



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ

May 2025 – Issue 5

Χριστός Ανέστη ~ Αληθώς Ανέστη!!!
Christ is Risen ~ He has Risen indeed!!!



**The Resurrection of our Lord, God
and Savior Jesus Christ**



**Sts. Constantine and Helen
Equal to the Apostles**



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THESE ARTICLES & ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF, EMAILED, FAXED OR U. S. MAIL.

FOR ANY CHANGES TO THE CHURCH SERVICES
OR PARISH EVENTS PLEASE CHECK WEEKLY BULLETIN AND PARISH WEBSITE



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL



ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ

May 2025

Dear beloved parishioners of Holy Trinity, Christ is Risen!

As the days of May unfold with the beauty of spring, our hearts remain anchored in the joy of the Resurrection. In the Orthodox Church, Pascha is not just a temporary celebration; it is the Feast of Feasts, resonating throughout the season and beyond. We joyfully proclaim that Christ has risen from the dead, conquering death by His death, and granting life to those in the tombs.

The Gospel of Matthew reminds us, *"He is not here, for He is risen, as He said"* (Matthew 28:6). These words, full of power and promise, are the cornerstone of our faith. The Resurrection is not only a past event; it is a present and living reality that transforms us each day. Christ's victory over death gives us hope, peace, and a reason to rejoice no matter our circumstances. As His All-Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew stated in His Paschal Message: *"The resurrection is an explosion of great joy and permeates the entire life, ethos and pastoral ministry of the church as the foretaste of the fullness of life, knowledge and life of the eternal kingdom of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Orthodox faith and pessimism are contradictory phenomena"*.

In this holy season, we are invited to walk more deeply with the Risen Lord—not just in our prayers or hymns, but in how we live and love. The light of Pascha must illuminate our daily lives and guide us to acts of kindness, patience with one another, forgiveness where there has been hurt, and joy even in the ordinary.

Children, families, elders- everyone shares in this joy. As we sing, *"Christ is risen from the dead!"* may even the youngest hearts understand that Jesus' love is stronger than death, His light shines in every shadow, and His arms are always open to embrace us. Let our homes be filled with the fragrance of prayer, the warmth of compassion, and the celebration of life that flows from the empty tomb.

Let us also carry this light into the world. So many around us live in darkness, fear, or sorrow. The Resurrection calls us to be bearers of hope, to reflect the love of the Risen Christ to all. As Saint Seraphim of Sarov said, *"Acquire the Spirit of Peace, and a thousand souls around you will be saved."* This is the quiet, radiant power of the Resurrection at work within us.

In this holiest Paschal season, our Holy Orthodox Church joyfully commemorates on May 21st the lives of Saints Constantine and Helen, Equals-to-the-Apostles, whose faith and courage changed the course of Christian history. Before Constantine's rise, Christians lived under the constant threat of persecution, martyrdom, and marginalization. But through Constantine, the Lord brought relief and peace to His Church.

Saint Constantine the Great, crowned emperor by divine providence, beheld the miraculous sign of the Cross in the sky with the words, *"In this sign, conquer."* With this vision, he embraced Christ and ended the

persecution of the Church, granting freedom to Christians through the Edict of Milan in 313. His reign marked the beginning of a new era in which the Church could flourish openly. Constantine convened the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea (325), defending the Orthodox faith against the Arian heresy and helping to establish the Nicene Creed, which we continue to proclaim in our divine services.



Continued...

Continued...

He also used the resources of the empire to support the Church. He commissioned the building of great churches, including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, over the site of Christ's Resurrection. He granted land and privileges to bishops and Christian communities and even began observing Sunday as a day of rest.

His mother, Saint Helen, is remembered with deep reverence for her piety, humility, and unwavering zeal. With great devotion, she journeyed to the Holy Land and discovered the Precious and Life-Giving Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, a relic which brought healing and hope to the faithful and continues to be venerated to this day.

Together, these two saints exemplify what it means to use earthly authority for heavenly purposes. They did not seek power for themselves but rather offered it back to God in service to His Church. May we imitate their faith, courage, and devotion to Christ. May we also learn from them to always seek the will of God in our lives, whether we are emperors or pilgrims, leaders or servants.

My dearly beloved,

The Risen Lord made us worthy of celebrating -once again- His sacred Passion and glorious Resurrection at our Church. We indeed celebrated a remarkable and memorable Holy Week and Easter, with streams of faithful people and a wonderful spirit of faith, love and understanding. However, our commitment to the church continues. Every Sunday we worship our Lord in the Divine Liturgy, which is the perpetuation of His Resurrection, a weekly celebration of Christ's victory over death. Please do not miss that! In addition, we have many wonderful social events planned, with the Taverna Night on May 10th, our Festival on the first week of June, and many more! (See the announcements in the monthly bulletin). All of the above makes us an Orthodox Christian family, under our great Father- the Trinitarian God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!



In this joyful and uplifting spirit of the Resurrection, may we never grow weary of saying, singing, and living the truth: Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! And as the season of Pascha flows into the days beyond, may its joy never fade from our hearts. The tomb is empty, and our lives are full—full of grace, full of purpose, full of God. Let us also remember our brothers and sisters in Christ, both near and far, and strive to be a source of light in their lives.

I wish each of you a blessed and joyful Paschal season. May the light of the Risen Christ, through the intercessions of St. Constantine the Great and His mother St. Helen, shine in your hearts and homes always.

With love in the Risen Lord,

Archimandrite of the Ecumenical Throne
Christoforos Oikonomidis, Presiding Priest

Αγαπητοί μου Ενορίτες, Χριστός Ανέστη!

Με ιδιαίτερη χαρά και πνευματική αγαλλίαση εορτάζουμε και φέτος τη λαμπροφόρο Ανάσταση του Κυρίου μας Ιησού Χριστού, το κορυφαίο γεγονός της πίστεώς μας, τη νίκη της ζωής επί του θανάτου. Το “Χριστός Ανέστη” δεν είναι μια ευχή· είναι ο πυρήνας της χριστιανικής μας πίστης, η βεβαίωση ότι η ζωή δεν τελειώνει στον τάφο, αλλά συνεχίζεται εν Χριστώ. Κάθε φορά που βροντοφωνάζουμε “Χριστός Ανέστη” διατρανώνουμε την αλήθεια της αναστάσεως και την πίστη μας ότι εφόσον ο Κύριός μας αναστήθηκε...και εμείς θα αναστηθούμε κατά την Δευτέρα Παρουσία.

Η Ανάσταση δεν είναι μόνο ιστορικό γεγονός του παρελθόντος, αλλά διαρκής πραγματικότητα στην καρδιά κάθε πιστού που ζει εν μετανοία, πίστη και αγάπη. Είναι η πρόσκληση του Χριστού προς όλους μας: “Χαίρετε και μη φοβείσθε”. Σε έναν κόσμο γεμάτο ταραχές, αβεβαιότητες και πόνους, ο Αναστάς Χριστός μας προσκαλεί να μην κυριαρχούμαστε από τον φόβο, αλλά να πορευόμαστε με την παρηγοριά και τη δύναμη της Αναστάσεώς Του.

Στον σημερινό κόσμο, που φαίνεται να κυριαρχείται από την υλική αντίληψη της ζωής και την απογοήτευση, το φως του Αναστημένου Κυρίου μάς καλεί σε μια βαθύτερη αναγέννηση. Καλούμαστε όλοι να ζήσουμε την Ανάσταση όχι ως έθιμο ή εορταστικό διάλειμμα, αλλά ως βίωμα πίστεως και αφετηρία αλλαγής. Να αναστηθούμε πνευματικά. Να συγχωρήσουμε, να αγαπήσουμε, να μιλήσουμε με αλήθεια και να φερθούμε με ταπείνωση. Να μεταμορφώσουμε την καθημερινότητά μας, κάνοντάς την μαρτυρία της Αναστάσεως.

Στις οικογένειές μας, στις εργασίες μας, στην ενορία μας, ας φέρουμε το φως του Αναστάντος Χριστού. Ας γίνουμε φορείς ελπίδας, χαράς και συμφιλίωσης. Η Εκκλησία μας, ως Σώμα Χριστού, δεν παύει να καλεί τα μέλη της να ζήσουν την ενότητα και την αγάπη που απορρέει από τον κενό Τάφο. Ας ενδυναμωθούμε από τα λόγια του Αποστόλου Παύλου: “Ει δε Χριστός ουκ εγήγερται, ματαία η πίστις υμών” (Α' Κορ. 15,17). Η Ανάσταση είναι η απόδειξη ότι η πίστη μας έχει θεμέλιο και αιώνια προοπτική.

Μέσα σε αυτό το χαρμόσυνο πασχαλινό κλίμα, τιμούμε και την μνήμη δύο σπουδαίων Αγίων της Εκκλησίας μας: των Αγίων Κωνσταντίνου και Ελένης. Εορτάζονται στις 21 Μαΐου και θεωρούνται από την Εκκλησία «Ισαπόστολοι» λόγω της μεγάλης προσφοράς τους στη διάδοση του Χριστιανισμού. Ο Μέγας Κωνσταντίνος με το Διάταγμα των Μεδιολάνων το 313 μ.Χ. έδωσε ελευθερία στους Χριστιανούς να λατρεύουν τον Θεό χωρίς φόβο, και έτσι εξασφαλίστηκε η ανεξίθρησκια και τερματίστηκαν οι διωγμοί κατά των Χριστιανών. Ίδρυσε τη Νέα Ρώμη – Κωνσταντινούπολη, την οποία αφιέρωσε στον Χριστό και συνέβαλε στην εδραίωση του Χριστιανισμού ως επίσημη θρησκεία της Ρωμαϊκής Αυτοκρατορίας. Ακόμη, συγκάλεσε την Α' Οικουμενική Σύνοδο (325 μ.Χ.) στη Νίκαια της Βιθυνίας, για την αντιμετώπιση αιρέσεων, ιδίως του Αρείου, συνέθεσε τα πρώτα άρθρα του Συμβόλου της Πίστεως (Πιστεύω εις ένα Θεόν...) και εδραίωσε την ενότητα της Εκκλησίας. Η μητέρα του, Αγία Ελένη, ταξίδεψε στους Αγίους Τόπους και βρήκε τον Τίμιο Σταυρό, έχτισε ιερούς ναούς σε όλα τα μέρη που έζησε και θαυματουργήσε ο Χριστός, διέδωσε την πίστη και μερίμνησε για τους φτωχούς και ασθενείς. Η πίστη και το έργο τους συνέβαλαν καθοριστικά στην εδραίωση του Χριστιανισμού και τιμώνται ιδιαίτερα από τους πιστούς.



Αγαπητοί μου Ενορίτες,

Μας αξίωσε ο Θεός, για μια ακόμη φορά στην επίγεια ζωή μας, να εορτάσουμε την Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα και το Πάσχα. Εδώ στην Ενορία μας, πλήθη κόσμου συμμετείχαν στις Ιερές Ακολουθίες και έζησαν μαζί μας το Θείο Δράμα. Όμως, με το τέλος της Μεγάλης Εβδομάδας δεν τελειώνουν και οι «πνευματικές μας υποχρεώσεις» προς την Εκκλησία. Κάθε Κυριακή είναι Πάσχα. Κάθε Κυριακάτικη Θεία Λειτουργία είναι η επανάληψη της υπέρτατης Θυσίας στον Γολγοθά και η αναβίωση της Αναστάσεως του Χριστού. Κάθε φορά που μεταλαμβάνουμε το Αναστημένο Σώμα και Αίμα του Κυρίου μας, βεβαιώνουμε και ομολογούμε την αλήθεια της Αναστάσεως. Μαζί λοιπόν με τις διάφορες κοινωνικές εκδηλώσεις που έχουμε προγραμματίσει, ας έχουμε πάντα προτεραιότητά μας την Κυριακάτικη παρουσία μας στη Θεία Λειτουργία.

Εύχομαι σε όλους εσάς, τους αγαπητούς ενορίτες μας, το φως της Αναστάσεως να φωτίζει την καρδιά, το σπίτι και τη ζωή σας, δια πρεσβειών των Αγίων Κωνσταντίνου και Ελένης των Ισαποστόλων. Με υγεία, ειρήνη, πνευματική προκοπή και χαρά, ας συνεχίσουμε ενωμένοι το ταξίδι μας στον ωκεανό της αγάπης του Θεού.

Χριστός Ανέστη!

+ Δεσπ. Θεοφ. Οικονομίδης

π. Χριστοφόρος Οικονομίδης

Αρχιμανδρίτης του Οικουμενικού Θρόνου, Ιερατικώς Προϊστάμενος

A message from the Parish Council President

Dear Beloved Parishioners,

Χριστός Ανέστη! Christ is risen!

I extend to you and your families, Easter greetings and blessings. Easter is a day where we celebrate the triumph of life over death. The empty tomb is not just a sign of Christ's victory, but an invitation to each of us to embrace renewal and our Orthodox faith.

We also take this opportunity to congratulate our Sunday School and Greek School graduates! Your hard work, commitment and growth in faith have been a blessing! We pray that God will continue to guide you in all your future endeavors.

In addition, we would like to remind everyone that our Parish General Assembly meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 4**. Your presence and participation are important as we reflect on our parish's progress, discuss future plans, and work together to strengthen our community.

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that we will be hosting a Taverna Night on Saturday, May 10th to raise funds for the much needed upgrades to our parish's HVAC system. It promises to be a wonderful evening of fun, music, delicious reek Festival, which will take place from June 2-7. This is a treasured tradition in our community filled with food, music, dance, and fellowship. We invite you all to participate, whether as volunteers, attendees or supporters as we welcome our neighbors and friends.

In Christ's Service,
Georgia Halakos



GOYA
wrapping
Eggs for Pascha
with a little help
from our friends!!
Kalo Pascha!!



O C F
Orthodox Christian Fellowship

On March 13, 2025
Fr Christoforos had dinner
and a discussion with the
Orthodox students of the
University of Delaware.

Saint Christoforos of Lycia the Great Martyr

The Holy Martyr Christoforos lived during the third century and suffered about the year 250, during the reign of the emperor Decius (249-251). There are various accounts of his life and miracles, and he is widely venerated throughout the world. He was a man of great stature and unusual strength. Before Baptism he was named Reprebus because his disfigured appearance. Even before Baptism, Reprebus confessed his faith in Christ and denounced those who persecuted Christians.

Because of his renowned strength, 200 soldiers were assigned to bring him before the emperor Decius. Reprebus submitted without resistance. Several miracles occurred along the way. The soldiers surrounding him were astonished at these miracles. They came to believe in Christ and they were baptized along with Reprebus by Saint Babylus of Antioch (September 4).

Christoforos once made a vow to serve the greatest king in the world, so he first offered to serve the local king. Saint Babylas of Antioch told him that he could best serve Christ by doing well the task for which he was best suited. Therefore, he became a ferryman, carrying people across a river on his shoulders. One stormy night, he carried a Child Who insisted on being taken across at that very moment. With every step he took, the Child seemed to become heavier. Halfway across the stream, he felt that his strength would give out, and that he and the Child would be drowned in the river. As they reached the other side, the Child told him that he had just carried all the sins of the world on his shoulders. Then He ordered Christoforos to plant his walking stick in the ground. As he did so, the stick grew into a giant tree. Then he recognized Christ, the King Whom he had vowed to serve.

Saint Christoforos was brought before the emperor, who tried to make him renounce Christ, not by force but by cunning. He summoned two profligate women, Callinika and Aquilina, and commanded them to persuade Christoforos to deny Christ, and to offer sacrifice to idols. Instead, the women were converted to Christ by him. When they returned to the emperor, they declared themselves to be Christians. Therefore, they were subjected to fierce beatings, and so they received the crown of martyrdom.

Decius also sentenced to execution the soldiers who had been sent after Saint Christoforos, but who now believed in Christ. The emperor ordered that the martyr be thrown into a red-hot metal box. Saint Christoforos, however, did not experience any suffering and he remained unharmed. After many fierce torments they finally beheaded the martyr with a sword. This occurred in the year 250 in Lycia. By his miracles the holy Martyr Christoforos converted as many as 50,000 pagans to Christ, as Saint Ambrose of Milan testifies.

The name Christoforos means "Christ-bearer." This can refer to the saint carrying the Savior across the river, and it may also refer to Saint Christoforos bearing Christ within himself (Galatians 2:20).

(Source: oca.org)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Wilmington, Delaware



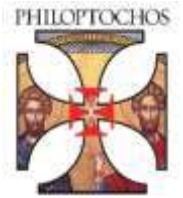
**DIVINE LITURGY
ON THE
FEAST DAY
OF
SAINT
CHRISTOFOROS**

**FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025
ORTHROS 9AM
DIVINE LITURGY 10AM**

A reception will follow



Philoptochos Sisterhood of Holy Trinity St. Agape Chapter



Dearest Father Christoforos, Philoptochos Sisters and Parishioners:

XRISTOS ANESTI ! HE HAS TRULY RISEN !

I pray you had a wonderful Pascha with your families. A heartfelt thank you to all who assisted with many activities during the month of April. We began April by baking tsourekia and koulourakia for our parishioners who are homebound, in addition to the koulourakia needed for our Easter Bake sale.

As is tradition, we assisted with the Palm making on Lazarus Sunday and then prepared the gift bags with tsourekia and koulourakia for our homebound parishioners.

As is tradition, we hosted a well-attended Palm Sunday luncheon. Our thanks go to Demitri Halakos and everyone who assisted in serving the Bakaliaro with the trimmings and to the ladies who provided halva and fruit salad.

As we all know, Proms can be very expensive to attend. Just as we did last year, Philoptochos held a prom clothing drive to help students to attend their proms with the proper attire and was headed up by Jessica Marvel and Johanna Laskaris. They collected 15 gowns, shoes, handbags and jewelry and delivered them to the Conrad School of Science. There were men's suits that were donated and given to the Clothing Bank of Delaware where men could use them that are going for job interviews. The Clothing Bank of Delaware is run by Friendship House. Please keep them in mind if you have clothing donations.

Philoptochos Elections will be held on May 6th at 6:00p.m. We ask all members to attend. Elections will be held in the Philoptochos Room.

Please support our Taverna Night on May 10th. The proceeds will benefit the HVAC System replacement.

Festival baking will be held from May 13-16, 2025. We need all your help to make our Festival a success. A sign-up sheet will be available at the May 6 elections.

The Philoptochos End of Year dinner will be held at the Columbus Inn on May 20, 2025 at 6:00pm. An email will be sent to all members shortly.

Wishing our Father Christoforos
a Happy Name Day on May 9.

Happy Mother's Day to the ladies
in our Parish.

Congratulations to our graduates!

In Christ's Service,
Dena Verikakis



Kollyva for Memorials

The Philoptochos Society will prepare the tray of Kollyva for any family of our community. The cost of \$125 includes the Prosforon, oil and wine. Please allow at least a week and call the church office 654-4446 and Susie will contact the Philoptochos. Your donation of \$125 (less cost), will help Philoptochos Charities.



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ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ



DEADLINE MAY 1st

Dear Holy Trinity family:

We're excited to announce a fantastic holiday excursion open to all our parishioners and their families to see the spectacular show "Noah" at the Sight & Sound Theater at Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Their productions are well-known, and this one is no exception! Tickets are selling fast – as a matter of fact they've already sold out through the summer.

We've secured 100 tickets for the 3:00pm show on December 13, 2025. Given the immense popularity, we need your response by May 1st to reserve your spot. To make this trip even more convenient, we're offering bus transportation. You're welcome to join us on the bus or drive yourself. The ticket price is \$42 for children aged 12 and under and \$75 for all others. Bus transportation will add an additional \$25 per person.

This will be a memorable family friendly trip. We look forward to hearing from you by May 1st and sharing this wonderful experience.

We've attached a link for your enjoyment!

Please contact:

Angie Karakasidis – akarakasidis@yahoo.com or 610-864-4621

Or Dena Verikakis – dverikakis@yahoo.com or 484-433-3896





CONSTANTINE & HELEN, EQUAL-TO-THE APOSTLES / May 21

Apolytikion in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

He beheld the image of Your Cross in the Heavens and, as Paul, he too did not receive the call from men. Your Apostle among Kings placed the care of the Royal City in Your hands. Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O only Loving Lord, keep it ever in peace.

Kontakion in the Third Tone

Today, Constantine with his mother Helen present the Cross, the most precious wood. It shames unbelievers. It is a weapon of faithful kings against their adversaries. A great sign has come forth for us which is awesome in battle.

Reading:

This great and renowned sovereign of the Christians was the son of Constantius Chlorus (the ruler of the westernmost parts of the Roman empire), and of the blessed Helen. He was born in 272, in (according to some authorities) Naissus of Dardania, a city on the Hellespont. In 306, when his father died, he was proclaimed successor to his throne. In 312, on learning that Maxentius and Maximinus had joined forces against him, he marched into Italy, where, while at the head of his troops, he saw in the sky after midday, beneath the sun, a radiant pillar in the form of a cross with the words: "By this shalt thou conquer." The following night, our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to him in a dream and declared to him the power of the Cross and its significance. When he arose in the morning, he immediately ordered that a labarum be made (which is a banner or standard of victory over the enemy) in the form of a cross, and he inscribed on it the Name of Jesus Christ. On the 28th Of October, he attacked and mightily conquered Maxentius, who drowned in the Tiber River while fleeing. The following day, Constantine entered Rome in triumph and was proclaimed Emperor of the West by the Senate, while Licinius, his brother-in-law, ruled in the East. But out of malice, Licinius later persecuted the Christians. Constantine fought him once and again, and utterly destroyed him in 324, and in this manner he became monarch over the West and the East. Under him and because of him all the persecutions against the Church ceased. Christianity triumphed and idolatry was overthrown. In 325 he gathered the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea, which he himself personally addressed. In 324, in the ancient city of Byzantium, he laid the foundations of the new capital of his realm, and solemnly inaugurated it on May 11, 330, naming it after himself, Constantinople. Since the throne of the imperial rule was transferred thither from Rome, it was named New Rome, the inhabitants of its domain were called Romans, and it was considered the continuation of the Roman Empire. Falling ill near Nicomedia, he requested to receive divine Baptism, according to Eusebius (The Life of Constantine. Book IV, 61-62), and also according to Socrates and Sozomen; and when he had been deemed worthy of the Holy Mysteries, he reposed in 337, on May 21 or 22, the day of Pentecost, having lived sixty-five years, of which he ruled for thirty-one years. His remains were transferred to Constantinople and were deposited in the Church of the Holy Apostles, which had been built by him (see Homily XXVI on Second Corinthians by Saint John Chrysostom).

As for his holy mother Helen, after her son had made the Faith of Christ triumphant throughout the Roman Empire, she undertook a journey to Jerusalem and found the Holy Cross on which our Lord was crucified (see Sept. 13 and 14). After this, Saint Helen, in her zeal to glorify Christ, erected churches in Jerusalem at the sites of the Crucifixion and Resurrection, in Bethlehem at the cave where our Saviour was born, another on the Mount of Olives whence He ascended into Heaven, and many others throughout the Holy Land, Cyprus, and elsewhere. She was proclaimed Augusta, her image was stamped upon golden coins, and two cities were named Helenopolis after her in Bithynia and in Palestine. Having been thus glorified for her piety, she departed to the Lord being about eighty years of age, according to some in the year 330, according to others, in 336.

Reading courtesy of Holy Transfiguration Monastery

Apolytikion courtesy of Narthex Press / Kontakion courtesy of Narthex Press

MAY NEWSLETTER

HOPE *and* JOY

CHRISTOS ANESTI! CHRIST IS RISEN!

In April, we celebrated our Greek Heritage at the Greek Independence parade. We also prepared ourselves for the Resurrection of our Lord and celebrated a beautiful and glorious Pascha. This month we focus on learning our Greek dances that we will perform at our Wilmington Greek Festival in June.



JOY & HOPE on the Parade Float



Movie Night at "King of Kings"



All Youth at the Parade

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dance Practice every Friday Afternoon in May!

In addition, there will be dance practice on Wednesday, May 28th

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT TANIA & ANGIE
hopejoyhtw@gmail.com



Holy Trinity Greek School Celebrates Greek Independence Day

On March 30 our Greek School students had their annual Greek Independence Day program. Our parishioner, State Senator Spiros Mantzavinos and State Senator Elizabeth Lockman presented us with a proclamation claiming the State of Delaware recognizes March 25 as Greek Independence Day!!



2025 PHILADELPHIA GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

On April 6, 2025 the Holy Trinity Cathedral Family joined with other Delaware Valley Greek Orthodox faithful and marched in freedom in celebration of Greek Independence Day in Philadelphia!
A little rain did not dampen our spirit as we marched on!!





GREEK SCHOOL

Pre K – 6th grade

Ellinomatheia A1,A2, B1

*Seal of Biliteracy

Adult Classes Beginners & Advanced



Classes are from September through May

Tuition \$550 / year



For more information: please contact

Popi Tsaganos

(302) 598-3561

Kallitsaganos@gmail.com





LOOKING AHEAD...

Every year Holy Trinity recognizes all of its GRADUATES. This includes all High School & College Seniors, and Post Graduate Degree Candidates. All Graduates will be honored and presented with a small gift on behalf of the Holy Trinity Community.

Please submit your graduating students name for recognition, to the Church Office. Please include their name and school they are graduating from along with a short text about future plans, and send it to the church office by **MAY 14**.



Please join us on May 18th
Sunday School Awards & Graduation
(in the Church Proper)
Greek School Graduation
(in the Community Center)



HOLY TRINITY REGISTRY

Baptisms:

Crew John Raisis, son of William & Emily, was baptized in our Church on April 26, 2025 His sponsors were Aliki Raisis & Kiril Cvetkov. We congratulate him and his sponsors and welcome Crew John into the Orthodox faith.

Chrismation's:

Anthony Bacchetta, was Chrismated in our Church on April 2. His sponsor was Sophia Courtis. We congratulate him and his sponsor and welcome Anthony into the Orthodox faith.

Brendon McCloskey, was Chrismated in our Church on April 2. His sponsor was Leonidas Fotakos. We congratulate him and his sponsor and welcome Brendon into the Orthodox faith.

Andrian Kuchera, was Chrismated in our Church on April 12. His sponsor was Nektarios Ludo Wiechecki. We congratulate him and his sponsor and welcome Andrian into the Orthodox faith.

Funerals:

Eftihia Atsidis, beloved wife of Kostas Atsidis, fell asleep in the Lord on April 20. Her funeral was held at Holy Trinity on April 24. She is preceded in death by her parents, George and Maria Vourlos; her brothers, Kyriakos and Konstantinos Vourlos; her sister, Sophia Pittas; and her son-in-law, Nicholas Calliagas. She is survived by her devoted husband of 66 years, Kostas Atsidis; her children, Nick, George, and Katerina; her grandchildren, Dino (Amanda), Zoe, Markella, Lexy, Mihali (Jordan), and Konstantine; and her great-grandchildren, Nikolas and Leonidas. May her memory be eternal.

Memorials:

Anastasios "Tom" Lempesis ~ 12 Years ~ April 6

Nicholas Marinis ~ 40 Days ~ April 6

Sandra Pappas ~ 40 Days ~ April 6

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 DOP Pasta Flora Baking 6pm YAL 7pm GOYA Dance Practice	2 DOP Pasta Flora Baking 5:30pm HOPE JOY Dance Practice	3 DOP Pasta Flora Baking
4 <u>Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy Sunday School SPRING General Assembly	5 8pm GOYA Dance Practice	6 6pm Philoptochos Meeting and Elections 7pm AHEPA Executive Meeting	7 12pm Bible Study 5:30pm Greek School 6:30pm Parish Council Meeting	8 12pm Young @ Heart Gathering at Vita Nova & Elections 7pm GOYA Dance Practice	9 <u>St Christopher the Martyr of Lycea</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy (Fr. Christoforos' Name Day) 5:30pm HOPE JOY Dance Practice	10 8pm Holy Trinity Taverna Night
11 <u>Sunday of the Paralytic</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy Sunday School Happy Mother's Day	12 12pm Serving at Emmanuel Dining Room	13 7pm AHEPA Meeting	14 9am Philoptochos Festival Baking 12pm Bible Study 5:30pm Greek School	15 9am Philoptochos Festival Baking 5pm Wedding Rehearsal 7pm GOYA Dance Practice	16 9am Philoptochos Festival Baking 5:30pm HOPE JOY Dance Practice	17 1pm Wedding 4pm Wedding Rehearsal 5pm Odyssey Hall Rental
18 <u>Sunday of the Samaritan Woman</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy Sunday School/ Greek School Graduate Recognition 2:30pm Wedding 5:30pm HUC Business Dinner	19 8pm GOYA Dance Practice	20 6pm Philoptochos End of Year Dinner	21 <u>Sts Constantine & Helen</u> 9:00am Orthros/Divine Liturgy 12pm Bible Study 5:30pm Greek School (LAST DAY)	22 FESTIVAL TENTS GO UP 7pm GOYA Dance Practice	23 FESTIVAL TENTS GO UP 5:30pm HOPE JOY Dance Practice	24 FESTIVAL SET UP
25 <u>Sunday of the Blind Man</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy	26 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	27 6pm DOP Meeting 7pm DVYC Meeting @ St Luke, Broomall, PA	28 5:30pm HOPE JOY Dance Practice	29 <u>Holy Ascension</u> 9:00am Orthros/ Divine Liturgy 7pm GOYA Dance Practice	30 12pm Philoptochos Serving at Emmanuel Dining Room 5:30pm HOPE JOY Dance Practice 7pm GOYA Dance Practice	31

Holy Trinity's YAL Young Adult League May 2025

Xristos Anesti!! It was a beautiful Lenten season with our community! Thank you to the volunteers that helped carry the Epitaphios during the procession on Good Friday!

In April, YAL gathered for another movie night to watch The Passion of Christ and discuss important details with Fr. Christoforos. It was a wonderful experience together and strengthened our faith under the guidance of Fr. Christoforos! Thank you to all who attended during Lent!

We do not have any YAL specific events scheduled for May and June but there are upcoming community events!

MAY 10th - Taverna Night YAL volunteers needed!

Markella Calliagas, Anna Fournaris, and Michael Karas are preparing the food for the community event. If you are available to volunteer, we need help with food prep during the week and food service night of the event.

June 2nd - 7th Greek Festival

We need volunteers for the coffee booth at the Greek Festival.

No experience necessary!

If you are interested in volunteering at another booth, please reach out to Anna and she will direct you to the appropriate booth chair.

*YAL is a group for all young adults 18 - 35 years old. Married, engaged, single, all are welcome! If you would like to be added to the email list or have any questions, please email Anna Fournaris
fournaris10@gmail.com



GOYA Newsletter

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ!!!

Recent Events

- Our GOYA had a very busy Holy Week, wrapping eggs, attending service, and hosting the JOY/HOPE egg hunt!
- Our GOYA danced at the Philadelphia Greek Independence Day Parade on April 6th



Reminders

GOYA Dance Practice every
Thursday 7-8:30
Attend Church every Sunday
Check Emails for updates!



Upcoming Events

- We will be dancing all week at our Festival
- Our Boys JV Team is playing in the St. Demetrious Basketball Tournament in Baltimore on Apr. 26-27
- End of the year Top Golf
Date:TBD
- Final Meeting & Elections
Sunday June 1 after liturgy



Metropolis of NJ Delaware Valley 2025 Sights and Sounds Youth Festival!

GROUP EVENTS

Holy Trinity Cathedral GOYA Greek Play 1st Place
Holy Trinity Cathedral GOYA Group Song 2nd Place
Holy Trinity Cathedral GOYA Choral Speaking 2nd Place
Holy Trinity Cathedral GOYA Group Dance 2nd Place
Holy Trinity Cathedral GOYA Group Instrument 2nd Place

SOUND EVENTS

Beginner Percussion Solo Eleni Marcantonis 1st Place
Dance Duet Christina & Eleni Marcantonis 3rd Place
Instrumental Duet Eleni & Katerina Marcantonis 2nd Place
Intermediate Woodwind Katerina Marcantonis 1st Place
Monologue Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 2nd Place
Monologue Sr. Eleni Marcantonis 1st Place
Oral Interpretation Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 2nd Place
Oral Interpretation Jr. Yianni Karakasidis 3rd Place
Oral Interpretation Sr. Eleni Marcantonis 1st Place
Oral Interpretation Sr. Ludo Wiechecki 2nd Place
Oral Interpretation Sr. Alex Hall 3rd Place
Vocal Duet Eleni & Katerina Marcantonis 1st Place
Vocal Solo Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 3rd Place
Vocal Solo Sr. Eleni Marcantonis 1st Place

SIGHT EVENTS

Acrylic Sr. Maria Karakasidis 3rd Place
Block Printing Jr. Ellen Kirifides 3rd Place
B&W Photography Jr. Frank Wolcott 2nd Place
B&W Photography Sr. Joe Wolcott 2nd Place
Cake Decorating Sr. Maria Karakasidis 1st Place
Cake Decorating Jr. Isidora Kranidiotis 1st Place
Cake Decorating Jr. Ellen Kirifides 2nd Place
Cartoon Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 1st Place
Ceramic Sculpture Sr. Vasili Dargakis 3rd Place
Charcoal Sr. Theodora Karas 2nd Place
Color Photography Sr. Theodora Karas 2nd Place
D. I. Photography Jr. Christina Marcantonis 3rd Place
Essay Jr. Christina Marcantonis 1st Place
Essay Jr. Ellen Kirifides 2nd Place (TIE!)
Essay Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 2nd Place (TIE!)
Essay Sr. Eleni Marcantonis 1st Place
Essay Sr. Joe Wolcott 2nd Place
Iconography Jr. Christina Marcantonis 3rd Place
Iconography Sr. Markella Coates 1st Place
Iconography Sr. Theodora Karas 2nd Place
Iconography Sr. Anastasia Thomas 3rd Place
Marker Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 2nd Place
Metal Sculpture Jr. Yianni Karakasidis 1st Place
Mixed Media Jr. Christina Marcantonis 1st Place
Mosaic Sr. Eleni Marcantonis 2nd Place
Mosaic Sr. Alex Hall 3rd Place
Pen & Ink Sr. Anna Psihalinos 3rd Place
Pencil Jr. Katerina Marcantonis 2nd Place
Pencil Sr. Anna Psihalinos 2nd Place
Wood Sculpture Jr. Yianni Karakasidis 2nd Place





HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Wilmington, DE

TAVERNA *Night*

SATURDAY, MAY 10TH, 2025



ALL PROCEEDS
TO BENEFIT NEW
HVAC INSTALLATION

Great food,
entertainment,
dancel
CASH BAR

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM
PROGRAM STARTS AT 7PM
\$60 ADULTS
\$40 KIDS 12 AND UNDER

LIVE MUSIC BY:



SERGIANI GREEK MUSIC BAND

For reservations, contact
Anna Fournaris at
fournaris10@gmail.com or the
church office at 302-654-4446
greekorth@holytrinitywilmington.org



**GET
YOUR
TICKETS
NOW!!!**

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Greek School
Wilmington, Delaware



***Fendi Fendigraphy
Mini Tote Bag***
Value: \$2150

Drawing on May 10th at the
Taverna Night to benefit new HVAC

**\$20 DONATION
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

**See anyone
from
Greek School**





What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is believing in Church and wanting to support and keep her mission alive by donating your time, talents and financial support. Stewardship is a simple, equitable, and Christian way by which each parishioner (individual or family) determines their contributions for the support of the Church, proportionate to their abilities.

- A parishioner is an individual 18 years of age or older, or a family
- We currently have 400 families as stewards, but the actual number of families and potential parishioners is much higher
- If all our stewards gave \$40 per week, our operational needs would be met
- We should not financially rely on "rain or shine" Greek Festival
- Based on our 2025 Budget, we need the amount of \$2,000 a day to operate and keep our doors open.



We will give parishioners the opportunity to "Sponsor a Day" @ \$2,000 per day. Anyone who sponsors one or more days will be listed in the bulletin as a Cathedral Day Sponsor. All other stewards will be listed as Cathedral Stewards.

Please commit to helping us continue the mission of our Orthodox Church and Community, as we have been doing for 90 years now!

Your needed stewardship/donation can be made as follows:

- In person: at the parish office
- Mailed to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 808 N. Broom St. Wilmington, DE. 19806
- Online: <https://holytrinitywilmington.org>



*For any question or more information please call the church office at: (302) 654-4446
or email us: office@holytrinitywilmington.org*

2025 Financial Stewards of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

Al-Annouf, Nabil & Rabia Batah	Gerakios, Sakelaris & Spiridoula	Kostas, Lynn	Riga, Jason & Ekaterini
Alexopoulos, Demetri & Lauren	Gianelos, James & Stacie	Kostas, Nicholas & Stephani	Righos, Elaine
Alexopoulos, John	Giannakakis, Vivian	Kostos, Yianni	Roustopoulos, Alexia
Almasou, Elias & Rasha	Graham, Catherine	Kotanidis, Roula	Roustopoulos, Theodoros & Natalie
Anagnostou, Anamaria	Grigorakakis, Maria	Kramedas, Matoula	Saitis, Mary
Anagnostou, Anthoula	Guajardo, Evangelina	Kyranakis, John	Savopoulos, Despina
Andrianopoulos, Faith	Guardascione, Louis & Shelly	Laletas, Earnest & Barbara Brockett	Schillinger, Robert & Karen
Angeletakis, Christos & Christina	Halakos, Garifalia	Laskaris, Johanna	Shahwan, Sofy
Asimos SR, George	Haldas, George & Beth	Lawson, Michael & Victoria	Spence, Jason & Sunday
Asimos, George & Kristie	Haldas, Harry	Lazare, John & Sandra	Staab, Kristina
Athanasiadis, Fotios & Asmik	Haldas, Thomas	Liarakos, George & Ann	Stevens, Richard & Penny
Atsidis, Kostas & Eftihia+	Haldas-Long, Irene	Logullo, Desponia & Francis	Stout, Robert & Voula
Bacchieri, Stacey	Hall, George & Michelle	Manoloudis, Michael & Kandi	Tarabicos, Christina
Calliagas, Katherine	Handzandreou, Lambrini	Mantzavinos, Spiros & Megan	Tarabicos, John & Joanne
Calliagas, Markella	Heggan, Brandon & Maria	Maravelias, James & Diane	Tarabicos, Sophia
Chambers, George & Katherine	Heliotis, Alexandra	Marcantonis, George & Agnoulia	Tawfik, Emad & Soultana
Charalambides, Dino & Nia	Hionis, Sophia	Marini, Irene	Theodorakos, Nicholas & Katherine
Chilimidos, Effie	Hinte, Jr., Forrest	Marinis, Kalliope	Thomas, Richard & Angela
Chollis, Drew	Humphrey, Caroline	Markatos, Harry & Susan	Tiniakos, Gregory & Elaine
Christoforatos, Demetri & Dimitra	Issaris, Katherine	Marvel, Jessica	Tsaganos, Nicholas & Joanna
Christou, Alecca	Joris, Irene	McCloskey, Brian & Anna	Tsaganos, Robert & Popi
Christou, Christos & Evie	Joseck, Anastasia	Mitoulis, Nikolaos & Stella	Tsakataras, George
Coates, George & Evie	Joseck, John & Taylor	Moriello, Carissa & Nicholas	Tsakumis, George & Julia
Coulaloglou, Michelle	Joseck, Xanthi & Fred	Nannas, Theodore & Alexandra	Tsakumis, Theodore
Courtis, Harry & Sophia	Kaliakin, Victor & Elizabeth	Napoli, Frances	Tsigkakos, Dimos & Ioanna
Coustenis, Katherine	Kamenakis, Peter & Juli	Nicholas, Steve	Tsionas, Angela
Dalianis, John & Vicky	Kanas, Emmanuel & Valerie	Novakis, Louis	Tsoukalas, Frederiki
Demetriou, Anna	Karablas, Stelios	Ohlemacher, Evangline	Tsoukalas, Niki
Diamanty, Thomas	Karahalias, Stratton	Pacienza, Stephanie	Tsugranes, George & Penny
Diamond, Anthony & Lauren	Karakasidis, Demetri & Eleni	Pandelakis, Denis & Anna	Turley, Steve & Akiko
Diamond, Soula	Karakasidis, John & Vickie	Pantelopulos, Anthony & Daphne	Vassiliou, Kleoniki
Diamond, Thomas	Karakasidis, Stephanos & Evaggelia	Papanicholas, Maria	Velitskakis, Steve & Karen
Dickey, Irene	Karaoglanis, Eleftherios & Niki	Papettas, Vasilis & Christina	Verikakis, Dena
Doukakis, Helen	Karapanagiotis, Athanasios	Pappas, Elizabeth	Verikakis, Evangelos & Shannon
Drimones, Clara	Karas, Theodore & Pamela	Pappoulis, Demetra	Vice, Elaine
Drimones, Nicholas	Karvounis, Nikolaos & Amanda	Pettaris, George & Stavroula	Visvardis, Socrates & Ruth
Ferentinos, Joan	Kayiaros, Joanna	Phalangas, Charalambos & Mary	Vlastaridis, Theodoros & Sofia
Fessarar, Costas & Anna	Kirifides, Eleni	Piccirilli, Melissa & Joe	Wiechecki, Frank & Kelly
Floropoulos, Yiannis	Kirifides, Lazarus V	Pierson, Vetta & Charles	Wilkinson, Suzanne
Fotakis, Greg & Angeliki	Klezaras, Michael & Kathy	Pispitsos, Pantelis	Xarhoulakos, Peter
Fotakis, Leonidas & Sophia	Klezaras, Nikoleta	Pittaoulis, Steve	Zaloga, Paul & Joann
Fountzoulas, Costas & Audrey	Kollias, Georgia	Poulos, Vasilios & Eulampia	Zerefos, Demetri & Constantina
Fournaris, Constantine & Kristen	Koninis II, John	Psaltis, Nikolaos	Zerefos, John
Fournaris, George & Soula	Koninis, John & Anastasia	Psihalinos, Thomas & Magdalini	Zerefos, Markos & Eugenia
Galanis, Agnes	Kontis, Gus & Cindy	Raisis, Irene	Ziccarelli, Louis & Catherine
Gatos, Paula	Kontis, Maria	Raisis, Pauline	
George, Mary	Kontodemos, Klianthis & Anthi	Raisis, Spiros	
Gerakios, Michael	Kontomaris, Kostas & Melissa	Raisis, William & Emily	
Gerakios, Nikoleta	Kostas, John & Gale	Rassias, George & Amalea	

**As of 4/25/2025
(219 families)**

2025 Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral SPONSORS OF ONE DAY OR MORE

Caras, Constantine & Maria
Colborn, Brian & Nicole
Constantinou, John & Carol
Demourtzidis, Nichoals & Daphne
Faller, James & Catherine
Fournaris, Emmanuel & Evanthea
Galaris, Rick & Diana
Gray, David & Eugenia
Grivas, Christopher & Michele
Halakos, Angelos & Donna
Halakos, Demetris & Georgja
Halakos, Ioannis & Effie

Kayiaros, Stephen
Kirifides, Alexander & Kathy
Kirifides, Lazarus M & Helen
Kirifides, Michael & Kerry
Kirifides, Vasil & Eleftheria
Matulas, Anagnostis & Angela
Michell, Constantine & Elaine
Mistras, Antonis & Soula
Moutsatsos, George & Alexia
Psaltis, Tom & Cindy
Raisis, Leonidas & Irene
Rassias, Dion & Gina

Souleles, Nicholas & Alexis
Wolcott, Josiah & Paraskevi

*Give, and it will be given to you: good measure,
pressed down, shaken together, and running over will
be put into your bosom. For with the same measure
that you use, it will be measured back to you.”*
L uke 6:38

We thank you for your continued support of our parish and its ministries.

If you have not yet given towards your
2025 Stewardship
 you can do so at any time.

There are several ways you can give...

You can:

- 1) Bring cash or check and put it in the offering tray as it is passed in church.
- 2) Send a check in the mail or stop by the office any time during the week (M - F 9a-4p)
- 3) Give on line via our website (www.holytrintywilmington.org - hit the donate button and follow the prompts)
- 4) Use the QR Code below and it will take you directly to the website donation page.

We thank you for your generous offerings and remind you that...

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”
2 Corinthians 9:7



SHARING

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Your stewardship number:_____

Your 2024 pledge was:_____

☐ Please increase my pledge by 10% to:_____

☐ Please increase my pledge by 20% to:_____

☐ My 2025 commitment is:_____

☐ \$750.00 (\$62month or \$15/week)

☐ \$1,000.00 (\$84month or \$20/week)

☐ \$1,500.00 (\$125month or \$29/week)

☐ \$5,000.00 (\$415/month or \$96/week)

☐ \$2,000.00 (Sponsors a Day of Operations)

☐ ___# of Days (Sponsor Multiple Days)

(above figures are rounded)

I/We understand that by completing this good faith estimate, and by pledging my/our Time, Service and Sharing section of this Stewardship Card, I/We are committing ourselves to being faithful stewards of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral for 2025.

Signature_____Date_____

Proportionate Sharing

Our operating budget for 2025 will be \$733,000.

We offer you this giving guide to assist you in determining your 2025 pledge. Please use the enclosed envelopes and give according to what God has blessed you.

PLEASE RETURN SIGNED CARD TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

Weekly Giving

Annual Income	2%	5%	10% Biblical
\$15,000	\$6	\$14	\$28
\$25,000	\$10	\$24	\$48
\$35,000	\$13	\$34	\$68
\$45,000	\$17	\$43	\$86
\$65,000	\$25	\$64	\$128
\$100,000	\$38	\$96	\$192

FESTIVAL 2025

Our Festival is right around the corner and, as always, we need your help to pull off this monumental task! Please call your booth chair today and volunteer your time, talent and treasure to your booth and to our parish!

GREEK FESTIVAL—Monday, June 2 - Saturday, June 7

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR FINAL PREP & SET UP!

CALL THE OFFICE FOR TIMES 302.654.4446

Please come and HELP!! ~~ NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

WE WILL TRAIN YOU!!! ~~ Bring a friend!

Work Station	Booth Chairs	Telephone
Church Tours	Fr. Christoforos Oikonomidis	(302)654-4446
~~~~~		
Inside Dining Room		
	Peter Xarhoulakos	(302) 562-5151
	Tom Psaltis	(302) 981-9352
~~~~~		
Outdoor Take-out booth		
	Demitris, Yanni, & Evangelos Halakos	
	(302) 379-1833	
~~~~~		
Gyro booth		
	George Rassias	(610) 322-3200
	Demetri Karakasidis	(302) 898-6049
~~~~~		
Souvlaki booth		
	John Kostas	(302) 764-7278
	Emanuel Fournaris	(302) 475-5035
	George Fournaris	(302) 426-9195
~~~~~		
Calamari/FF/ Spanakopita booth	Chris Sarmousakis	(302) 427-2362
~~~~~		
Loukoumades	Anamaria & Anthoula Anagnostou	(302) 998-9284
~~~~~		
Pastries - Hall balcony		
	Ladies of Philoptochos	(302) 654-4446
~~~~~		
Pastries - outdoor booth		
	Marika Sarmousakis	(302) 656-2206
~~~~~		
Bars		
	Louis Novakis	(610) 358-3544
	Mike Kirifides	(302) 897-9429
~~~~~		
Money room		
	Steven Karakasidis	(302) 383-0476
	Tom Karas	(302) 438-7121
~~~~~		
Soda booth	GOYA	(302) 654-4446
~~~~~		
Kitchen	Demitris Halakos	(302) 379-1833
~~~~~		

**PLEASE OFFER YOUR HELP!!  
WE NEED YOU!!!  
OR CALL the Office 654-4446**





Nektarios Ludovic Wiechecki  
went on to the District Level  
and then onto the Metropolis Level on April 26.  
Congratulations Nektarios!!  
We are very proud of you!!



**While every church building is different, there are specific guidelines and practices that describe how and why they are built the way they are. Research them, and then explain their theological significance.**

Reverend Father(s), honorable judges, fellow speakers, families and friends, good morning.

It was a windy January morning when I first entered the narthex at age 14. Brilliant mosaics consumed me, shimmering with candlelight. I awkwardly wandered into the church's main room, feeling my way through an environment that, though new to me, seemed a relic from antiquity. I spotted four grand pillars ascending to a dome upon which the very heavens seemed to bend, the Pantokratora descending from his heavenly throne to me. Ahead, I noticed the marble iconostasis upon which numerous saints stood as welcoming guards. An icon of a bearded, dreadlocked man pointed me to the central aspect of the temple: the Holy Altar. An overwhelming, exotic scene, yet I found myself oddly comforted by ascending into this great gilded house.

The church is an age-old mountain. It has its origins at the very beginning of time. Out of chaos and nothingness, God formed the cosmos. Upon this world, he founded a great mountain: Eden, and a garden at its peak where “he put [Adam] whom he had formed” (Gen. 2.8). Genesis likewise states that “the Lord God walk[ed] in the garden” (3.8). This peak acted as a meeting place wherein both God and Man dwelt. These upward-marching zones—chaos, cosmos, mountain, and sanctuary—appear consistently in scripture.

Like Eden, Mount Sinai’s peak became a place of man’s ascension and God’s condescension. Exodus chapter 3 reveals that, in a bush “burn[ing] with fire, and... not consumed,” Moses met his creator, the Lord God. Exodus characterizes this place as sanctified, God commanding Moses to remove his shoes “for the place whereon [he stands] is holy ground” (Exodus 3.5). Later, Moses constructed a tabernacle, the instructions for which he received on Mount Sinai. This tabernacle, and the later temple of Solomon, involve zones similar to those in Eden and Sinai: A courtyard acting as a transition point and a central tent containing the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. The Holy Place acts similarly to Sinai and Eden, a mountain to heaven. The Holy of Holies, on the other hand, is the most sacred space in the Tabernacle and Temple, acting similarly to the Garden and the peak of Sinai.

Today’s churches continue this mountainous tradition and synthesize the elements of these meeting places. The outside world appears as the nothingness in the age of Eden, the wilderness in the time of Moses, the city in Zion, and the “parking lot” in the modern church. The Holy Place is Eden, Sinai, the Holy Place in the tabernacle and temple, and the nave in today’s churches. The sanctuary began as the garden, developed into the peak of Sinai, became the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle and temple, and now is simply called the sanctuary, where the holy altar resides. Orthodox churches follow a few general principles. The building as a whole often holds a cross shape, signifying the set-apart nature of the structure. The narthex begins the church, acting as a bridge from the chaotic outside.

The journey through the church continues into the nave: the main area of the church wherein the people reside. The word nave identifies this area as the center of the building, yet its connection to the Latin term “navis,” meaning ship, seems almost purposeful. The nave has a boat-like structure, a place of safety from the world’s turbulent waters like the ark of Noah. The dome, and its swirling ranks of angels and saints flanking the central figure of Christ, brings the distant heavens to us. The heavens bend over us as we stand in awe, and Christ himself condescends, appearing to each of us. The pillars represent the four evangelists depicted above them, likewise pillars of the gospel.

The “highest” zone in the mountain-like church, and its focal point, is the sanctuary. Like the garden, the peak of Sinai, and the Holy of Holies, the sanctuary is the ultimate meeting point between God and Man. It is the tip of the mountain that has existed from the beginning of time.

All of these motifs and zones in church architecture have a foundation in antiquity and signify the timeless theology of our Church. Entering the church mindfully, we can all experience the exotic comfort I felt in my ascent, communing with an order that was founded by God himself at the beginning of time.

**Thank you**





During the Lenten Season many services are offered leading up to and during Holy Week.

These pictures reflect some of those services.

We thank the Altar Guild for the beautiful work they did in decorating the Icon Wreaths during the Lenten Season, but especially during Holy Week!







## SATURDAY of LAZARUS

Holy Trinity prepares for Palm Sunday after the Saturday of Lazarus Service! We shared a Lenten Breakfast and folded palms to be distributed on Palm Sunday.

**A BIG THANK YOU**  
to everyone who came to help!





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# Holy Friday Youth Retreat

A moving Retreat and Apokathelosis Service with our Youth spending the day with His Eminence Metropolitan Apostolos.









# Holy Friday Services

Fr. Christoforos takes us through the death and burial of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Beautiful sacred services that remind us of what our God went through to save us!





We thank our Myrofores and Altar Boys faithfully and happily serving our community! They are our future!  
We also thank our faithful Chanters for their service to our community.





# Χριστός Ανέστη ~ Αληθώς Ανέστη!!!





Sunday, April 20  
**Agape Vesper  
Service**

The Celebration  
of our  
Risen Lord  
Jesus Christ!!

Christos Anesti!!  
Alithos Anesti!!





# ALTAR GUILD

Christos Anesti to all of our parishioners and what a glorious season of Lent it was and the Great and Holy Easter. The Altar Guild members once again thank everyone who donated during this time. Decorating the Icons, Palm Sunday and ending with the resurrection of our Lord on Easter.

These are the Altar Guild members who dedicated their time to make all of this happen. They are as follows:

Evie Fournaris, Diana Galaris, Sophia Hionis, Steve Nicholas, Stacy Koninis,  
Dimitra Pappoulis, Lauren Diamond and Joanne Tarabicos.

Our next celebrations are on:

May 29, the Holy Ascension,  
June 8, Holy Pentecost,  
June 9, Monday of the Holy Spirit (our Church's Name Day)  
August 6, Transfiguration of Jesus Christ  
August 15, Dormition of the Theotokos.

Donations are being accepted for these events.

Please use the form below.

Joanne Tarabicos and Evie Fournaris

As always, the Altar Guild is here to serve our parishioners.

Please use the form below if you have any requests for the coming year.

Cost is \$ 60.00 for an Icon, \$60.00 for two small arrangements and \$125.00 for two Large arrangements.

**Please feel free to contact Joanne Tarabicos at 302-239-4950 or Evie Fournaris at 302-475-5035 or use the form below.**

-----  
Name_____

Dedication_____

_____

_____

RESERVED DATE: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

MAY WE PRINT IT IN THE BULLETIN: YES_____ NO_____

Enclosed \$_____

Make checks payable to "Holy Trinity Altar Guild".

Mail to: Stacy Koninis, 2602 Brightwell Drive, Wilmington, DE. 19810

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# FESTIVAL DANCE PRACTICE

Join our dance group in preparation for the Festival June 2-7. ALL ARE WELCOME!  
Reach out to Agnoulia with questions 215-906-4886



Thursday April 24 7-8:30

Thursday May 1 7-8:30

Monday May 5 8-9:00

Thursday May 8 7-8:30

Thursday May 15 7-8:30

Monday May 19 8-9:00

Thursday May 22 7-8:30

Thursday May 29 7-8:30



**MAY 8, 2025**

## **Young @ Heart Elections**

**We will meet at the church at  
11am to have our elections:**

### **For President:**

**Christos Papachrysanthou**

**Dimitra Pappoulis**

**Peter Xarhoulakos**

### **Vice President:**

**Joanne Tsaganos**

### **For Treasurer:**

**Sophia Tarabicos**

Once we have had  
our elections we  
will go over to the  
Vita nova Restaurant @  
The University of Delaware  
to enjoy our lunch together!  
\$20 cost per person



**Young  
@  
Heart**



**Young  
@  
Heart**

The Young @ Heart  
will meet on Thursday, May 8  
at the Church for elections! 11am  
Then we will go to  
Vita Nova (University of DE)  
for lunch. 11:30am  
We hope you can join us!

**After this meeting we will take a break over the  
summer. We hope to see many of you at the  
Greek Festival June 2-7 to help in any way you can!**

## *Holy Trinity Food Pantry*

***“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no compassion for him, how can the love of God be in him?”***

*1 John 3:17*



*Our Lenten season saw over 30 bags of groceries delivered to our local food pantry. Your support helped to assist in providing meals to over 3000 men, women and children in our Wilmington community.*

*Please pick up a grocery list in the hall on your way to coffee hour! One food item is all you need to remember each week!*

*God bless you and thank you for your generous donations!*

*Evie Fournaris, Tina Ganiaris, Johanna Laskaris, John Lazare, Sandy Nannas, Steve Nicholas and Nikki Tsakataras*

### **April 12th at the Emmanuel Dining Room East**

The **Ganiaris family** sponsored the meal once again in April, given in loving memory of **Fr. Stamatios** and **Pres. Joan Ganiaris**. Through this charity, 130 men, women and children enjoyed a nice warm meal. **Anna Demetriou** will sponsor the meal in May, given in loving memory of her husband, **Spyros**, and for the good health of her family. All are welcome to help serve the dining room that day or at any time!

*We sincerely thank all the individuals, families and organizations who generously support this dining room!*

**PLEASE NOTE...** The 3rd and Walnut St. dining room is temporarily closed. All meals are now being served at the 2nd and Jackson St. dining room until future notice

Various groups and individuals from our church donate the food to sponsor the luncheon meal at the 3rd and Walnut St location on the 12th of every month.

*If you, your family or organization would like to provide a meal, contact **Nikkie Tsakataras** at 302-655-2252 or **Tina Ganiaris** at 302-367-6758 for more information.*

**Happy Mother's Day!**



# *Serving in May*

## Coffee Hours:

May 4~ Daughters of Penelope

May 11 ~ Philoptochos Palm Sunday Luncheon

May 18 ~ Greek School Graduation

May 18 ~ **NO COFFEE HOUR (Memorial Day)**



## Narthex Duty:

May 4 ~ Group 2

May 11 ~ Group 1

May 18 ~ Group 2

May 27 ~ Group 1



## Prosforon Offeror's



We are looking to update our Prosfora Offeror List.  
If you would like to become a regular Prosfora Offeror, please contact the church office to be added to our list. You can offer prosfora for any service by bringing it in before the service starts. If you do not bake but would like to donate towards the purchase of prosfora that we presently buy from the Holy Protection Monastery, please send \$8 for each prosfora you would like to donate.  
(mark the memo on your check accordingly)

## ACOLYTES

+Tonsured ~ *Reader

All readers are also tonsured



Maximos Charalambides

Vasilios Dargakis

Joseph Demourtzidis

Sebastian Dietrich

Johnny Dietrich

+Ioannis Gerakios

Alexander Hall

+Angelo Hall

+Demetri Karakasidis

+Ioannis Karakasidis

*+Alexandros Lurz

Demetri Moutsatsos

Demetri Psaltis

Nicholas Psaltis

George Psihalinos

Gerasimos Psihalinos

+ Jerry Rassias

Nicholas Rassias

Stamati Roussos

+Demetri Thomas

Savvas Thymakis

Alex Tsakumis

*+Nicholas Turley

+Paraskevas Verikakis

*+NektariosWiechecki

+Fotios Wolcott

+Jack Wolcott

+Josiah Wolcott

## ALTAR ASSISTANTS

Alexandros Matthews ~~~ Josiah Wolcott ~~~ Markos Zerefos





# HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

ΙΕΡΟΣ ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΑΓΙΑΣ ΤΡΙΑΔΟΣ



+ V. Rev. Archimandrite  
Christoforos Oikonomidis

February 11, 2025

Dear beloved Holy Trinity Cathedral family,

We reach out seeking your support for a major maintenance and repair issue. The air conditioning unit for the Community Center is nearly 50 years old. Thanks to diligent monitoring and maintenance, the unit has far exceeded its expected lifespan, but the time has come to replace the unit. The new unit must be in place by June in time for our Festival.

The Parish Council has approved a plan after exploring many alternatives, engaging numerous contractors, and considering various proposals. The new system(s) will include two units on the roof of the Community Center to provide air conditioning for the Hall, only, and 3 smaller units on the roof above the classrooms to provide air conditioning and heat for the classrooms only. The total cost from the accepted proposal including, among other things, the new units and structural support for the roof will be approximately \$250,000.

We humbly request that each family (365 total pledging units in the Parish) consider donating **at least \$500** towards this project in addition to your annual pledge. We are aware that some cannot afford this amount, and others can afford much more. Therefore, we ask each family to give what they are able, as any amount is welcome and appreciated. We are counting on your generosity and love to assist us in reaching our \$250,000.00 goal.

*The new units have been ordered and are expected to arrive mid-April. Therefore, we kindly ask that you make your loving donation by May 1st, 2025.* You may send your donation by mail to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 808 N. Broom Street, Wilmington, DE. 19806 or for an online donation visit our website: [www.holytrinitywilmington.org](http://www.holytrinitywilmington.org). For further information call the Church office at (302) 654-4446.

We sincerely thank you in advance for your love and support, and we pray that the Grace of the Holy Trinity be upon you always!

+ Archim. Christoforos Oikonomidis  
Parish Priest

Georgia Halakos  
Parish Council President



**We would like to thank the following parishioners who have  
donated \$500 or more to defray the cost of the new  
HVAC System  
for the Community Center and Classrooms...**

Adamopoulos, Christos & Nancy  
Altar Guild  
Annos, William  
Artemiadis, Panagiotis & Spyridoula  
Arvanitis, Lisa & Argyrios  
Asimos Sr., George  
Asimos, George & Kristi  
Caras, Constantine & Maria  
Chambers, George & Kathy  
Ciabattoni, Olga  
Colborn, Brian & Nicole  
Constantinou, John & Carol  
Coulaloglou, Michele  
Demetriou, Anna  
Diamond, Anthony & Lauren  
Diamond, Thomas  
Dini, C & Oana  
Dougher, John & Christina  
Doukakis, Helen  
Drimones, Nicholas & Clara  
Economou, George & Elena  
Faller, Jim & Katherine  
Floropoulos, Yianni  
Fotakis, Greg & Angeliki  
Fournaris, Anna  
Fournaris, Constantine & Kristen  
Fournaris, Manny & Evie  
Galaris, Rick & Diane  
Gatos, Paula  
George, Mary  
Gianelos, James & Stacey  
Gray, Eugenia & David  
Halakos, Demetris & Georgia

Halakos, Yianni & Effie  
Halakos, Angelos & Donna  
Hall, George & Michelle  
Hellenic University Club  
Iliadis, Dimitri & Tina  
Joseck, Fred & Xanthi  
Kaliakin, Victor & Leeza  
Kanteliotis, Steve & Olga  
Karakasidis, John & Vickie  
Karakasidis, Steve & Angie  
Karass, Theodore & Pam  
Kayiaros, Joanna  
Kirifides, Alex & Kathy  
Kirifides, Lazarus & Helen  
Kirifides, Michael & Kerry  
Kirifides, Vasil & Rita  
Klezaras, Michael & Kathy  
Kolovos, Demetri & Effie  
Koninis, John & Anastasia  
Laletas, Ernest & Barbara  
Lawson, Michael & Vickie  
Lazare, John & Sandra  
Lomis, Toulia  
Maravelias, Jim & Diane  
Marini, Irene  
Markatos, Harry & Susan  
Marvel, Jessica  
Matulas, Anagnostis & Angela  
Melissourgos, Xenofon & Aikaterini  
Michell, Theodore & Catherine  
Mistras, Antonis & Soula  
Moutsatsos, George & Alexia  
Nannas, Ted & Sandy

Papachrysanthou, Christos & Popi  
Pennia, John & Stacey  
Philoptochos Society  
Psaltis, John  
Psaltis, Tom & Cindy  
Raisis, Leo & Irene  
Rassias, Dion & Gina  
Rassias, George & Amalea  
Souleles, Nicholas & Alexis  
Stout, Robert & Voula  
Tarabicos, John & Joanne  
Tawfik, Emad & Soultana  
Tsaganos, Anthony & Joanne  
Tsaganos, Nichloas & Joanne  
Tsaganos, Robert & Popi  
Tsakumis, George & Julie  
Tsionas, Anna  
Turley, Steve & Akiko  
Vande Poele, David & Anna  
Verikakis & Family, Dena  
Visvardis, Socrates & Ruth  
Wolcott, Joe & Para  
Zerefos, Demetri & Tina

**We would like to thank the following parishioners who have made a  
donation to help defray the cost of the new HVAC System...**

Anastassiades, Aglaia  
Chollis, Drew  
Dandolos, Demetri & Carol  
Issaris, Katherine  
Heliotis, Alexandra

Joseck, Anastasia  
Kollias, Georgia  
Schillinger, Robert & Karen  
Shahwan, Sofy  
Tarabicos, Sophia

**Thank you for answering the call!!  
If you have not sent in your donation yet...  
There is still time to donate - see the letter on the previous page!**



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**18** | **SUNDAY  
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Cash Bar***

***RSVP: by May 12  
[hucwilmington.org](http://hucwilmington.org)***







*Penns Woods Winery*

# *Picnic at the Winery*

**Winetasting & Networking**

**Sunday, June 8, 2 pm until 5 pm**

**124 Beaver Valley Road,  
Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania**



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UNIVERSITY  
CLUB  
OF  
PHILADELPHIA

**JOINT EVENT**

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**Bring a meze**



Questions? [simone.miliaresis@gmail.com](mailto:simone.miliaresis@gmail.com) [hucwilm@gmail.com](mailto:hucwilm@gmail.com)

Please register in advance at [hucwilmington.org](http://hucwilmington.org)

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS

## Major Benefactor (\$750,000)

Christopher Caras Estate

## Level 10 (\$200,000+)

Christopher & Michelle Grivas

## Level 9 (\$100,000+)

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The Kirifides Family

Philoptochos Society Wilmington, DE

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**Nicholas Staikos & Eirini Daskalaki**

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Nicholas Drimones

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Frederick & Xanthy Joseck

Demetrios & Eleni Karakasidis

Stephanos & Evaggelia Karakasidis

Joanna Michell Kayiaros & Family

Dean & Toulia Lomis

Vasili & Megan Michell

George & Alexia Moutsatsos

John Psaltis

Nickolas Psaltis

Margaret Riggins

John & Valerie Roussalis

Nicholas & Alexis Souleles & Family

Angela Tsionas & Family

Nikki Tsoukalas

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Brian & Nicole Colborn

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Basil & Demi Kollias

James & Diane Maravelias

Harry & Susan Markatos

Antonis & Soula Mistras

Theodore & Alexandra Nannas

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Vasilis & Christina Papettas

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George & Stavroula Pettaris

Marika Poulos

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Harry & Sophia Courtis

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Daughters of Penelope & Young @ Heart

Anthony & Lauren Diamond

John & Christine Frangakis

Rick & Diane Galaris

Mary George

Thomas Haldas

Katherine Issaris

Anastasia Joseck

Jack & Stella Katsanos Family

Georgia Keros

Georgia Kollias & Michael Daskalakis

Anastasios & Dimitra Lempesis & Family

Helen Leounes

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Michael & Kandi Manoloudis

Pat's Pizza

John & Stacey Pennia

Georgia X. Rassias

Jerry G. Rassias

Nicholas G. Rassias

Jason & Ekaterini Riga-Crisp

George & Elaine Righos

David & Athena Ruhl

Robert & Karen Schillinger

Dimitrios & Maria Tangalidis

John & Joanne Tarabicos

Robert & Eugenia Terss

Anthony & Joanna Tsaganos

George & Alexandra Tsaganos

Konstantine & Denise Tsakiris

David & Anna Vande Poele

Steve & Karen Velitskakis

Socrates & Ruth Visvardis

## LEVEL 2 (\$500-\$999)

William & Irene Annos

Kostas & Eftihia Atsidis

Jerry & Amy Chilimidos

Minas & Kleopatra Dargakis

Helen Doukakis

John & Evangeline Dumel

Constantinos Georgiou

Virginia Gotides

Demetrios & Helen Grivas

Theodore & Labrini Hantzandreou

Maroula & Nicholas Haralambidis

Stavroula Karakasidis

Maria Karakasidis

Nicholas & Foula Karavasilis

John & Anastasia Koninis Family

Dimitrios & Effie Kolovos

Michael & Victoria Lawson

John & Sandra Lazare

Michael Logothetis

Despiona Logullo

Irene Marini

Nicholas & Carissa Moriello

Christos & Popi Papachrysanthou

John & Tina Tsaganos/McGee

George Tsakataras

Constantina Verikakis

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Litsa Anastassiades

George & Kathy Chambers

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Yianni Floropoulos

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Athanasios & Dimitra Koukourdis

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George & Penny Tsugranes

Suzanne Haldas Wilkinson

Peter Xarhoulakos

Demetri & Constantina Zerefos

Markos & Eugenia Zerefos



**PLEASE NOTE: We are in the final days of this capital campaign.**

Please see the page to the left for the sponsorship levels. Please let us know if you are at the appropriate level as to your pledge given in the past few years. Please call the office if you feel there is anything wrong or if you want to increase your pledge before the final plaque is made for display. A letter will be going out to the community for a final push, allowing time for any last minute pledges. We ask that you prayerfully consider what you can do to help us finish strong!

Please note - this is for the PHASE II Addition /ELEVATOR Fund drive only and does not reflect recent giving to the new HVAC system.



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PLEDGE DRIVE

Phase II Building/Elevator Fund  
Your Capital Campaign pledge  
will be welcome and appreciated!

Please give according to your God-given ability.

### Pledge Recognition Tiers

\$1-999  
\$1,000-2,499  
\$2,500-4,999  
\$5,000-9,999  
\$10,000-19,999  
\$20,000-29,999  
\$30,000-49,999  
\$50,000-99,999  
\$100,000-149,999  
\$150,000 and above

NAME:

Enclosed please find my/our pledge payment for:

\$ _____

We wish to pledge \$ _____ annually for _____ years.

TOTAL PLEDGE: _____ for recognition.

Pledges to Capital Campaign/Building Fund are separate and distinct from annual Stewardship.

All Gifts are greatly appreciated, and all Donors will be recognized on a permanent display in the new facility.



To contribute, please send your donation to:

**Holy Trinity  
Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
ATTN: Capital Campaign  
808 North Broom Street  
Wilmington, DE 19806**



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