

THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

VOL. 22 ISSUE 5

MAY 2024

Priest's Letter 5-1-24

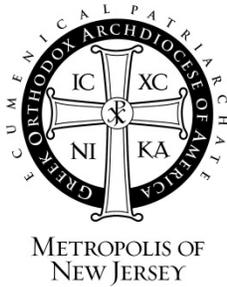
Pascha, the Feast of Feasts approaches! In a few short days we will be able to sing the great Paschal Troparion, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life." And we will continue to sing it with joy for the following forty days, until our Lord's glorious Ascension.

The story of the Resurrection is not merely a fact about something that happened in the past, but a reality that profoundly effects each of our lives. Humans throughout history believed death to be absolute; death is something final, by definition nothing that dies by ever lives again. But Christ *did and does* live again after dying, and thus death *cannot* be absolute. If the dead no longer stay dead, then death is no longer something to be feared. St. Paul goes as far as to mock death in light of the Resurrection, "O Death, where is your sting? O Grave, where is your victory?" (1 Cor 15:55).

This is naturally a message of tremendous joy, indeed the greatest of any "Good News" we can imagine as human beings. Once we've believed and understood the truth of the Resurrection, it's impossible that our lives can remain the same, because we are no longer "held in slavery by [our] fear of death" (Hebrews 2:15). But how exactly should our lives be changed by this joyous faith?

As the Paschal Doxastikon triumphantly declares, "It is the day of Resurrection; let us be radiant for the festival, and let us embrace one another. Let us say, O brethren, even to those that hate us: Let us forgive all things on the Resurrection." The joy of the Resurrection should "radiate" from us and illuminate those around us. We should "embrace one another" in love. We should reconcile even with "those that hate us," because the Resurrection is far more important than our petty conflicts and jealousies. Our love, our joy, and our forgiveness are the signs that we are truly people who believe in the Resurrection of Christ, and by living out these virtues we will be brought to an even deeper understanding of this great truth.

Καλή Ανάσταση! Good Resurrection!
Fr. Theodore Lyketsos



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

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Church Administrator: Diane Simmons

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2023-2024 PARISH COUNCIL

Van Kakouras	President
Dr. Charles Tarasidis	Vice President
Caitlin DeMarco	Secretary
Voula Dallas	Assistant Secretary
Matt Mandros	Treasurer
Dr. Gregory Topasna	Assistant Treasurer

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Mike Greenwood	Pete Simopoulos (The Chairman)
Carol Royal	Maria Stamus

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Philoptochos President – Danna Owen

Religious Education – Carol Royal

Youth Director – David Simmons

Chanters - Dr. Paul Dallas, Fred Gianakouros,
Demos Tsiakos & Bobby Ziogas

Dance Troupe – Dr. Maria Hatzios

Bookstore – Voula Dallas

Megdova President – Dr. Paul Dallas

Webmaster – Mark Bonds

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Archives – Caitlin DeMarco

Finance – Matt Mandros &

Dr. Gregory Topasna

Grounds – Dr. Charles Tarasidis

Planning – Bobby Ziogas

Projects – Dr. Charles Tarasidis

Roanoke Greek Festival – Pete Simopoulos

Stewardship – Nada Melki

Ushering & Welcome –

Naji Karim, Irene Karageorge

The deadline for notices to be placed in the bulletin is the 15th of each month. Please email them to htrinityroa@verizon.net on or before this date. Thank you.

MAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Wed. 5/01/2024	Holy Wednesday Bridegroom Service followed by Anointing	9:00 AM Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 PM
Thurs. 5/02/2024	Holy Thursday Service of the Holy Passion/12 Gospel Readings	9:00 AM Vespereal Liturgy of St. Basil 6:00 PM
Fri. 5/03/2024	Holy Friday Vespers with Taking Down of Christ from the Cross Service of Lamentations and the Epitaphios	9:00 AM Royal Hours 3:00 PM 6:00 PM
Sat. 5/04/2024	Holy Saturday Midnight Resurrection Service followed by Divine Liturgy of Pascha – Meal Follows	9:00 AM Vespereal Liturgy of St. Basil 11:00 PM Orthros of Pascha 12:00 AM
Sun. 5/05/2024	Great & Holy Pascha Agape Vespers Followed by Luncheon & Egg Hunt <i>Epistle:</i> St. Paul's Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8 <i>Gospel:</i> John 1:1-17 Usher(s): Naji Karim	12:00 PM
Mon. 5/06/2024	Renewal Monday / St. George	8:00 AM Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy
Fri. 5/10/2024	Renewal Friday / Life-giving Spring	8:00 AM Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy
Sat. 5/11/2024	Renewal Saturday	5:00 PM Vespers
Sun. 5/12/2024	Thomas Sunday <i>Epistle:</i> St. Paul's Acts of the Apostles 5:12-20 Usher(s): , , Georgia Liagki	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy <i>Gospel:</i> John 20:19-31
Sat. 5/18/2024	Vespers	5:00 PM
Sun. 5/19/2024	Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women <i>Epistle:</i> St. Paul's Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7 Usher(s): Naji Karim, , Lampros Panogeorgos	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy <i>Gospel:</i> Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8
Tues. 5/21/2024	SS. Constantine & Helen	8:00 AM Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy
Sat. 5/25/2024	Vespers	5:00 PM
Sun. 5/26/2024	Sunday of the Paralytic <i>Epistle:</i> St. Paul's Acts of the Apostles 9:32-42 Usher(s): Naji Karim, ,	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy <i>Gospel:</i> John 5:1-15
Wed. 5/29/2024	Mid-Pentecost	8:00 AM Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy

USHERS ARE REQUIRED TO ARRIVE FIFTEEN MINUTES PRIOR TO THE BEGINNING OF LITURGY! THE USHER LEADER IS TO ARRIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF ORTHROS. IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO USHER AS SCHEDULED, PLEASE CONTACT ANOTHER USHER FROM YOUR LIST TO REPLACE YOU. In case of a discrepancy between printed announcements and electronic listings, electronic listings will be considered as the official times and will be adhered to. The online Bulletin and website are updated as needed and are where the services' official times are listed.

Weekly Classes & Worship

Orthodoxy 101 will resume May 14th and Bible Study will resume in September.

There may be a new link for Orthodoxy 101. So, check the website, bulletin, and emails to keep informed.

Holy Trinity Roanoke is on YouTube! Fr. Sam and Fr. Theodore will upload recordings of their classes and Bible Studies (probably the day after they are recorded). God willing, we will soon have the capability to broadcast services as well. Check it out: <https://www.youtube.com/@HolyTrinityRoanoke>



The 2024 calendar is posted in the church hall; please show your hospitality by signing up to be a host.

Fellowship Hour Hosts for April 2024

April 7	Philoptochos Spaghetti Luncheon to benefit Holy Cross
April 14	Barbara Lampros & Carol Royal
April 21	Topasna Family
April 28	Palm Sunday Luncheon

Announcements

Memorials

May 19th

There will be a Memorial Service for Fr. Peter and Presv. Despina Leventis. Fr. Peter Leventis served here in 1970's.

There will also be a Memorial for Halim Karim, Katia Karim Ford and Amine Nassif. A Luncheon hosted by the Karim & Nassif family will follow.

Parish Council News

We thank God for all the blessings we receive and for all the challenges he puts before us.

1. Renovations will soon begin. The contracts are being awarded per General Assembly Guidance.
2. We plan to have a Paschal meal, including leg of lamb, following the Resurrection service on Saturday night of Holy Week.
4. We hope everyone has a Happy Easter and Bright Week.

In Christ,

Van Kakouras, President

Religious Education

Kali Anastasi!

Classes continue to be held for our elementary, middle and high school grades. Big “Thank You” to Iuliana Scarlatescu and Della Bryant for helping with our growing bunch of little ones!

As we approach Our Lord’s Passion and Resurrection, please attend services and participate in the mysteries to teach our children and set good examples.

We are planning a combined Greek and Sunday School year end celebration on Sunday, 2 June. Details to follow.

Fred Gianakouros

Registration for Camp Good Shepherd

This is one of our most successful Orthodox youth ministries in the Virginia area, having grown from 30 kids in Summer 2014 to over 120 in Summer 2023! It’s a wonderful opportunity for kids to come alive in their Orthodox faith, while also having a great time and making deep new friendships in the Church. Give it a try — you will not be disappointed!

The camp is comprised of two sessions, each one week long. The first session, July 7-13th will be for kids who have completed 5th grade through completed 8th grade. The second session, July 14-20th is for completed 9th grade through completed 12th grade. We intend to provide transportation from Roanoke to and from both sessions. Registration is \$500 per child

Register here: <http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn>





CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD

JOIN OUR STAFF!

STAFF APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!



Chesapeake
15-22 JUNE 2024

New Jersey
22-29 JUNE 2024

Virginia
6-20 JULY 2023

Are You...

- ✓ Looking to grow your Faith?
- ✓ Hoping to make meaningful relationships?
- ✓ Seeking to boost your resume?

Registration Link Scan or Click Below



More Information: <https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd>



Camp Good Shepherd

Experience the Best Week of Your Summer!



CGS: MARYLAND

June 16-22, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Wo-Me-To
1200 Knopp Rd, Jarrettsville, MD 21084
Registration Fee: \$600 (Early Bird Discount until May 1, then \$675)



CGS: NEW JERSEY

June 23-29, 2024
Ages 8-18
Camp Linwood MacDonald
1 Flatbrook Rd, Sandyston, NJ 07826
Registration Fee: \$625



CGS: VIRGINIA (2 SESSIONS)

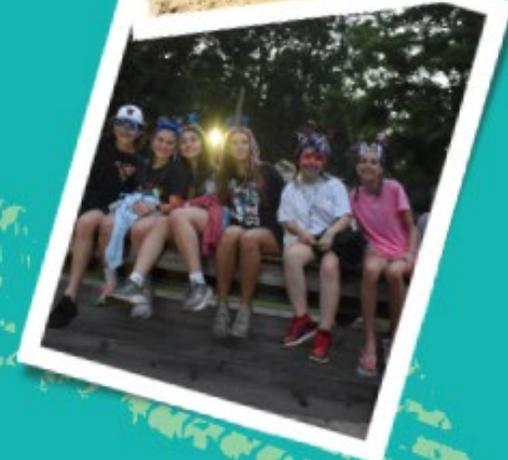
Week 1: July 7-13 (Completed 5th Grade - 8th Grade)
Week 2: July 14-20 (Completed 9th Grade - 12th Grade)
Camp Piankatank
1586 Stammers Bay Rd Box 435, Hartfield, VA 23071
Registration Fee: \$500

REGISTER TODAY!



[HTTP://APP.CAMPDOC.COM/REGISTER/CGSN](http://app.campdoc.com/register/cgsn)

MORE INFORMATION [HTTPS://WWW.NJ.GOARCH.ORG/CAMP-GOOD-SHEPHERD](https://www.nj.goarch.org/camp-good-shepherd)



Philoptochos News

MAY NEWSLETTER

Our Philoptochos chapter is alive and vibrant. Thank you to everyone who is supporting us through event participation, donations and prayer. Our Lenten Spaghetti Luncheon raised \$700 for Holy Cross School of Theology. Thank you, Irene Karageorge for your donation of delicious marinara.

Thank you, Vickie Tsakios for preparing the delicious Palm Sunday luncheon. Funds collected from ticket sales go directly to Philoptochos and support our philanthropic efforts.

Our first Community Easter Card has been mailed. Thank you, Frances Simopoulos and Angela Flegas for taking on this project. Donations from this project including our Souper Bowl Sunday donations totaled \$998.00 which will be used to assist with expenses of sending our young parishioners to Camp Good Shepherd.

Support for Blue Ridge Women's Center is ongoing. Please place disposable diapers and wipes in the collection's basket in the hall.

Help is needed Thursday May 2nd and Friday May 3rd to wrap paschal eggs and prep and place flowers on the epitaphios.

Although parish council is hosting the meal after the Resurrection service, Mark and Della Bryant, and Anna Robertson are hosting a luncheon after the agape service. If you would like to bring a dessert, please feel free to do so. Please respond to Philoptochosroanoke@gmail.com to let me know what you'll be bringing. Also, following the Agape meal an Easter Egg hunt will be provided for the children.

We have plenty of Tsoureki left for sale at \$12 each. This homemade sweet bread makes a delicious addition to your easter meal and also makes a great gift for your neighbors. Take some Tsoureki to work to share!

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The calendar for the remainder of the year is looking quite empty. If you don't have time to prepare, you can make a donation and Philoptochos will do the rest!

If you haven't already, connect your Kroger Card Rewards to Philoptochos. Everytime you shop at Kroger, Philoptochos benefits. www.Kroger.com

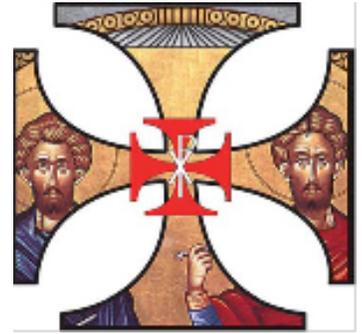
As always reach out to me with question concerns or suggestions. If you are interested in joining Philoptochos aka *THE ARMY OF AGAPE*, let me know.

Our next meeting is June 2nd.

Kali Anastasi!

Danna

Philoptochosroanoke@gmail.com



Greek Orthodox Ladies'
Philoptochos Society
of Holy Trinity Church

Roanoke



The Hellenic Club will not meet in May. Please keep an eye out for further details about our next outing in the June bulletin.

If you have any questions or suggestions for our Club, please feel free to reach out to me at francesimopoulos@gmail.com or call 434.851.6830.

Wishing you a blessed Pascha.

Frances Simopoulos



www.RoanokeGreekFestival.com

16th Roanoke Greek Festival
September 20, 21, and 22, 2024

The Festival Committee is diligently preparing for our 16th Greek Festival in September, and everything is proceeding according to schedule. We are excited about this year's Festival and anticipate another successful event!

As reiterated throughout the year, it is crucial to start considering how you can contribute your time and talents to this year's festival. Carol Royal will oversee our Work Schedule, and in the coming month, will provide more information on how you can electronically sign up to volunteer. Given that our festival opens at 11 a.m. on Friday, it is particularly essential that we are fully prepared to handle the crowds. We always face a shortage of staff on Friday, so we urge you to consider taking time off from work to support us on this day.

The billstuffers are ready for distribution! You can find them in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. One helpful way everyone can contribute at this stage is by passing out the billstuffers to your friends and businesses (where permitted) to help spread the word. If you need more, please don't hesitate to ask – we have plenty!

Dr. Paul Dallas is working on securing sponsors for this year's festival. You can assist Paul by approaching your employer about the possibility of becoming a sponsor. There are various sponsorship opportunities available, offering excellent advertising exposure for any company. Please contact Paul at (540) 529-6356 to arrange a meeting or provide recommendations for potential sponsors.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me at (434) 851-6835 (cell) or email me at: info@RoanokeGreekFestival.com.

Peter Simopoulos, Chairman
Roanoke Greek Festival



HOLY TRINITY BOOKSTORE

❧ OPEN EVERY SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH ❧
WE HAVE MANY NEW ITEMS THAT WERE
BROUGHT BACK FROM THE PILGRIMAGE TO
THE PANAGIA PROUSIOTISSA GREEK
ORTHODOX MONASTERY. THE ITEMS ARE
PRICED AT COST TO GIVE PARISHIONERS WHO
WERE NOT ABLE TO GO A CHANCE TO HAVE
SOMETHING FROM THE NUNS. WE ALSO HAVE
ITEMS FOR PASCHA INCLUDING SERVICE
BOOKS, DECORATED CANDLES, AND CARDS.

Information

NAME _____

NAME OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP CODE _____

HOME PHONE _____

MOBILE PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS OF SPOUSE (IF MARRIED) _____

Dependent Children's names and birthdates:

May we include your contact information in the parish directory?

yes no *If yes, please indicate any information you would like excluded:*

May we add you to our parish email list?

yes no



treasure

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/We commit to Christ and His Church the following amount:

\$ _____ each week

planned giving

" _____ I would like to speak with someone about how to remember the church in my will, trust, or estate plan."

We enter our spiritual home not to be entertained, but to be a part of a community of believers. We receive Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. As we pray, worship and serve together, we become His Body. To be truly a member of the Church as Body of Christ requires our presence and our engagement with one another -- in worship, study and service to others. We grow spiritually as a family. We give sacrificially as we acknowledge that all we have comes from God.

time & talent

Individual stewards should indicate areas of interest with a check (✓).

Families should mark "H" for husband, "W" for wife or "C" for children.

EDUCATION

- Bible Study
- Adult Religious Education
- Intro to Orthodoxy
- Publications
- Speakers
- Bookstore
- Library

LITURGICAL

- Sanctuary & Altar Care
- Altar boys / Acolytes
- Baking Proskofora
- Choir
- Reader
- Greeter/Usher

MINISTRIES & PROGRAMS

- Campus Ministry
- Welcome Team
- New Member Events
- Outreach
- Stewardship
- Sunday Fellowship / Coffee
- Visitation - Hospital
- Visitation - Shut-ins

YOUTH

- Church School Teacher
- Church School Administration
- Youth Leader
- Vacation Church School
- Camp Counselor

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- Garden & Landscape
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Clean-up
- Interior Repairs
- Exterior Repairs
- Roofing
- Hall Rentals

ADMINISTRATION

- Fiscal Mgt / Review
- By-Laws
- Development / Fundraising
- Office help
- Computer / Technical
- Data Entry

- Feed the Hungry
- Prison Ministry
- Grief Bereavement Group
- Disaster Relief Projects
- Blood Drives
- Project Mexico
- Int'l Orth Christian Charities
- OCMC Mission Center
- Seniors Ministry
- Couples Ministry
- Singles Ministry
- Military Ministry

COMMUNICATIONS

- Web site & E-mail
- Bulletin & Newsletter
- Public Relations

Any other talents or information on items listed above:



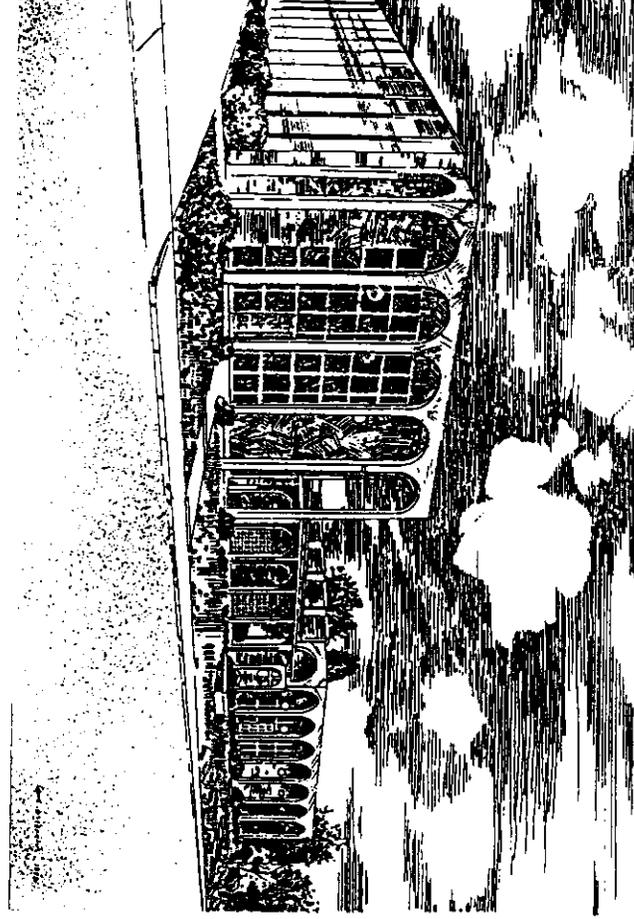
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