PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, April 17, 2021

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
250 Gallows Hill Road, Westfield, New Jersey 07090
908.233.8533 www.holytrinitywestfield.org

Rev. Fr. Peter Delvizis, Parish Priest
Palm Sunday Morning Gospel
Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17

Epistle Reading:
Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel Reading:
St. John 12:1-18

Apolytikion: “Before Your Passion, You raised Lazarus from the dead to confirm the common Resurrection for all, O Christ God. Therefore, we carry symbols of victory as did the youths, and we cry out to You, the Victor over death, “Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Apolytikion: “As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord.”

Kontakion: “Being borne upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, Thou didst accept the praise of the Angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to Thee: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.”

Palm Sunday
On the Sunday before the Feast of Great and Holy Pascha, and at the beginning of Holy Week, the Orthodox Church celebrates one of its most joyous feasts of the year. Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem following His glorious miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. Having anticipated His arrival and having heard of the miracle, the people went out to meet the Lord and welcomed Him with displays of honor and shouts of praise. On this day, we receive and worship Christ in this same manner, acknowledging Him as our King and our Lord.

Palm Sunday summons us to behold our King; the Word of God made flesh!
We are called to behold Him not simply as the One who came to us once riding on a colt, but as the One who is always present in His Church, coming ceaselessly to us in power and glory at every Eucharist, in every prayer and sacrament, and in every act of love, kindness and mercy. He comes to
free us from all our fears and insecurities, to take solemn possession of our soul, and to be enthroned in our heart. He comes not only to deliver us from our death by His death and Resurrection, but also to make us capable of attaining the most perfect fellowship or union with Him. He is the King, who liberates us from the darkness of sin and the bondage of death. Palm Sunday summons us to behold our King, the vanquisher of death and the giver of life.

Palm Sunday summons us to accept both the rule and the kingdom of God as the goal and content of our Christian life.

We draw our identity from Christ and His kingdom. The kingdom is Christ—His indescribable power, boundless mercy and incomprehensible abundance given freely to man. The kingdom does not lie at some point or place in the distant future. In the words of the Scripture, the kingdom of God is not only at hand [Matthew 3:2; 4:17], it is within us [Luke 17:21]. The kingdom is a present reality as well as a future realization [Matthew 6:10].

Palm Sunday summons us to behold our King; the Suffering Servant!

We cannot understand Jesus’ kingship apart from the Passion. Filled with infinite love for the Father, the Holy Spirit, and creation, in His inexpressible humility, Jesus accepted the infinite abasement of the Cross. He bore our grief and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions and made Himself an offering for sin [Isaiah 53]. His glorification, which was accomplished by the Resurrection and the Ascension, was achieved through the Cross.

In the fleeting moments of exuberance that marked Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the world received its King; the King who was on His way to death. His Passion, however, was no morbid desire for martyrdom. Jesus’ purpose was to accomplish the mission for which the Father sent Him. This is all accomplished during the forthcoming Holy Week. Please attend these inspiring and moving services.

Red Easter Eggs – Bring to Church this week

Today bags and instructions for preparing the red Easter eggs will be distributed. We ask that the red eggs be brought to the church kitchen on Holy Thursday 4/21, Holy Friday 4/22 or before 2:00 PM on Holy Saturday 4/23 for distribution on Holy Pascha. For questions, please contact Christina Colonias -917-825-5986.
Holy Trinity Capital Campaign Progress

Holy Trinity is still accepting donations for the 2022 Capital Campaign. We thank all who have donated thus far. Holy Trinity is blessed having received pledges for over half our goal but we still need your help to achieve our fundraising objectives. With your help and generosity, we can meet our goal and help maintain our facility pristine.

*In the May edition of The Promise, the names of our donors will be published. Only names will appear to thank you for your extraordinary donation towards the Capital Campaign.*

Call the church office to donate or donate online by clicking here:

Holy Trinity Capital Campaign Donation
How your donation will be spent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Refurbishment of church dome</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of boiler, condenser, coils</td>
<td>$260,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repaving of parking lot</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rooftop air conditioning</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church air conditioning</td>
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The Greek Revolution (1821-1829) Through American Eyes

This bicentennial exhibition explores common themes binding Greece and the United States in Greece’s pursuit of universal freedom and liberty by focusing on the myriad connections between the Greek revolutionaries and individual Americans. It also allows viewers to consider the formation of U.S. identity in the first fifty years of the nation’s existence, as U.S. foreign policy was taking shape and slavery was leading America to its own war.

Last Sunday, Holy Trinity hosted an exhibition, “The Greek Revolution Through American Eyes”. Many people commented on the beautiful and informative panels. If you were not here or would like to revisit the presentation, you can link to the webpage to view the panels online.

The Greek Revolution Through American Eyes

Holy Trinity Cultural Committee is happy to announce the publication of the fourth edition of Politismos, a newsletter commemorating the bicentennial of the 1821 Greek War of Independence. This beautiful and informative newsletter is the collaborative work of the Cultural Committee of Holy Trinity. This special edition, released during the celebration of Evangelismos or the Annunciation on March 25 is dedicated to all heroines who declare independence from tyranny and oppression.

Click to view the newsletter

Politismos
Register for the Holy Friday Retreat during the Fellowship hour or by clicking on the link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ybkuutG40-9P11KHB1KDT-aK3MctLaoZ0A06CF3rzyw/edit

Contact Melissa Krikos mkrikos@gmail.com or Iris Love ilove45231@gmail.com for more details.

Agape Vespers Readers
During the Agape Vespers on Easter Sunday at 11:00 AM, the Gospel passage is read in various languages to indicate the universality of Christ’s Gospel of salvation. If you are able to read in a foreign language, please call Diana at the church office to volunteer.

Holy Week Books – on sale
The Pappadeas Holy Week Books (affectionately known as the “Black Holy Week Book”) are now on sale. Each service of Holy Week is included in these books and is a great guide for us to follow the divine services each night and to prepare for the Resurrection of our Lord. Cost is $30.
Holy Friday, April 22
Come in the morning to help decorate the Kouvouklion or the Sepulcher of our Lord

Tsourekia (Easter Bread) – pick up today!
Please remember to pick up pre-ordered tsoureki from the Greek School table today. There will be some extra tsoureki for sale on a first come, first serve basis. The Greek School PTO thanks you for your support.

OCMC Coin Boxes
Please remember to bring your OCMC Coin Boxes to church. Thank you for participating in the parish Lenten project. If you forgot them bring to the church office during the week.

Metropolis of New Jersey to Honor Holy Trinity Parishioners
On Monday, May 9, at the honorees Grand Banquet, parishioners from Holy Trinity will be honored by Archbishop Elpidophoros of America. We thank this year’s honorees who give selflessly of themselves to help benefit parish ministries: Avi Kiriakatis-Steward of the Community; Stephen A. Ladas-Parish Council; Elise Savnik-Philoptochos; Maggie Vasilopoulos-GOYA; Rel. Ed. Teacher-Elias Grivoyannis; Dr. Lauren Koniaris-Essential Medical Worker; Christina Colonias-Youth
Worker; Maria Grafas - senior parish member. The event will be held at the Venetian in Garfield, NJ, beginning at 6:00 PM. Tickets are $125. RSVP April 22, for more info. call the church office.

Westfield Unity Day with Holy Trinity GOC & RC – Saturday, May 14
Join us for “A Celebration of Unity, Faith, and Fellowship” as Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Westfield celebrates its 150 year Anniversary. This is the second of such gatherings. This time Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church will join Holy Trinity RC for a day of prayer, learning, group sharing, Greek dance, and food experiences from East and West. All are invited to this historic event between Eastern and Western Christianity beginning at 10:00 AM.

Ladies Philoptochos
Bake Sale Today

![Bloom Flyer](image)
Πώλω καθίσας, ὁ λόγω τείνας πόλον, Βροτοὺς ἐκζητεῖ λύσαι τῆς ἀλογίας.

Την ἡμέρα αυτή γιορτάζουμε την πανηγυρική είσοδο του Κυρίου Ιησού Χριστού στὴν Ἰερουσαλήμ. Τότε, ερχόμενος ὁ Ιησούς ἀπὸ τῇ Βηθανίᾳ στὰ Ἰεροσόλυμα, ἔστειλε δύο ἀπὸ τοὺς Μαθητές του καὶ τοῦ ἑφεραν ἕνα γαϊδουράκι. Καὶ κάθισε πάνω του για να μπει στὴν πόλη.

Ὁ δὲ λαός, ἀκούγοντας ὅτι ὁ Ιησούς ἔρχεται, πήραν αμέσως στὰ χέρια τους βάγια ἀπὸ φοίνικες καὶ βγήκαν να τὸν ὑποδέχθουν. Καὶ ἄλλοι μὲν μὲ τὰ ρούχα τους, ἄλλοι δὲ κόβοντας κλαδιά ἀπὸ τὰ δέντρα, ἔστρωναν τὸ δρόμο ἀπ’ ὅπου ὁ Ιησούς θα περνούσε. Καὶ ὅλοι μαζί, άλλοι μὲ τὰς ρούχας, ἄλλοι δὲ κόβοντας κλαδιά ἀπὸ τὰ δέντρα, ἔστρωναν τὸ δρόμο ἀπὸ τὸν Ιησοῦν θα περνούσε. Καὶ ὅλοι μαζί, ἀκόμα καὶ τὰ μικρὰ παιδιά, φώναζαν: «Ὡσαννά· εὐλογημένος ὁ ερχόμενος ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου, ὁ βασιλεύς τοῦ Ἰσραήλ».

Ὁ Χριστός εισέρχεται στὰ Ἰεροσόλυμα «ἐπὶ πόλον ὠνο» Πορεύτε καὶ οἱ Ἰσραηλίταις τὸν ὑποδέχονται με τιμές ως Βασιλιά. Ἐκεῖνος δὲν δίνει ἰδιαίτερη σημασία στὶς τιμὲς, δὲν περιορίζεται στὸ πανηγύρι, στὴν πρόσκαιρη δόξα, ἀλλὰ προχωρεῖ στὸ σταυρὸ καὶ τὴν Ἀνάστασιν.

Ἡ εἰσόδους τοῦ Χριστοῦ στὰ Ἰεροσόλυμα εἶναι τελικά ἡ εἰσόδους τοῦ μαρτυρίου στὴν επίγεια ζωὴ τοῦ Κυρίου. Σὲ λίγες ἡμέρες θα μαρτυρήσει καὶ θα θανατώσει στὸ σταυρὸ, γιὰ να θανατώσει τὸ θάνατο καὶ να χαρίσει τὴν ζωή.

Λειτουργικὰ κείμενα
Ἀπολυτίκιον
'Ἡχὸς α'.

Τὴν κοινὴν Ἀνάστασιν πρὸ τοῦ σοῦ πάθους πιστοῦμεν, ἐκ νεκρῶν ἤγειρας τὸν Λάζαρον Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός· θεῖν καὶ ἠμεῖς ὡς οἱ παίδες, τὰ τῆς νίκης σύμβολα φέροντες, σοὶ τῷ νικητῇ τοῦ θανάτου βοῶμεν· Ὡσαννά ἐν τοῖς υψίστοις, εὐλογημένος ὁ ἔρχόμενος, ἐν ὀνόματι Κυρίου.