

Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

The Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross is celebrated each year on September 14. The Feast commemorates the finding of the True Cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by Saint Helen, the mother of the Emperor Constantine.

In the twentieth year of his reign (326), the Emperor Constantine sent his mother Saint Helen to Jerusalem to venerate the holy places and to find the site of the Holy Sepulchre and of the Cross. Relying upon the oral tradition of the faithful, Saint Helen found the precious Cross together with the crosses of the two thieves crucified with our Lord. However, Helen had no way of determining which was the Cross of Christ.

With the healing of a dying woman who touched one of the crosses, Patriarch Macarius of Jerusalem identified the True Cross of Christ. Saint Helen and her court venerated the Precious and Life-Giving Cross along with many others who came to see this great instrument of Redemption.

The Patriarch mounted the ambo (pulpit) and lifted the Cross with both hands so that all of the people gathered could see it. The crowed responded with "Lord have mercy".

This became the occasion of the institution in all of the Churches of the Exaltation of the Precious Cross, not only in memory of the event of the finding of the Cross, but also to celebrate how an instrument of shame was used to overcome death and bring salvation and eternal life.

The Feast is an opportunity outside of the observances of Holy Week to celebrate the full significance of the victory of the Cross over the powers of the world, and the triumph of the wisdom of God through the Cross over the wisdom of this world. This Feast also gives the Church an opportunity to relish the full glory of the Cross as a source of light, hope and victory for Christ's people. It is also a time to celebrate the universality of the work of redemption accomplished through the Cross: the entire universe is seen through the light of the Cross, the new Tree of Life which provides nourishment for those who have been redeemed in Christ.





CHURCH SERVICES

1 Σεπτεμβρίου, Σαββάτον Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00, 10:00 πμ

8 Σεπτεμβρίου, Σαββάτον Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00, 10:00 πμ Γενέθλια της Θεοτόκου

14 Σεπτεμβρίου, Παρασκευή Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00, 10:00 πμ ΥΨΩΣΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΤΙΜΙΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΥ

16 Σεπτεμβρίου, Κυριακή Θεία Λειτουργία - Asbury Park

16 Σεπτεμβρίου, Κυριακή Μέγας Εσπερινός Αγ. Σοφίας at Valley Forge

17 Σεπτεμβρίου, Δευτέρα Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00, 10:00 πμ

26 Σεπτεμβρίου, Τετάρτη Θεία Λειτουργία 9:00, 10:00 πμ September 1, Saturday Divine Liturgy 9:00 / 10:00 am Ecclesiastical New Year

September 8, Saturday Divine Liturgy 9:00 / 10:00 am Nativity of the Theotokos

September 14, Friday Divine Liturgy 9:00 / 10:00 am ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

September 16, Sunday Church Closed - Divine Liturgy in Asbury Park

September 16, Sunday Evening Great Vespers St. Sophia at Valley Forge

September 17 , Monday Divine Liturgy 9:00 / 10:00 am Sophia & her three daughters

September 26, Wednesday Divine Liturgy 9:00 / 10:00 am The Falling Asleep of St. John

Flu Vaccinations at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

An adult Flu Clinic will be held on Wednesday, October 10 from 3.00pm-5.00pm in the Spiros Malaspina Community Center. For more information, please contact: Nurse Gail Toy at Atlantic County Division of Public Health <u>609-645-7700 x4391</u>

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

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Αοιθμ. Ποωτ. 738

+ Β Α Ρ Θ Ο Λ Ο Μ Α Ι Ο Σ ΕΛΕΩι ΘΕΟΥ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΥΠΟΛΕΩΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΡΩΜΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΟΣ ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΗΣ ΠΑΝΤΙ ΤΩι ΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙ ΤΗΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑΣ ΧΑΡΙΝ, ΕΙΡΗΝΗΝ ΚΑΙ ΕΛΕΟΣ ΠΑΡΑ ΤΟΥ ΔΗΜΙΟΥΡΓΟΥ ΠΑΣΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΚΤΙΣΕΩΣ ΚΥΡΙΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΘΕΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΗΜΩΝ ΙΗΣΟΥ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΥ

Άδελφοί και τέκνα ἐν Κυοίω,

Συνεπληρώθησαν ήδη εἰκοσιεννέα ἔτη ἀπό τῆς καθιερώσεως ὑπό τῆς Ἀγίας τοῦ Χριστοῦ Μεγάλης Ἐκκλησίας, τῆς ἑορτῆς τῆς Ἱνδίκτου ὡς «Ἡμέρας Προστασίας τοῦ περιβάλλοντος». Καθ᾽ ὅλον αὐτό τό διάστημα τό Οἰκουμενικόν Πατριαρχεῖον ὑπῆρξεν ἐμπνευστής καί πρωταγωνιστής ποικίλων δράσεων, αί ὁποῖαι ἐκαρποφόρησαν πλουσίως καί ἀνέδειξαν τό οἰκολογικόν πνευματικόν δυναμικόν τῆς ὀρθοδόξου ἡμῶν παραδόσεως.

Αί οἰκολογικαί πρωτοβουλίαι τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου ἀπετέλεσαν ἕναυσμα διά τήν θεολογίαν, διά νά ἀναδείξῃ τάς οἰκοφιλικάς ἀρχάς τῆς χριστιανικῆς ἀνθρωπολογίας καί κοσμολογίας καί νά προβάλῃ τήν ἀλήθειαν ὅτι οὐδέν ὅραμα διά τήν πορείαν τῆς ἀνθρωπότητος ἐν τῇ ἱστορία ἔχει ἀξίαν, ἐάν δέν περιλαμβάνῃ καί τήν προσδοκίαν ἑνός κόσμου, ὁ ὁποῖος θά λειτουργῇ ὡς πραγματικός «οἶκος» τοῦ ἀνθρώπου, εἰς μίαν ἐποχήν κατά τήν ὁποίαν ἡ συνεχῶς διογκουμένῃ ἀπειλή κατά τοῦ φυσικοῦ περιβάλλοντος κυοφορεῖ μίαν παγκόσμιον οἰκολογικήν καταστροφήν. Ἡ ἐξέλιξις αὕτῃ εἶναι ἡ συνέπεια μιᾶς συγκεκριμένης ἐπιλογῆς τρόπου οἰκονομικῆς, τεχνολογικῆς καί κοινωνικῆς ἀναπτύξεως, ἡ ὁποία δέν σέβεται οὕτε τήν ἀξίαν τοῦ ἀνθρωπίνου προσώπου, οὕτε τήν ἱερότητα τῆς φύσεως. Εἶναι ἀδύνατον νά ἐνδιαφερώμεθα πραγματικῶς διά τό ἀνθρώπινον πρόσωπον καί ταυτοχρόνως νά καταστρέφωμεν τό φυσικόν περιβάλλον, τήν βάσιν τῆς ζωῆς, κατ' οὐσίαν δηλαδή νά ὑπονομεύωμεν τό μέλλον τῆς ἀνθρωπότητος.

Παρά τό γεγονός ὅτι δέν θεωροῦμεν ὀρθόν νά κρίνωμεν τόν νεωτερικόν πολιτισμόν ἐπί τῆ βάσει «ἁμαρτολογικῶν κριτηρίων», ἐπιθυμοῦμεν νά ὑπογραμμίσωμεν ὅτι ἡ καταστροφή τοῦ φυσικοῦ περιβάλλοντος εἰς τήν ἐποχήν μας συνδέεται μέ τήν ἀλαζονείαν τοῦ ἀνθρώπου ἔναντι τῆς φύσεως καί τήν ἐξουσιαστικήν σχέσιν του πρός αὐτήν, καθώς καί μέ τό εὐδαιμονιστικόν πρότυπον τοῦ «πολλῶν δεῖσθαι» ὡς γενικῆς στάσεως ζωῆς. Ὅσον λανθασμένον εἶναι τό νά πιστεύωμεν ὅτι εἰς τό παρελθόν ὅλα ἦσαν καλλίτερα, τόσον ἀτοπον είναι νά κλείωμεν τά ὅμματα ἐνώπιον ὅσων συμβαίνουν σήμερον. Δέν ἀνήκει τό μέλλον εἰς τόν ἄνθρωπον, ὁ ὁποῖος ἀναζητεῖ ἀκαταπαύστως τεχνητάς ἀπολαύσεις καί νέας πορολητικῆς σπατάλης, οὐτε εἰς τόν ἀδικητήν καί ἑκμεταλλευτήν τῶν ἀδυνάτων. Τό μέλλον

ἀνήκει εἰς τήν δικαιοσύνην καί τήν ἀγάπην, εἰς τόν μετοχικόν πολιτισμόν τῆς ἀλληλεγγύης καί τοῦ σεβασμοῦ τῆς ἀκεφαιότητος τῆς δημιουργίας.

Τοιοῦτον ἦθος καί τοιοῦτος πολιτισμός διασώζεται εἰς τήν θεανθρωπίνην ἐκκλησιαστικήν παράδοσιν τῆς Όρθοδοξίας. Εἰς τήν μυστηριακήν καί λατρευτικήν ζωήν τῆς Ἐκκλησίας βιοῦται καί ἐκφράζεται ἡ εὐχαριστιακή θεώρησις, νοηματοδότησις καί χρῆσις τῆς δημιουργίας. Αὐτή ἡ σχέσις μέ τόν κόσμον εἶναι ἀσύμβατος μέ κάθε εἶδους ἐσωστρέφειαν καί ἀδιαφορίαν διά τήν πλάσιν, μέ κάθε μορφῆς δυϊσμόν πνεύματος καί ὕλης καί ὑποτίμησιν τῆς ὑλικῆς πραγματικότητος. Τοὐναντίον, ἡ εὐχαριστιακή ἐμπειρία εὐαισθητοποιεῖ καί κινητοποιεῖ τόν πιστόν εἰς οἰκοφιλικήν δρᾶσιν ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ. Ἐν τῷ πνεὑματι τοὑτῳ, ἡ Ἁγία καί Μεγάλη Σύνοδος τῆς Όρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας ὑπεγράμμισεν ὅτι εἰς τά μυστήρια τῆς Ἐκκλησίας «καταφάσκεται ἡ δημιουργία καί ὁ ἄνθρωπος ἐνδυναμώνεται διά νά λειτουργῷ ὑς οἰκονόμος, φύλαξ καί "ἰερεύς" αὐτῆς, προσάγων ταὐτην δοξολογικῶς τῷ Δημιουργῷ» (Ἐγκύκλιος, §14). Κάθε εἰδους κατάχρησις καί καταστροφή τῆς κτίσεως καί ἡ μετατροπή της εἰς ἀντικείμενον πρός ἐκμετάλλευσιν ἀποτελεῖ διαστρέβλωσιν τοῦ πνεύματος τοῦ χριστιανικοῦ Εὐαγγελίου. Δέν εἶναι διόλου τυχαῖον, ὅτι ἡ Όρθόδοξος Ἐκκλησία ἐχαρακτηρίσθη ὡς ἡ «οἰκολογική μορφή» τοῦ Χριστιανισμοῦ, ἐφ᾽ ὅσον εἶναι ἡ Ἐκκλησία, ἡ ὁποία διέσωσε τήν Θείαν Εὐχαριστίαν ὡς πυρῆνα τῆς ζωῆς της.

Συνεπῶς, ή οἰκολογική δϱαστηφιοποίησις τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατφιαφχείου δέν ἀνεπτύχθη ἀπλῶς ὡς ἀντίδφασις εἰς τήν σύγχφονον πφωτοφανῆ οἰκολογικήν κφίσιν, δέν ἐδημιουφγήθη ἀπό αὐτήν, ἀλλά ἀποτελεῖ ἕκφφασιν τῆς ζωῆς τῆς Ἐκκλησίας, πφοέκτασιν τοῦ εὐχαφιστιακοῦ ἤθους εἰς τήν σχέσιν τοῦ πιστοῦ μέ τήν φύσιν. Αὐτή ή ἐγγενής οἰκολογική συνείδησις τῆς Ἐκκλησίας ἐξεδηλώθη εὐθαφσῶς καί εὐστόχως ἐν ὄψει τῶν συγχφόνων ἀπειλῶν κατά τοῦ φυσικοῦ πεφιβάλλοντος. Ἡ ζωή τῆς Ὁφθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας εἶναι βιωμένη οἰκολογία, ἕμπφακτος καί ἀκατάλυτος σεβασμός τῆς κτίσεως. Ἡ Ἐκκλησία εἶναι γεγονός κοινωνίας, νίκη κατά τῆς ἁμαφτίας καί τοῦ θανάτου, κατά τῆς αὐτοδικαιώσεως καί τοῦ ἀτομοκεντφισμοῦ, ἀπό τά ὁποῖα ἐκποφεύεται ἡ καταστφοφή τοῦ πεφιβάλλοντος. Ὁ Ὁφθόδοξος πιστός εἶναι ἀδύνατον νά παφαμένῃ ἀδιάφοφος ἕναντι τῆς οἰκολογικῆς κφίσεως. Ἡ μέφιμνα καί ἡ φφοντίς διά τήν πλάσιν εἶναι συνέπεια καί ἕκφφασις τῆς πίστεως καί τοῦ εὐχαφιστιακοῦ ἤθους του.

Είναι προφανές ὅτι διά τήν ἀποτελεσματικήν συμβολήν εἰς τήν ἀντιμετώπισιν τῶν οἰκολογικῶν προβλημάτων ἡ Ἐκκλησία ὀφείλει νά τά γνωρίζη καί νά τά μελετặ. Γνωρίζομεν ἄπαντες ὅτι ἡ μεγαλυτέρα ἀπειλή διά τό περιβάλλον καί τήν ἀνθρωπότητα εἶναι σήμερον ἡ κλιματική ἀλλαγή καί αἱ καταστροφικαί ἐπιπτώσεις της δι' αὐτήν ταύτην τήν ζωήν ἐπί τῆς γῆς. Αὐτή ἡ θεματική ἐκυριάρχησε καί κατά τό ἕνατον οἰκολογικόν Συμπόσιον, τό ὁποῖον διωργάνωσε τό Οἰκουμενικόν Πατριαρχεῖον τόν παρελθόντα Ἰούνιον εἰς τάς νήσους τοῦ Σαρωνικοῦ Σπέτσες καί Ύδραν, μέ τίτλον «Γιά μιά πιό πράσινη Ἀττική. Διασώζοντας τόν πλανήτη καί προστατεύοντας τούς κατοίκους του». Δυστυχῶς, ἡ πρόσφατος καταστροφική πυρκαϊά εἰς τήν Ἀττικήν καί αἱ ἀναμενόμεναι συνἑπειαι τῆς προκληθείσης μεγάλης περιβαλλοντικῆς καταστροφῆς ἀποτελοῦν τραγικήν ἐπιβεβαίωσιν τῶν θέσεων τῶν συνἑδρων διά τήν σοβαρότητα τῆς οἰκολογικῆς ἀπειλῆς.

Τιμιώτατοι ἀδελφοί καί προσφιλέστατα τέκνα ἐν Κυρίω,

Ό οἰκολογικός πολιτισμός τῆς Ὀρθοδοξίας εἶναι ή ὑλοποίησις τοῦ εὐχαριστιακοῦ όράματος τῆς δημιουργίας, τό ὁποῖον συμπυκνοῦται καί ἐκφράζεται εἰς τήν συνολικήν λειτουργίαν τῆς ἐκκλησιαστικῆς ζωῆς. Αὐτό εἶναι τό αἰώνιον μήνυμα τῆς Ὀρθοδόξου Ἐκκλησίας εἰς τό θέμα τῆς οἰκολογίας. Ἡ Ἐκκλησία λέγει καί κηφύττει «ἀεί ταὐτά» καί «πεφί τῶν αὐτῶν», συμφώνως καί πρός τά ἀνυπέρβλητα λόγια τοῦ Ίδρυτοῦ καί κεφαλῆς αὐτῆς: «ὁ ούρανός καί ή γη παρελεύσονται, οί δέ λόγοι μου οὐ μή παρέλθωσι» (Λουκ. κα', 33). Στοιχούσα τῷ πνεύματι τούτω, ή Μήτης Ἐκκλησία καλεῖ τάς ἀνά τήν οἰκουμένην Αρχιεπισκοπάς καί Μητροπόλεις αὐτῆς, τάς ἐνορίας καί τάς ἱεράς Μονάς, νά ἀναπτύξουν πρωτοβουλίας καί συντονισμένας δράσεις, προγράμματα περιβαλλοντικής εὐαισθητοποιήσεως, νά ὀργανώσουν συνέδρια καί ὁμιλίας, ὥστε οἱ πιστοἱ νά συνειδητοποιήσουν ὅτι ἡ προστασία τοῦ φυσικοῦ περιβάλλοντος είναι πνευματική εὐθύνη ἑκάστου ἐξ ἡμῶν. Τό φλέγον θέμα τῆς κλιματικῆς ἀλλαγῆς, τά αἴτια καί αἱ ἐπιπτώσεις του διά τόν πλανήτην καί τήν καθημερινότητα τῶν ἀνθρώπων ἀποτελοῦν εὐκαιρίαν διά προσεγγίσεις καί συζητήσεις έπί τη βάσει των ἀρχῶν τῆς θεολογικῆς οἰκολογίας καί διά συγκεκριμένας πρακτικάς παφεμβάσεις. Είναι ζωτικῆς σημασίας νά δοθῆ ἔμφασις εἰς τήν δφᾶσιν εἰς τοπικόν ἐπίπεδον. Ή ἐνορία ἀποτελεῖ τό κύτταρον τῆς ἐκκλησιαστικῆς ζωῆς, χῶρον προσωπικῆς παρουσίας καί μαρτυρίας, ἐπικοινωνίας καί συνεργασίας, λειτουργικήν καί διακονικήν κοινότητα.

Ιδιαιτέρα μέριμνα πρέπει νά ἐπιδειχθῆ διά τήν ὀργάνωσιν τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ διαπαιδαγωγήσεως τῆς νέας γενεᾶς, ὤστε νά καλλιεργῆται εἰς αὐτήν τό οἰκολογικόν ἦθος. Ἡ ἐκκλησιαστική κατήχησις πρέπει νά ἐνσταλάζῃ εἰς τήν ψυχήν τῶν παιδίων καί τῶν νέων τόν σεβασμόν πρός τήν «καλήν λίαν» πλᾶσιν, κίνητρα διά δραστηριοποίησιν εἰς τήν προστασίαν τοῦ περιβάλλοντος καί τήν ἐλευθεροποιόν ἀλήθειαν τῆς ἀπλότητος, καί τῆς λιτότητος καί τοῦ ἀσκητικοῦ ἤθους, τοῦ μετοχικοῦ τρόπου τοῦ βίου καί τῆς θυσιαστικῆς ἀγάπης. Εἶναι ἀπαραίτητον, οἱ νέοι νά κατανοήσουν τήν εὐθύνην των διά τήν ἐφαρμογήν ἐν τῆ πράξει τῶν οἰκολογικῶν συνεπειῶν τῆς πίστεώς μας, νά γνωρίσουν καί νά γνωστοποιήσουν τήν καθοριστικήν συμβολήν τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Θρόνου εἰς τήν ὑπόθεσιν τῆς προστασίας τοῦ φυσικοῦ περιβάλλοντος.

Περαίνοντες τόν λόγον, εὐχόμεθα πᾶσιν ὑμῖν εὐλογημένον ἐκκλησιαστικόν ἔτος καί δαψιλῆ καρποφορίαν τῶν πνευματικῶν ὑμῶν ἀγώνων, ἐπικαλούμεθα δέ ἐφ᾽ ὑμᾶς τήν ζωηφόρον χάριν καί τό ἀμέτρητον ἕλεος τοῦ πανδώρου Κυρίου καί Θεοῦ καί Σωτῆρος ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, τοῦ ἀρχηγοῦ καί τελειωτοῦ τῆς πίστεως ἡμῶν, πρεσβείαις τῆς Παναγίας τῆς Παμμακαρίστου, ῆς τήν τιμίαν εἰκόνα, τό σεπτόν κειμήλιον τοῦ Γένους, ἑορτίως, εὐσεβοφρόνως καί ἐν ταπεινώσει σήμερον κατασπαζόμεθα.

> ,βιη΄ Σεπτεμβοίου α΄ Ό Κωνσταντινουπόλεως διάπυρος πρός Θεόν εὐχέτης πάντων ὑμῶν

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

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+ B A R T H O L O M E W

By God's Mercy Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch To the Plenitude of the Church: Grace, peace and mercy From the Creator of All, our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ

Beloved brothers and sisters in the Lord,

Twenty-nine years have now passed since the Mother Church established the Feast of Indiction as the "Day of Protection of the Environment." Throughout this time, the Ecumenical Patriarchate has inspired and pioneered various activities, which have borne much fruit and highlighted the spiritual and ecological resources of our Orthodox tradition.

The Ecumenical Patriarchate's ecological initiatives provided a stimulus for theology to showcase the environmentally-friendly principles of Christian anthropology and cosmology as well as to promote the truth that no vision for humanity's journey through history has any value if it does not also include the expectation of a world that functions as a real "home" *(oikos)* for humanity, particularly at a time when the ongoing and increasing threat against the natural environment is fraught with the possibility of worldwide ecological destruction. This evolution is a consequence of a specific choice of economic, technological and social development that respects neither the value of the human being nor the sanctity of nature. It is impossible to truly care for human beings while at the same time destroying the natural environment as the very foundation of life, essentially undermining the future of humanity.

Although we do not consider it appropriate to judge modern civilization on the grounds of criteria related to sin, we wish to underscore that the destruction of the natural environment in our age is associated with human arrogance against nature and our domineering relationship toward the environment, as well as with the model of eudemonism or disposition of greed as a general attitude in life. As incorrect as it is to believe that things were better in the past, it is equally unfitting to shut eyes to what is happening today. The future does not belong to humanity, when it persistently pursues artificial pleasure and novel satisfaction—living in selfish and provocative wastefulness while ignoring others, or unjustly exploiting the vulnerable. The future belongs to righteous justice and compassionate love, to a culture of solidarity and respect for the integrity of creation.

This ethos and culture are preserved in Orthodoxy's divine and human ecclesial tradition. The sacramental and devotional life of the Church experiences and expresses a Eucharistic vision, approach and use of creation. Such a relationship with the world is incompatible with every form of introversion and indifference to creation—with every form of dualism that separates matter from spirit and undermines material creation. On the contrary, the Eucharistic experience sensitizes and mobilizes the believer toward environmentally-friendly action in the world. In this spirit, the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church emphasized that "in the sacraments of the Church, creation is affirmed and human beings are encouraged to act as stewards, protectors and 'priests' of creation, offering it in doxology to the Creator" (Encyclical, par. 14). Every form of abuse and destruction of creation, along with its transformation into an object of exploitation, constitutes a distortion of the spirit of the Christian gospel. It is hardly coincidental

that the Orthodox Church has been characterized as the ecological expression of Christianity inasmuch as it is the Church that has preserved the Holy Eucharist at the core of its being.

Consequently, the Ecumenical Patriarchate's ecological initiatives were not simply developed in response or in reaction to the modern unprecedented ecological crisis, but as an expression of the Church's life, an extension of the Eucharistic ethos in the believer's relationship to nature. This innate ecological conscience of the Church was boldly and successfully declared in the face of the contemporary threat to the natural environment. The life of the Orthodox Church is applied ecology, a tangible and inviolable respect for the natural environment. The Church is an event of communion, a victory over sin and death, as well as over self-righteousness and self-centeredness—all of which constitute the very cause of ecological devastation. The Orthodox believer cannot remain indifferent to the ecological crisis. Creation care and environmental protection are the ramification and articulation of our Orthodox faith and Eucharistic ethos.

It is clear, then, that in order to contribute and respond effectively to the ecological challenge that we face, the Church recognize and research the relevant issues. We all know that the greatest threat to our world today is climate change and its destructive consequences even for our survival on the planet. This topic was paramount in the 9th Ecological Symposium, entitled "Toward a Greener Attica: Preserving the planet and protecting its people," organized by the Ecumenical Patriarchate last June on the Saronic Islands of Spetses and Hydra. Unfortunately, the recent devastating fires in Attica and the impending consequences of this immense environmental destruction constitute tragic proof of the views shared by the symposium participants on the severity of the ecological threat.

Venerable hierarchs and beloved children in the Lord,

The ecological culture of the Orthodox faith is the realization of its Eucharistic vision of creation, summarized and expressed in its church life and practice. This is the Orthodox Church's eternal message on the issue of ecology. The Church preaches and proclaims "the same things" "at all times" in accordance with the unassailable words of its Founder and Leader, that "heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away" (Lk. 21:33). Adhering to this tradition, the Mother Church calls upon its Archdioceses and Metropolises, as well as its parishes and monasteries throughout the world, to develop initiatives, coordinate projects, organize conferences and activities that foster environmental awareness and sensitivity, so that our faithful may realize that the protection of the natural environment is the spiritual responsibility of each and every one of us. The burning issue of climate change, along with its causes and consequences for our planet and everyday life, offer an opportunity to engage in dialogue based on principles of theological ecology, but also an occasion for specific practical endeavors. It is vitally important that you emphasize action at the local level. The parish constitutes the cell of church life as the place of personal presence and witness, communication and collaboration—a living community of worship and service.

Special attention must also be directed to the organization of Christ-centered educational programs for our youth in order to cultivate an ecological ethos. Ecclesiastical instruction must instill in their souls a respect for creation as "very good" (Gen. 1:26), encouraging them to advocate and advance creation care and protection, the liberating truth of simplicity and frugality, as well as the Eucharistic and ascetic ethos of sharing and sacrifice. It is imperative that young men and women recognize their responsibility for the practical implementation of the ecological consequences of our faith, while at the same time becoming acquainted with and promulgating the definitive contribution of the Ecumenical Throne in the preservation of the natural environment.

In conclusion, we wish you all a blessed ecclesiastical year and abundant benefit in your spiritual struggles, invoking upon you the life-giving grace and boundless mercy of the Giver of all good things, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith, through the intercessions of Panaghia Pammakaristos, whose honorable icon, the sacred heirloom of all Orthodox people, we reverently and humbly venerate today.

+ Bartholomew of Constantinople Your fervent supplicant before God



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY Ιερα Μητροπολίς Νέας Ιερσεής

August 16, 2018

The Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy Esteemed Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils Esteemed Presidents and Members of the Philoptochos Sisterhood Esteemed Presidents and Members of the GOYA Chapters of the Greek Orthodox Communities of the Delaware Valley Region of our Holy Metropolis of New Jersey

My Beloved,

I am pleased to inform you that the 9th Annual Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey Delaware Valley Region Metropolitan Evangelos Ambassador Awards Banquet, will be taking place on Sunday, November 11, 2018. The Cocktail Hour will begin at 4:00pm, followed by Dinner at 5:00pm. The Ambassador Awards Banquet will be held at <u>The Merion</u>, located at 1301 US-130 in Cinnaminson, New Jersey. As in previous years, I will honor various Greek Orthodox Christians from the parishes in the Delaware Valley Region of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey who serve and contribute to the success of their parish ministries.

The Ambassador Awards Banquet will once again bring hundreds of Orthodox Christians from throughout the Delaware Valley Region together as we recognize those who freely offer their time, talent, and treasure for the glory of God and the support of His Church. All of you are wholeheartedly invited and encouraged to attend this annual event so that we may, as one Orthodox Family, express our appreciation for the efforts and selfless dedication of the various devoted members of all ages representing our Communities.

This endeavor can only be brought to fruition if it is supported completely and enthusiastically by each parish community. Working together in unison will ensure that this year's Ambassador Awards Banquet will indeed be a most memorable and successful event in the life of the Delaware Valley Region of our Holy Metropolis.

Bestowing upon all of you my Archpastoral Blessings and looking forward to seeing you at the Ambassador Awards Banquet, I remain

With Paternal Love and Blessings,

filetompoliton Compeles

† E V A N G E L O S Metropolitan of New Jersey

215 East Grove Street, Westfield, NJ, 07090-1656 • Tel: (908) 301-0500 • Fax: (908) 301-1397 Web: www.nj.goarch.org • E-mail: metropolis@nj.goarch.org

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Egg Harbor Township, NJ Sunday School Registration Form 2018-2019

NAME OF STUDENT:		Gender:		
Date of birth:	Age:	Grade (2018/2019):		
School:	Expected year of high school graduation:			
Student's E-mail address:	Student's cell #:			
Patron Saint/Feast Day:	Special interests:			
Allergies or other medical con	ditions:			
NAME OF STUDENT:		Gender:		
Date of birth:	Age:	Grade (2018/2019):		
School:	Expected year of high school graduation:			
Student's E-mail address:		Student's cell #:		
Patron Saint/Feast Day:		Special interests:		
Allergies or other medical con	ditions:			
NAME OF STUDENT:		Gender:		
Date of birth:	Age:	Grade (2018/2019):		
School:	Expected year of high school graduation:			
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Patron Saint/Feast Day:		Special interests:		
Allergies or other medical con	ditions:			
NAME OF STUDENT:		Gender:		
Date of birth:	Age:	Grade (2018/2019):		
School:	Expected	year of high school graduation:		
Student's E-mail address:		Student's cell #:		
Patron Saint/Feast Day:		Special interests:		
Allergies or other medical con	ditions:			
Please discuss any Speci	al Education	needs with the Sunday School Director.		
riease discuss any speci		neeus with the Sunday School Director.		
ddress:				

PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S):	
Mother's name:	Cell #:
Mother's occupation (optional):	
Mother's email address:	
Father's name:	Cell #:
Father's occupation (optional):	
Father's email address:	

PARENT CONTRACT:

I will assist in the following ways to ensure the success of the Holy Trinity Sunday School Program by committing to:

- 1) Regular attendance at the Divine Liturgy beginning at 9:30 AM.
- 2) Assist with the Sunday School Program in two areas:

Thanksgiving Food Drive (November):

- □ Coordinate project
- \square Deliver food

Christmas Gift Drive (November/December):

- □ Set up Christmas Tree with tags
- □ Coordinate project
- □ Deliver gifts

Children's Liturgy/Breakfast:

- □ Coordinate food donations
- □ Set-up and serve breakfast
- □ Clean-up after event

Christmas Play

- □ Assist with play and practices
- □ Assist with costumes
- □ Set-up sets
- □ Break down/Clean-up sets

Saturday of Lazarus Liturgy/Breakfast (April 20):

- □ Coordinate food donations
- □ Set-up and serve breakfast
- □ Clean-up after event

Holy Friday Retreat (April 26):

- \Box Set-up and serve lunch
- Clean up after event
- Coordinate and Supervise Craft Projects

OTHER – SHARE YOUR TALENTS:

- \Box Teach church hymns
- □ Teach Greek prayers
- □ Guest speaker
- □ Guest reader
- □ Storyteller
- □ Art project
- \Box Assist in the classroom
- □ Substitute Teacher
- □ Other:

I have checked the areas above where I can assist.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date:

*** Suggested donation of \$25 per child ***

ATTENDANCE

In order to grow in the faith, we expect our students to attend Sunday School every Sunday. Attendance in Sunday School includes attendance in church.

Greek School Registration 2018/2019	
Name:	_
Address:	
Phone #: E-mail:	-
Age/birthday Grade in school:	
Baptismal name (in Greek)	
Nameday of the Student	_
Parents name(s)	_
Parents' Cell #'s:	_
Allergies /medical conditions	
People who may pick up my child	
Would you like your child to receive a report card? Yes / No	
Steward of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church? Yes / No	
Cost is \$100 for church stewards and \$250 for non-members (per child). Please mail registration forms, stewardship card, & Greek School costs to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Greek School Registration PO Box 769 Northfield, NJ 08225	
Make checks payable to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Register As Soon As Possible	
$\frac{1}{2}$	

Father George Liacopulos Along with Richard & Linda Haviland, the OCMC Ambassadors

Cordially invite you to attend an Evening Mission Event

Saturday, September 8, 2018 Complimentary Buffet Dinner at 6:00pm

Please join us in welcoming

Fr. Chris Rowe Orthodox Christian Mission Center

Learn about the exciting & inspiring ways our Orthodox faith is being shared around the world, and how you can be part of it.

> Fellowship Hall Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 7004 Ridge Ave Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08234

Kindly RSVP to Richard & Linda Haviland lindahaviland@hotmail.com 609-652-7817

Holy Trinity Church would like you to join us for our

3rd Annual Stewardship Drive Kickoff BBQ

Sunday, September 30th after church in the courtyard

Sponsored by the Stewardship Committee

RSVP—lisa.mitoulis@gmail.com Or (609) 653-8092

Philoptochos News September

We pray that you all enjoyed a restful and fun summer full of family and friends! As we look forward to the new Ecclesiastical year we are filled with hope and a critical sense of purpose to help those in need. Our membership has doubled and now have even more women to assist in the efforts of Philoptochos. We are PhiloStrong!

This summer's Clergy Laity Conference was a source of boundless inspiration for the dedicated women of Philoptochos. Women all over the country are battling hunger, bullying, homelessness, illness and disasters. Their commitment to help others, brothers and sisters who are in crisis, gives proof of the God's love for His children, and for us a call to help in every way we can. To see video presentations and more information from the conference visit www.Philoptochos.org

We ended our year celebrating the Feast of the Holy Trinity and offering a lovely luncheon for our Holy Trinity Family and visitors. A great THANK YOU to Sophia's Restaurant in Margate for donating the delicious meal.

It was great to see so many visitors on August 15th to Celebrate the Feast of Dormition of the Theotokos. Philoptochos was happy to offer refreshments on this Panagias Celebration.

September 19th, we will have our Wine & Cheese Kick-off Meeting at 6:00 pm.

September 23rd brings the Philoptochos Sisters Memorial for those Philoptochos members who have fallen asleep. We will offer the Coffee Fellowship hour in honor of those sisters who are no longer with us. The following week on September 30 we will be providing desserts for the Stewardship BBQ. Please contact Faten Dib if you will be bringing something to contribute.

The **October Block Party** brings fellowship and fundraising as we stand together to sell baklava and pastries at the Ocean City Block Party on **October 6th**. Please contact Kelly Kyriakou to sign up for a 2 hour shift.

On **November 3rd** we will be Rolling Out the Red Carpet for our Bid-N- Buy event. To donate gifts or financial donations please contact Kelly Kyriakou, Ria Pierelli, or Georgia Psilopoulos.

With Love in Christ, Dorrie Papademetriou Philoptochos President Chapter 1040

PHILOPTOCHOS MISSION STATEMENT

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc., is the duly accredited women's philanthropic society of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The mission of the Society shall be:

- To help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, the handicapped, the victims of disasters, to undertake the burial of impoverished persons and to offer assistance to anyone who may need the help of the Church through fund raising efforts; and
- To promote the charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic purposes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, through instructional programs, presentations, lectures, seminars and other educational resources;
- To preserve and perpetuate Orthodox Christian concepts and the Orthodox Christian Family, and through them, to promote the Greek Orthodox Faith and traditions, in accordance with its doctrines, canons, discipline, divine worship, usages and customs;
- To promote participation in the activities of the Greek Orthodox community, with the cooperation of the Parish Priest and the Parish Council.
- The charitable work of the Society shall be performed with discretion, courtesy and kindness.

Holy Trinity Coffee Hours

Please call or email Faten Dib 609-226-2691 or fattouneh@hotmail.com today and offer to sign up for a Sunday to host the coffee hour! There are many Sunday's available and it is a great way for your family, or a few families together, to offer fellowship and refreshments to our community. We will post any available Sundays in the weekly newsletter and the monthly Herald.

In the event that no one signs up for a Sunday to host a coffee hour, only coffee will be available at the Fellowship Hall. So come one, come all and sign up today to host "Holy Trinity coffee Hour".

Available Sundays for October: October 7, October 14, October 21.



Holy Trinity Philoptochos St Elpida Chapter is rolling out The Red Carpet 21st Annual Bid & Buy Saturday, November 3, 2018 Spiros Malaspina Community Center 7004 Ridge Ave Egg Harbor Township. NJ Hundreds of items including designers, housewares, children's toys and electronics. Gift Preview: 3:30pm Dinner: 5:00pm Prepaid Adults: \$20, Kids under 12: \$12 *Pay at Door Adults: \$25, Kids \$15

NOXONC	(SXONG)X	SEPTE	MBER	2018	MSNOXC	MS MS AC)
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Divine Liturgy 8:15 am 9:30 am						Divine Liturgy 9:00am 10:00am Ecclesiastical
Stewardship BBQ Basketball Begins						New Year
2 Divine Liturgy 8:15 am 9:30 am	3	4	5 TLC School Year Begins	6	7	B Divine Liturgy 9:00am 10:00am Nativity of the Theotokos
						OCMC Event
Divine Liturgy 8:15 am 9:30 am	10	11	12	13	Divine Liturgy 9:00am 10:00am Elevation of the	15
School Blessings GOYA Oath & Mtg. Greek School Mtg. OCMC	Greek School Begins TLC Board Mtg. 6:00 pm	Greek School	Greek School	Cub Scout Pack Mtg. F.H.	Holy Cross	
16 Church Closed	Divine Liturgy 9:00am 10:00am St. Sophia & her 3 daughters	18	19	20	21	22
Divine Liturgy At Asbury Park Great Vespers St. Sophia Jeffersonville	Greek School Parish Council Mtg. 6:00pm	Greek School Bible Study 7:00	Greek School Philoptochos Wine & Cheese Kick-off Mtg. 6:00 pm.	PB&J Club 5:30 pm		Gym Rental
23 Divine Liturgy 8:15 am 9:30 am	24	25	26 Divine Liturgy 9:00am 10:00am	27	28	29
Philoptochos Memorial S.S. Begins Basketball Parents Mtg. Sunday School Parents Mtg Grades 10-12	Greek School	Greek School Bible Study 7:00	The Falling Asleep of St. John Greek School			

PARISH NEWS

BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study group will resume meeting on Tuesdays September 18th and 25th at 7:00 pm. All parishioners are strongly encouraged to share in this wonderful experience.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We encourage all parishioners to send in their stewardship envelopes during the early part of 2018. It is very important that stewardship cards be filled out and sent to the church so that we may keep all of our records current. We thank the 155 families who have sent in their stewardship cards for the year 2018.Let us strive to give more generously than last year so that we can continue to strengthen this wonderful program

COME RECEIVE THE LIGHT PROGRAM

If anyone is interested in donating \$50 a week or \$200 a month so that the Come Receive the Light program can stay on the air, please contact the church office or Demi Zalman. The program airs on Sundays at 9:00am on channel 1020AM and 101.3 FM.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is offered to those baptized Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves for the reception of the Sacrament by prayer and fasting. Blessed Bread is available for all our visitors at the very end of the Divine Liturgy.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS

Gamblers Anonymous will be meeting on Tuesday nights from 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm at the church.

PARISH COUNCIL

There will be a Parish council meeting on Monday, September 17th at 6:00 pm.

TLC BOARD MEETING

There will be a TLC Board meeting on Monday, September 10th at 6:00 pm.

ALTAR BOYS

Attention parents, please contact Father George by September 15th if your sons want to join the altar boys in September.

GOYA BASKETBALL

Please see page 19 for important basketball news.

GREEK SCHOOL

Greek School will begin classes on the week of September 10th. Please mail the registration from on page 11 to the church office ASAP. There will be a parent meeting on Sunday, September 9th, immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will begin classes on Sunday September 23rd. The school blessing will take place on Sunday, September 9th. Please fill out the registration forms on pages 9 & 10.

GOYA

The new GOYA officers will also be sworn in on Sunday, September 9th. All kids entering 7th grade thru 12th grade are welcome to join GOYA

3rd ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP BBQ

Our 3rd Annual Stewardship Barbecue will be held on Sunday, September 30th. For more information see page 13.

BLOCK PARTY

The Annual Fall Block Party will take place in Ocean City on Saturday, October 6th. Once again, we are expecting all parishioners to come out and lend a hand for the good of our parish.

COFFEE HOUR

If you would like to host the coffee hour on a Sunday please call or email Faten Dib. (609-226-2691 or fattouneh@hotmail.com). If you are hosting the coffee hour please make sure that all products are nut free. We have children with severe nut allergies. Thank you!

NAR-ANON FAMILY GROUP MEETING

The Nar-Anon Family Groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by friend or family member's drug addiction. As a Twelve-Step Program, they offer help by sharing experience, strength, and hope in a safe and anonymous forum. If you are or know someone who is impacted by someone else's drug addition, please let them know about this meeting. Meetings are held every Thursday at 6:30pm.

WEB PAGES FOR ORTHODOX BOOKS & RADIO

Conciliar Press: www.conciliarpress.com Light & Life: www.light-n-life.com Holy Cross Press: www.holycrossbookstore.com St. Vladimir's Press: www.svspress.com The link for Ancient Faith Radio and Ancient Faith Talk: http://ancientfaith.com/

ΕΘΕΛΟΝΤΙΚΗ ΠΡΟΣΦΟΡΑ

Επειδή λάβατε το πακέτο τής Εθελοντικής Προσφοράς για το 2018, σας παρακαλούμε να στείλετε την κάρτα σας το συντομότατο. Σας παρακαλούμε να μην στείλετε χρήματα χωρίς να στείλετε και την κάρτα.

Sunday School News

Please hand in Sunday School registration forms to the church office. We need volunteers for the many events and activities planned for our children this year! Please make sure to sign up to volunteer on the back of the registration form.

Sunday School Blessing is September 9th.

Sunday School begins September 23rd. We are looking forward to another wonderful year of learning about our faith!

Please reach out to Sarai Taraborrelli if you have any questions about the Sunday School Program.

Sarai Taraborrelli sarai1southrey@gmail.com 857-225-2236

GOYA BASKETBALL NEWS

*Parents' Meeting: September 23 after the Divine Liturgy.

*Deadline to sign up for 7th graders: September 15th - you will need birth and baptismal certificates.

* Practices will begin for the boys: Tuesday, September 11th - JV (7th to age 16) 7:00 to 8:00, Varsity (10th to 12th grade) 8:00 to 9:30).

* Practices for the girls' team will be announced shortly.



The Feast of the Nativity of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary is celebrated on September 8 each year. The Feast commemorates the birth of the Mother of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The birth and early life of the Virgin Mary is not recorded in the Gospels or other books of the New Testament, however this information can be found in a work dating from the second century known as the Book of James or Protevangelion.

According to the story found in this book, Mary's parents, Joachim and Anna, were childless for many years. They remained faithful to God, but their prayers for a child were unanswered. One day, when Joachim came to the temple to make an offering, he was turned away by the High Priest who chastised him for his lack of children. To hide his shame, Joachim retreated to the hill country to live among the shepherds and their flocks.

As Joachim was praying, his wife Anna was praying at the same time at their house in Jerusalem. An angel appeared to both of them and announced that Anna would have a child whose name would be known throughout the world. Anna promised to offer her child as a gift to the Lord. Joachim returned home, and in due time Anna bore a daughter, Mary.

Shoprite Gift Cards

The Philoptochos is selling Shoprite Gift Cards and would appreciate your support.

For every \$100.00 dollars we sell, we get \$5.00. Cards are available in \$50 increments. Demi Zalman, our chairperson, will be at church on Sundays after the service with the cards for anyone to buy. Write your check to "Holy Trinity Philoptochos" or use cash. If you do not see Demi in church any Philoptochos sister will be able to help you find out who has the cards that day.

As the needs of our community are rising, the Philoptochos is hoping that this initiative will provide added funds to help meet our ever-growing charitable requests. Please consider buying these cards and help us raise money to help others.

Scheduling Meetings and Events

In order to avoid scheduling conflicts all parish ministries and organizations must call the church office to schedule all meetings, practices and events (even if they are not scheduled at the church).

LET US KNOW YOUR EMAIL SO YOU CAN BE UP-TO-DATE ON THE LATEST NEWS AT HOLY TRINITY

SEND YOUR EMAIL TO: lisa@cmmcw.com

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

We are excited to announce a new way to give your Business or Service a face in our church community. We are opening up the opportunity

to advertise your place of business in our church bulletins. The most important aspect of this opportunity is that not only will it enhance and promote your business

but ALL of the money collected for advertising will go to the church.

We are confident that this advertising opportunity will improve the exposure and revenues of your business. If you have an interest in obtaining more details we encourage you to speak to Athena Sacco

athenasacco@gmail.com or 609-653-6775) or any other parish council member. We thank you in advance for your participation and support.

PARISH WEB SITE

Our new web site has now been activated.

www.holytrinityeggharbor.com

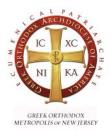
Please visit the site often for updated information. Group leaders should submit their group's information to the church office ASAP so that all the tabs can be activated.

Phone Directory for Holy Trinity

The church phone number is: 609-653-8092

The extensions are:

Father George: #12 Church Office: #16 TLC Front Desk: #13 Fellowship Hall Kitchen: #28 Commercial Kitchen: #29



7004 Ridge Avenue, Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey 08234 Phone: (609) 653-8092 · Fax: (609) 653-0375

Our Vision is...

to follow Christ as stewards of our faith, by fostering a loving and welcoming community through active service, worship, education, and fellowship.



Our Mission is...

to become disciples of Christ in thought, word and deed, through loving and humble service to God and mankind, while seeking salvation for all through the Holy Spirit. Ms. Felice E Stewart Serving in Romania



Felice Elizabeth Stewart, RN, MA, LISAC, graduated from Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in 1964, received her MA from Friends International Christian University in 1990, and has been licensed as a substance abuse counselor since 2004. She worked in mental health nursing for many years and has her degree in biblical counseling. Felice served on several short term missions as a Protestant, and directed a women and children's program in a Protestant Mission in the US for six years. Shortterm mission trips through OCMC to Romania and Uganda led her to a strong desire to be involved in long-term Orthodox missions overseas.

Felice served as a long-term OCMC Missionary in Tanzania in 2010-2013, and was first assigned in her new role as a Mission Specialist in 2013 in Romania. As a Specialist, Felice will continue to be deployed to serve the far-reaching St. Dimitrie Program and offer counselling ministry through specific assignment.

Felice counts on your prayers and financial support for this service. Funds donated in support and for her encouragement can be offered electronically by clicking "Support This Missionary", by calling OCMC directly, or by sending a check to OCMC with "Stewart" on the memo line. The mailing address is Orthodox Christian Mission Center, 220 Mason Manatee Way, St. Augustine FL, 32086.

Help make Disciples of all nation! Thank you for considering a donation to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center. By funding OCMC programs that proclaim the fullness of the Gospel, support indigenous clergy, and fund Church ministries that help Her to witness to people around the world, your prayerful gift works toward making disciples of all nations.

Orthodox Christian Mission Center 220 Mason Manatee Way St Augustine, FL 32086

Thank you for Voting Trinity Learning Center Best of the Press Gold



Plateia Night

One or two hours per week of Greek School is not enough. Add to the task of learning the language the fact that there are games, songs, dances and foods which round-out the Greek experience we would like the kids exposed to, and it seems impossible to make any meaningful progress. So, again this year, we will have a Plateia Night ('a night in village square'), where many of these things are learned by young visitors to Greece.

It is open to all students and their parents, and will feature a variety of activities, with the goal of giving the kids a venue to use some of the Greek they are learning. We will do

songs, games, cartoons, dances, and may even have some Greek sweets. Ask the children what they have enjoyed the most over the last few years of Greek School, and your answer will likely include some of the extra-curricular things.

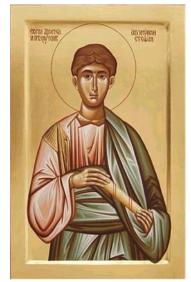
Our first Plateia Night will be advertised soon. Please see the weekly newsletter, Herald or web site for updates!



METROPOLIS OF NJ CELEBRATION IN ASBURY PARK

On Sunday, September 16th, our local church will be closed so that we can all celebrate the Divine Liturgy and the blessing of the water in Asbury Park with Metropolitan Evangelos, the clergy and the faithful of our area. For more information or directions, please contact Father George.

St. Stephen the Deacon Service Project



Volunteer Opportunity Join the PB&J Club! Come One, Come All!

Help us make peanut butter and jelly Sandwiches for Sister Jean's Kitchen.

Come to the church's commercial kitchen on

Thursday, September 20 5:30 to 7:00 pm

RSVP to Donna Efstatos at d.efstatos@gmailcom Donations of peanut butter and jam are appreciated.

Pizza will be served!





HOLY TRINITY PB&J PROJECT FOR SISTER JEAN'S KITCHEN

Nearly twenty years ago, a retired casino chef, Sister Jean Webster, opened her kitchen to a homeless man. Today, her operation has grown and relocated, providing food for 600 hungry and homeless people daily at the First Presbyterian Church in Atlantic City. No one is turned away, and there are no paid employees.

Each month the youth of Holy Trinity and the Holy Trinity Philoptochos make 350 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the homeless and hungry through Sister Jean's Kitchen in Atlantic City. It costs approximately 42¢ to feed a person. Your financial donation of \$5 will feed 12 people. Please consider making a donation today, and be a part of this amazing mission.

\$5 feeds 12 people

Sister Jean: "there could never be too many sandwiches donated."

A project of Holy Trinity Philoptochos (Friends of the Poor) Make checks out to: Holy Trinity Philoptochos.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer, contact Donna Efstatos at <u>d·efstatos@gmail·com</u>

How to Host the Coffee Hour

Requirements: Desserts (Nut-free), Milk 1 gallon, Orange Juice

<u>Set up in coffee room:</u>

1. Prepare coffee urn with # of cups and amount of water. Instructions are pasted inside the door of one of the cabinets. Switch on the coffee.

2. Place coffee cups, plates napkins, forks, spoons on the counter and milk jugs, basket of sugars.

Everything is in the drawers.

3. Take out the money box and place it on the counter.

After coffee is served: Please clean up everything. Empty urn and clean. Count money.

Place in envelope marked

PHILOPTOCHOS COFFEE HOUR,

DATE, NAME OF VOLUNTEER AND AMOUNT.

Money is either given to Faten Dib or slipped under Father George's office door.

Donuts can be picked up free at Minos if you call at 6pm on Saturday evening to request donuts to be put aside. Minos opens at 7.00am on Sunday, pick up any time after that.

Coffee hour need not be an elaborate affair. It is NOT a competition as to who serves the best spread. Some ladies love to bake, others do not have the time.

We are thankful to anyone who volunteers just to host a simple coffee hour.

Scheduling Meetings and Events

In order to avoid scheduling conflicts all parish ministries and organizations must call the church office to schedule all meetings, practices and events.

REQUEST FOR GREETERS

Dear Parishioners,

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7

Our wonderful greeter, Marge Adams, has moved to be near her family in Pennsylvania. We are very grateful and inspired by Marge, as she greeted and welcomed our parishioners and visitors, and we thank her for all the years she faithfully served on our Greeter Ministry, since 2013. We wish Marge all the best in her future home and surroundings. She will be greatly missed by all of us. We hope and pray that she will join us from time to time, which she has promised to do.

Please join us as we continue this meaningful ministry, creating more wonderful, first, and continuing impressions. The Great Commission of our Lord begins with us, as greeters, as we welcome everyone, sharing the love of Christ.

If anyone would like to join our wonderful Greeter Ministry, please speak to Ginny Kramvis or email ekramvis@comcast.net



You can now make a stewardship contribution or a donation to your church on-line



Simply visit our website: www.holytrinityeggharbor.com and click on "DONATE"

Welcome to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church



Online Donations

It is now possible to become a steward of our church online. If you would like to make a donation, please click on the "Donate" button below.



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 7004 Ridge Ave. Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234 Fr. George Liacopulos:

Fr. George Liacopulos: 609-653-8092 x4 609-226-0528 (mobile) frgeorgeliacopulos@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Lisa Mitoulis 609-653-8092 x5



It's Simple Convenient Safe Secure

We would like to thank the following Holy Trinity parishioners for their

2018 Stewardship Contributions (as of August 30th)

If there is an omission please contact the church office.

Adamakos, Basil & Angela Adams, Margaret Alberico, Giovanni & Maria Apalakis, Penelope Arsenis, Jerry & Nancie Arsenis, Stasia Bairaktaris, Ilias & Pantelia Ballias, Nicholas & Elena Ballias, Peter & Antonia Basdekis, Nicholas & Kelly Biel Caliagas, Irene & Mark Brown, Ron & Dianne Brown, Tina Chrisanthon, Nick & Nikki Christakos, James & Zoe Christakos, Michael & Katerina Christopoulos, Toula Cipkins, Avvakums & Lydia Cokenakes, Alexsandra & Bob Cooker Costas, James & Juanita Costas, John & Soultana Coste, Jordan & Julia Dellas, James & Catherine DelValle, Ernest & Maria Deslis, Andreas & Michelle Dib, George & Terri Dib, Haitham & Faten Dingman, Irene Dirkes, George & Maria Doulis, John Eberhard, Philip & Elizabeth Efstatos, George & Donna Emmick, Fr. Paul & Mat. Maria Evangelis, Demetri & Dawn Exadaktilos, John & Jordan Exadaktilos, Nicholas & Orsula Fahey, John & Stella Flamporis, Georgia Fotiou, Maria & Tony Fotiou Gassis. Alex & Marika Gatis. Athanasios & Sandra Genakos, Pauline Georges, Christ & Vicky Georges, Constantine & Catherine Georges, George Georgopoulos, Dimitri Halkias, Demetrios & Hanna Hann, Patricia Hanna, Ghaith & Roula Haviland, Richard & Linda Isihos, Elias & Markella Janel. Betty Kafetzis, Fotis & Sue Kafetzis, Pavlos & Toula

Kafkalas, Nicholas Jr Kalogris, Nick & Anna Karathanasis. Nick & Catherine Karavan Family Karavasilis, Argirios & Maria Karpathios, Emmanuel & Orsula Karpathios, Nick & Amee Kartsezski, Ivan & Valya Katsarides. Anna Koltoukis, Gus & Heather Kontonikolas, John & Asimina Kouretas, Chris & Froso Kramvis, George & Ginny Kratsas, James & Dimitra Krome, Dr. Charles Ladicos, Annette Latsios, John & Cynthia Lazarou, Zoe Lazos, Ernest Lazos, John & Maria Lemoniotis, Hariklia Liacopulos, Fr. George & Voula Lianidis, Stelios & Maria Majsztrik Family Malaspina, Kimberley Mamolou, Nicholas & Barbara Manolis, Chris & Tammy Marinakis, Maria & Apostolos Markouris, Alex & Katie McHugh, Brian & Marie Micaelidis, James & Millie Michaelidis, Roula Mihalopoulos, Maria Mitchell, Gloria Mitoulis, Chris & Lisa Mitoulis, Peter & Gena Mularz, Christopher & Catherine Mularz, Walter & Youla Ng, Thomas & Smaragda Nicholaou, Anastasia Nikolaidis, Konstantina Nouragas, Euripides & Paula Palapanis, Iakovos & Demetra Panetta, Anthony Papadeas. Peter & Sue Papademetriou, Tom & Dorrie Papaspanos, Yianni & Christine Papastamelos, Athanasios & Caitlin Pappas, Chris Pappas, Claire Pappas, Georgia Parasidis. Savvas & Evelvn Paul, Christina Pelandis, Michael & Chariclia

Pelandis, Stavros Petranov, Martin Petrides, Joanna Phillips, Mary Potiris, Nick & Lia Poulathas, Simos & Debbie Raftopoulos, Steve Rotondi, Joe & Haroula Rumbas, Peter & Janine Russo, Dominic & Joanne Russo, Leandra Sacco, Brian & Athena Salerno, Andrew & Anastasia Salkeld, Scott & Jacqueline Sarkos, Constantine & Phyllis Sarkos, Peter & Samantha Scarles, Foteni Scouloudis, Stelios & Angelique Shissias. Dean & Diana Siozopoulos, Achilleas & Maria Siozopoulos, Costas & Agoritsa Smith. Dennis & Tina Sost, Tom & Tina Stamatopoulos, Gus & Michelle Szczotka, Kevin & Evdoxia Thalassinos, Antonios & Nicole Thanasoulis, Thomas & Tessie Theofanopoulos, Aris & Chryssanthi Thompson, Peter Tiniakos, Jimmy & Christina Tiniakos, Steve & Jimmy Tiniakos, Stratis & Meaghan Tjoumakaris, Fotios & Kelly Tjoumakaris, Nick Tjoumakaris, Paul & Evanthea Tountas, Isidiros & Giota Trzaska, George & Clara Tsourounakis, Anthony & Eleni Tzioutziouklaris, Athina Valakelis, Paul & Amalia Vanikiotis, Jacqueline Vanikiotis, Thomas & Helen Vassil, Nicholas & Debbie Vourvahis, Andreas & Anna Warrington, Stephen & Stephanie Farrell Yiannos, Nick Zalman, Richard & Demetra







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HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

7004 Ridge Avenue, Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey Mailing Address: P.O. Box 769, Northfield, NJ 08225 Phone: 609-653-8092 Fax: 609-653-0375

PARISH PRIEST

Father George Liacopulos 609-653-8092

PARISH COUNCIL

President: Brian Sacco 609-412-2305 Vice-President: Haitham Dib Treasurer: Anthony Panetta Recording Secretary: Jacqui Salkeld George Efstatos, Stephanie Farrell, Christ Georges, Vicky Georges, Nick Kafkalas Jr., Charles Krome, Maria Lianidis, Walter Mularz, Rami Nassar, Athena Sacco, & Scott Salkeld

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Eugenia Kramvis 609-344-2967

PHILOPTOCHOS

President: Dorrie Papademetriou 609-457-8757 Vice President: Kelly Kyriakou 609-677-0003 Treasurer: Faten Dib 609-226-2691 Recording Secretary: Annette Ladicos Corresponding Secretary: Linda Haviland

SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Sarai Taraborrelli sarai1southrey@gmail.com Kelly Kyriakou 609-677-0003

GOYA

President: Nick Psilopoulos Advisors: Donna Efstatos 609-674-8257 Faten Dib 609-226-2691 Pauline Genakos 908-294-0368 Nancie Arsenis 609-517-2518 Felicia Panteloukas

JOY /HOPE ADVISORS

TBA

ARCHIVES

Eleni Tsourounakis

CHANTER

Pavlos Kafetzis Tom Papademetriou **CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Presv. Voula Liacopulos 609-653-8092

Greek School

George Plamantouras 609-573-5592

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Caitlin Papastamelos

TLC BOARD

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BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Dorrie Papademetriou, Walter Mularz, Athena Sacco, and Maria Lianidis

DANCE GROUPS

Vicky Georges 609-345-2487 (Sr. Group) Pauline Genakos genakosfamily@yahoo.com (Jr. Group)

BASKETBALL

Boys: Anthony Panetta, Nicholas Kafkalas Jr. Girls: George Efstatos, Aggie Potiris

39 AND SOMETHING GROUP

Father George Liacopulos 609-653-3107

FESTIVAL CHAIRPERSON Yianni Kyriakou 609-677-0003

ST STEPHEN THE DEACON SERVICE PROJECT Dorothy Martin 609-241-6859

AUDITING COMMITTEE Faten Dib, Nick Mamalou & Richard Haviland

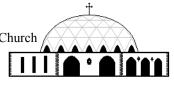
PARISH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM Richard & Linda Haviland

Holy Trinity Herald **Deadline** is the **<u>21st</u>** of each month.

Please submit all copy or photos to Lisa Mitoulis at 653-0719 or Lisa@cmmcw.com

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Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church P.O.Box 769 Northfield, NJ 08225





UPCOMING EVENTS

September 1:	Ecclesiastical New Year			
September 8:	OCMC Event			
September 9:	Blessing for Sunday School and			
Greek School				
September 9:	Greek School Meeting for parents			
September 10:	First Day of Greek School			
September 14:	Elevation of the Holy Cross			
September 16:	Asbury Park			
September 23:	First Day of Sunday School			
September 23:	Philoptochos Memorial			
September 30:	3rd Annual Stewardship BBQ			
October 6:	Ocean City Block Party			
October 12-14: Regional GOYA Retreat				
November 3:	Philoptochos Bid-n-Buy			
November 11:	Metropolitan Evangelos Awards			
	Banquet			

"When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.

1 Corinthians 13:11