolytikion of the Resurrection:** *“To the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us, the faithful, give praise and worship. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to endure death and raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.”*

**Apolytikion of the Nativity:** *“Thy Nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world; for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.”*

**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:** *“Joachim and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death. O immaculate one, by thy holy nativity, which thy people, redeemed from the guilt of offences, celebrate by crying to thee: The barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.”*

### Altar Donations

**Altar Candles:** In health of Patty, Cynthia, and John

**Vigil Light:** In memory of Andrew Andrews †

### Liturgical Schedule

Wednesday, September 13, Great Vespers, 6:00 PM

Thursday, September 14, **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**, Orthros, 8:30 AM;

Divine Liturgy, 9:30 AM

Sunday, September 24, Orthros, 8:15 AM; Divine 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.

## The Elevation of the Holy Cross – September 14

On September 14, for centuries, when the feast of the Elevation of the Cross was celebrated in cathedrals, the bishop would take his place in the center of the church and, surrounded by a great assembly of clergy, would majestically raise the Cross high over the crowd and bless the worshippers on all four sides of the church while the choir thundered in response, “Lord have mercy!” This was the celebration of the Christian empire, an empire born under the sign of the Cross on that day when Emperor Constantine saw a vision of the Cross high in the sky and heard the words, «Εν τούτο Νίκα» “In this sign conquer...” This is the feast of Christianity’s triumph over kingdoms, cultures, and civilizations.



But this grand celebration lies in ruins if we do not know how to properly honor the Cross. To honor the Precious Wood is to raise it up, to sing of Christ’s victory, which beyond all means to believe in the Crucified One and to believe that the Cross is a sign of staggering defeat. For only because it is a defeat, and only to the measure it is accepted as defeat, does the Cross become victory and triumph. No, Christ did not enter the world to win outward victories. He was offered a kingdom but refused it. And at the very moment of His betrayal to death, He said: “*Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and He will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?*” (Mt. 26:53) Yet, Christ was never more a king than when He walked to Golgotha carrying His own Cross on His shoulders while the hate-filled and mocking crowd surrounded Him. His kingship and power were never more obvious than when Pilate brought Him before the crowd, dressed in purple, condemned to a criminal’s death, a crown of thorns on His head, and Pilate telling the raging mob: “Behold your king.” Only here can the whole mystery of Christianity be seen, for Christianity’s victory resides within the joyful faith that here, through this rejected, crucified and condemned man, God’s love began to illumine the world and a Kingdom was opened which no one has power to shut.

Each of us, however, must respond in a conscience way to accept Christ and receive Him with all our heart, all our soul, and all our hope. Otherwise, outward victories are meaningless. Perhaps an outward defeat of the Christian world is what we need. Perhaps we need poverty and rejection to purge our faith of its earthly pride and of its trust in outward power and victory, to purify our vision of the Cross of Christ, which is raised high above us even when neither we nor the world can see it. In spite of everything, the Cross is still elevated, exalted, and triumphant. “The Cross is the beauty of the universe.” For in whatever darkness people find themselves, and however great the outward triumph of evil is in this world, the heart still knows and hears the words, “Take courage, I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

# Prayer Request



David, Elizabeth, Tara, Lambros, Anne, Maria, Mikos, Arthur, John, Al, Jessika, Anastasia, Robert, Joanne, Peter, Constantine, 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, 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, Terry, John, Angela, Andrew, Dianna, Edward, Sue, Thomas, Andrea, Thomas, Alexandra, Ronald, Galina, Angela, Lubove, Despina

## **Enthronement of His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos of New Jersey – Sept. 16**

The Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos to serve as the new Metropolitan of New Jersey. His Eminence will be enthroned on Sat. Sept. 16 at the Cathedral of St. John in Tenafly at 10:30 AM. You are cordially invited to attend this auspicious and historic event. If you would like to attend the Enthronement Service, registration is required. Please click the following link to register.

[↳ Enthronement Attendee Registration ↵](#)

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

## **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. Beginning Tuesday, September 12, are grades Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> Beginners and Advanced, and 3<sup>rd</sup>; and Thursday, September 14, grades 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup>. You can register at <https://holyltrinitywestfield.org/ministries/greek-school/>

## **Trinity Circle**

Our monthly lunch/meetings will begin Tuesday, September 12, 11-2 PM. All other months will be on the first Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted.

## 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 begin this Sunday, September 10. We ask that you complete the online form for each student: [www.tinyurl.com/2023-24ReligiousEdRegistration](http://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.

## HOLY TRINITY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### TEACHER AND CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS

2023-2024

GRADE	ROOM	TEACHERS
PK	105	Anna Darity
K	107	Alexandra Mavridis, Ariadne Monfalcone
1	103	Anna Decavalles
2	104	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, Peter Markos
11	208	Miriam Kotsonis, John Kotsonis
12	Boardroom	Peter Tarhanidis

# Upcoming Parish Events



**We are excited to welcome everyone to a new ecclesiastical and school year. 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 7-12<sup>th</sup> (ages 12-18) may participate in statewide activities. Activities include Christ Encounter Retreat (weekend away), athletics, outreach, Greek dance, Sights & Sounds (performing and visual arts), and many others! Register at <https://tinyurl.com/53pp88nz>

**SELECT UPCOMING EVENTS:** (subject to change):

- **September 15:** GOYA Kick-off and Open House (**Join us!**)
- **September 29:** Harvest Dance, St. Andrews/Randolph
- **October 13-15:** 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Christ Encounter Retreat, Fairview Lakes YMCA Camp

**GOYA Advisors:** Maria Tarhanidis, Mary Carayannopoulos, Sophia Saketos, Catherine Kelly, Andy Zotos, and Christine Skalkotos. *Please contact an advisor or email [goya@htgocnj.org](mailto:goya@htgocnj.org) with any questions.*

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**JOY/HOPE** (the Junior Orthodox Youth group) of Holy Trinity is open to youth between the ages of five to eleven. 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 events have included apple picking, making Valentine's Day cards for our Holy Trinity seniors, pizza night, and attending church services together. Past and new members can sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/n39edm2f> or *contact Kathy Petsinis Paone at [kathy@homesbykathyp.com](mailto:kathy@homesbykathyp.com) / 201.344.4049.*

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**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/yfvprr8>  
Sign up for Joy/Hope (K-6th grades) coming soon.  
*Please email [goya@htgocnj.org](mailto:goya@htgocnj.org) (GOYA) or [kathy@homesbykathyp.com](mailto:kathy@homesbykathyp.com) (Joy/Hope) with any questions.*

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**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, September 27, 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](mailto:vcomprelli@gmail.com) or 612-801-8608 to sign-up or with any questions.

**Thank you! We are looking forward to a wonderful year!**

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**Sept. 9 & 10 and Sept. 23 & 24**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
FOR FESTIVAL PASTRY BAKING AND PREPARATION**



**Please mark your calendar to help prepare for Greek Fest 2023.  
All are welcome!!!**

**If you have any questions please call or email**

**Mary Carayannopoulos at 314-623-5493 or  
[carayannopoulos@comcast.net](mailto:carayannopoulos@comcast.net)**

**September 9, 9 AM – 2 PM (baklava and melomakarona)**

**September 10, 12 PM - 5 PM (finikia)**

**Saturday, September 23, 9 AM – 5 PM (koulourakia)**

**Sunday, September 24, 12 PM – 5 PM (packaging)**

**Friday, September 29 – Sunday, October, 1**



**Greek Fest is back! Food, Fun and Fellowship while celebrating our Greek Culture**

September 29th-September 30th, 2023

Friday: 3pm-11PM

Saturday 12-11PM

Sunday October 1st-Parish Only Picnic after Liturgy

We need your time, talent and treasure to make it a great success

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

**How can you help?**

Please consider being a sponsor or seek business sponsorships

Volunteers are still needed during the festival.

Please sign-up to volunteer by clicking the link below or visiting the Philoxenia/Fellowship Table during the Fellowship Hour:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4AADAA2E5-greekfest2>

Spread the word to family, friends, businesses through social media, flyers etc.

Bring your family and friends to enjoy the Kefi while supporting Holy Trinity's Ministries



Dear Friend of Holy Trinity,

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church ("HTGOC") in Westfield, NJ will host its annual **GreekFest on Friday Sept 29th-Saturday Sept 30th**. Our parish invites you to our community to visit us and experience our Philoxenia, our faith, and authentic Hellenic culture. For over 50 years, our parish has been serving Westfield and the surrounding communities. Through the good works of our parish, the festival team, and partners, we support our ministries and local charitable organizations.

Become our partner and join the fun as we plan our largest fellowship event. Your sponsorship or advertising is a testimonial of your support, generosity, and patronage that directly enables our parish mission. As a business, your advertisement will reach thousands of attendees during the 2-day festival, **gain exposure to over 2,000 visitors and volunteers and our social media followers**. Our festival reaches patrons throughout New Jersey, including from Essex, Union, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Bergen, and Somerset counties.

Sincerely,

Fr. Peter Delvizi, Presiding Priest and the 2023 GreekFest Committee

**Please remember:**

- Spread the word through posting flyers, lawn signs, or find us on social media at NJGreekFest.
- Visit our website at [www.njgreekfest.com](http://www.njgreekfest.com).
- Repost and share on your social media feed(s).

## **SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES**

**Grand Benefactor Sponsor\* \$5,000** \_\_\_\_\_

**Platinum Sponsor\* \$2,500** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gold Sponsor\* \$1,000** \_\_\_\_\_

**Silver Sponsor \$500** \_\_\_\_\_

**Bronze Sponsor \$250 and above** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Sponsorship of \$1,000 and above entitles donor to the following advertising inclusions: (i) HTGOC Promise Newsletter with over 800 recipients; (ii) GreekFest website; and (iii) large Festival Banners during Festival days.

### ***Payment Options (for GreekFest donations)***

#### **A. By Check:**

1. Mark your sponsorship package from above.
2. Fill out the contact information below:

- Name \_\_\_\_\_
- Address \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone \_\_\_\_\_
- Email \_\_\_\_\_

3. Mail check to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church at 250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090

#### **B. By Credit Card: Click link: [Holy Trinity Online Donation](#)**

Or QR code:



Or visit: <https://holytrinitywestfield.org/>

# Thursday, October 5

## 41st ANNUAL HOLY TRINITY GOLF CLASSIC



**Thursday, October 5, 2023**

**Echo Lake Country Club  
515 Springfield Avenue  
Westfield, NJ 07090**

**Golf Outing Schedule – Shotgun start**  
**Upon completion we will have an outdoor reception with**  
**cocktails & hors d'oeuvres**

<b>Driving Range &amp; Registration Check in</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
<b>Dr. Kapsimalis Memorial Putting Contest</b>	<b>11 AM-12 PM</b>
<b>Shotgun</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>
<b>Cocktail Hour &amp; Reception</b>	<b>5:15 PM</b>
<b>Awards &amp; Silent Auction</b>	<b>6:15 PM</b>

<b><u>Sponsorship Opportunities</u></b>	
<i>Grand Benefactor</i>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<i>Cocktail Hour Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
<i>Lunch Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 2,500</b>
<i>Prize Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>
<i>Kyle House Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<i>Golfer Gift Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<i>On Course Beverage sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 400</b>
<i>Putting Green Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<i>Range Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<i>Cart Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<i>Closest -to -the- Pin Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 300</b>
<i>Hole Sponsor</i>	<b>\$ 150</b>
<i>Tee Sponsor(s)</i>	<b>\$ 150</b>
<i>Hole in One Prize Sponsor Opportunity</i>	

**Benefiting: Windy 25 Memorial Fund  
& Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church**

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (work): \_\_\_\_\_ (home): \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Foursome Players (Event is Limited to 12 Foursomes. All registrations will receive an acknowledgment)**

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

*Please Check all that apply:*

	Individual Golfer(s) @\$380
	Foursome(s) @\$1,520
	Sponsorship: Please indicate level
	We will donate a prize (describe)
	Sponsor a visiting Golfing Clergymen \$\$380
	Tee(s) or Hole Sponsor @\$150

For information, please contact the Golf Committee: George Colonias [admin@htgocnj.org](mailto:admin@htgocnj.org)  
 908-294-7414, George Paras [gparas@parasandparas.com](mailto:gparas@parasandparas.com) 201-681-5366

*To make your reservation, please complete this form and return it with your payment to:*  
**HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, 250 Gallows Hill Road  
 Westfield, NJ 07090, Attention: Golf Committee**

**If paying by credit card, please complete the following and sign:**

Name (as it appears on your card): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Master Card     Visa     American Express  
 Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Month    \_\_\_\_\_ Year    Security Code # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address for this credit card: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed or Authorized \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Online payments can be made on the church web site: [www.holytrinitywestfield.org](http://www.holytrinitywestfield.org) click on "Online Giving"

