

THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

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

VOL. 22 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2024

Priest's Letter 4-1-24

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, as a historical event of cosmic significance, is the heart and center of our faith as Christians. Everything we do and believe only makes sense in light of the Resurrection. As St. Paul says,

“And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. For if *the* dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.” (1 Corinthians 15:14-19)

Without Jesus rising from the dead, not only does all of Christianity become pointless, but even human life in general loses its meaning. If everything we could ever do, experience, or desire will eventually be swallowed up into eternal nothingness, then no serious human pursuits seem worthwhile. “If *the* dead do not rise, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!”” (1 Corinthians 15:31-33). If our good actions will have no rewards and our bad actions will have no consequences, we may as well live our lives around the satisfaction of our desires. There are many people who do, in fact, choose this path.

But Christ *is* risen. The very existence of our Church is a testimony to this fact. The Apostles labored long years in difficult conditions and eventually gave their lives to spread the message of the Resurrection. They did not die for what they merely *believed*, but for what they had *seen*, “For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty” (2 Peter 1:16). The New Testament contains many other accounts of the risen Jesus from the Apostles (e.g. John 19:35, 1 Corinthians 15:3-8). The Church grew explosively across the ancient world from Spain to India, precisely because of the power of the Apostles’ testimony.

Even until today, the reality of the Resurrection is experienced within the Orthodox Church, especially in the persons of the Saints. Many saints from ancient times to the modern day have been granted a vision the Uncreated Light, which is the Light of the Resurrection according to St. Sophrony of Essex. The relics of many saints are incorrupt (i.e. they do not rot) and even give off sweet fragrance, testifying to the immortality the saints have found. The many other miracles that come through the lives of the holy men and women in the Orthodox Church also point us to the presence and power of the Kingdom of God.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the greatest cause for joy we could imagine, and this period of Lent with its spiritual disciplines and services is meant to direct our hearts towards this reality. Join us in these coming weeks in coming to church and following the services, so that we may come to know this beauty and joy on Pascha, the Feast of Feasts.

God bless you all!
Fr. Theodore Lyketsos



The poster features the Camp Good Shepherd logo (Metropolis of New Jersey) and the Metropolis of New Jersey logo at the top left. The main title "CAMP GOOD SHEPHERD" is in large, bold, black letters, with "JOIN OUR STAFF!" below it in a stylized font. Three photos show staff members in blue and yellow shirts. A church icon is on the left. Three colored circles indicate dates for Chesapeake (15-22 JUNE 2024), New Jersey (22-29 JUNE 2024), and Virginia (6-20 JULY 2023). A list of criteria under "Are You..." includes looking to grow faith, making meaningful relationships, and boosting resumes. A QR code and registration link are provided at the bottom.

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

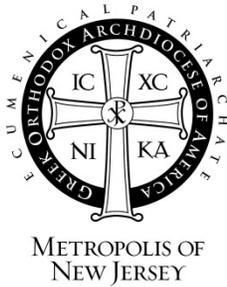
Are You...

- ✓ 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>



Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

30 Huntington Boulevard, N.E.

Roanoke, Virginia 24012

PHONE: (540) 362-3601

FAX: (540) 362-3638

www.holytrinityroanoke.com

Priest: Fr. Theodore Lyketsos

E-MAIL: frtheohtroa@gmail.com

Church Administrator: Diane Simmons

E-MAIL: htrinityroa@verizon.net

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

Board Members

Nada Melki	David Simmons
Larry Owen	Pete Simopoulos (The Chairman)
Carol Royal	Maria Stamus

ORGANIZATIONS

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

COMMITTEES

Adornment - Basil Grapsas
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.

APRIL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Mon. 4/01/2024	Great Compline	6:00 PM
Wed. 4/03/2024	Presanctified Liturgy	6:00 PM
Fri. 4/05/2024	Salutations	6:00 PM
Sun. 4/07/2024	Sunday of the Holy Cross	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy
<i>Epistle:</i>	<i>St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:1-6</i>	Gospel: Mark 8:34-38; 9:1
Usher(s):	Naji Karim	
	Vespers	1:00 PM
Mon. 4/08/2024	Great Compline	6:00 PM
Wed. 4/10/2024	Presanctified Liturgy	6:00 PM
Fri. 4/12/2024	Salutations	6:00 PM
Sun. 4/14/2024	Sunday of St. John Climacus	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy
<i>Epistle:</i>	<i>St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews 6:13-20</i>	Gospel: Mark 9:17-31
Usher(s):	Van Kakouras, Beth Gianakouros, Georgia Liagki	
	Vespers	1:00 PM
Mon. 4/15/2024	Great Compline	6:00 PM
Wed. 4/17/2024	Presanctified Liturgy	6:00 PM
Fri. 4/19/2024	Akathist Hymn	6:00 PM
Sun. 4/21/2024	Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy
<i>Epistle:</i>	<i>St. Paul's letter to the Hebrews 9:11-14</i>	Gospel: Mark 10:32-45
Usher(s):	Naji Karim, , Lampros Panogeorgos	
	Vespers	1:00 PM
Mon. 4/22/2024	Great Compline	6:00 PM
Wed. 4/24/2024	Presanctified Liturgy	6:00 PM
Sat. 4/27/2024	Lazarus Saturday	8:00 AM Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy
	Palm Folding	10:00 AM
Sun. 4/28/2024	Palm Sunday	9:00 AM Orthros 10:00 AM Liturgy
<i>Epistle:</i>	<i>St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians 4:4-9</i>	Gospel: John 12:1-18
Usher(s):	, Beth Gianakouros, Carol Royal	
	Bridegroom Service	6:00 PM
Mon. 4/29/2024	Holy Monday	6:00 PM
	Bridegroom Service	
Tues. 4/30/2024	Holy Tuesday	6:00 PM
	Bridegroom Service	

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

There will be no Orthodoxy 101 or Bible Study During Lent.

Holy Trinity Roanoke is now on YouTube! From now on, 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>



New on our YouTube Channel – Lenten Reflections from Fr. Theodore comes out every week by Friday.

Fellowship Hour Hosts for March 2024



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

March 3	Julie Williams & Demetria Greenwood
March 10	Vickie Tsiakos
March 17	Parish Council
March 24	Parish Council
March 31	Greek Independence Day Celebration

Announcements

Parish Council News

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

1. Our Spring General Assembly meeting was held on Sunday, March 24. At that meeting, the assembly approved expenditure of funds for repairs/improvements to our church building and for the cleaning of our duct system. The assembly also

approved the use of a portion of investment fund gains on an as needed basis. Thank you for everyone's attendance at this meeting.

2. The Metropolis Clergy/Laity Conference is taking place on April 8 in Delaware. Holy Trinity will have a delegation of 4 people attending the conference.

3. 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 wonderful Lenten season and a Happy Easter.

In Christ,

Van Kakouras, President

Myrrhbearers

Dear Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Families,

If your daughters are interested in serving as Myrrhbearers on Holy Friday please see Georgia Liagki or contact her at georgialiagki@gmail.com.

Religious Education

Blessed Lent to all! Kali Sarakosti!

We continue to struggle to meet the demands placed on our efforts to guide our children to understanding our Church. We cannot handle all the elementary grades with only one teacher. A dependable assistant is needed to help Diane Simmons with these grades. Though attendance fluctuates, the student age differences each Sunday make holding one class too challenging. We need a helper to assist with the youngest students.

If you are able to help with this ministry, please contact Diane, Fred Gianakouros or Father Theodore.

Fred Gianakouros

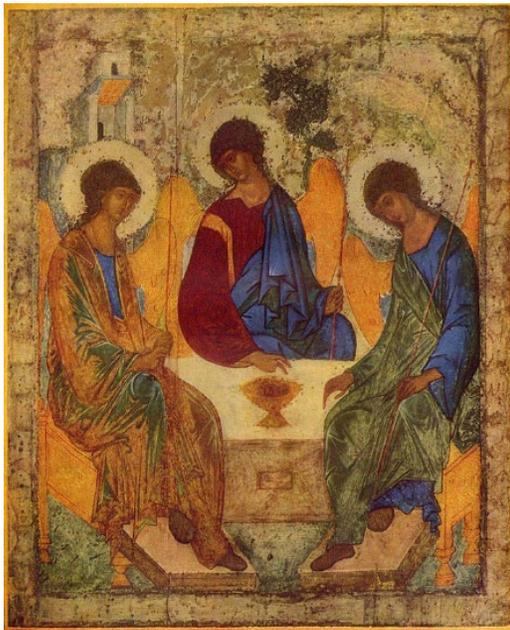
Registration for Camp Good Shepherd

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>



HOLY TRINITY BOOKSTORE

OPEN EVERY SUNDAY AFTER CHURCH

THERE ARE BOOKS, ICONS, PRAYER ROPES, CHARCOAL, VIGIL LAMP WICKS AND GLASS, AND INCENSE AND SOAP MADE BY THE MONKS AT HOLY CROSS MONASTERY. THERE ARE STILL HARDBACK AND LEATHER ORTHODOX STUDY BIBLES AVAILABLE AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST.

FEEL FREE TO COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR NEW BOOKS, INCLUDING 117 DIFFERENT PATERIKON FOR KIDS SAINT BOOKS.



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

APRIL NEWSLETTER

Thank you to everyone for your support. Philoptochos has accomplished great things so far this year!

We continue to promote the following projects:

- We are collecting until April 7 for our first ever Community Easter Card. The cost is \$15 for your name to be added to the card. This project is funded by Philoptochos as all proceeds collected will be donated to Fr. Theodore to be used at his discretion for Camp Good Shepherd.
- Donations for icon and epitaphios flowers can be paid in the hall at coffee hour or online through our website
- The Blue Ridge Women's Center is over the moon delighted with the donations we have delivered so far. We are still collecting disposable diapers and wipes. We were honored to host their CEO Ann Russell at our last meeting who presented on the programs of BRWC.
- Saturday April 6- Baking Tsoureki.
- Sunday April 7- Spaghetti luncheon. Donations to benefit Holy Cross School of Theology.
- Tsoureki sales begin!
- Saturday April 27- Making Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday
- Sunday April 28-Palm Sunday Luncheon
- Thursday May 2nd- Wrapping & tying eggs
- Friday May 3- Decorate Epitaphios

Please consider hosting a coffee hour. The calendar for the remainder of the year is quite empty! If you haven't already, connect your Kroger Card Community Rewards to Philoptochos. Everytime you shop at Kroger, Philoptochos benefits.

Again, thank you for your support. I know it seems that all we do is ask for money but rest assured that those donations benefit the specific purpose or charity we are collecting for. Our major fundraisers are chapter dues (\$7 per member), tsoureki sales and cookbook sales.

Donations to our chapter are always appreciated.

Kali Sarakosti!

Danna



**Greek Orthodox Ladies'
Philoptochos Society
of Holy Trinity Church**

PACK-A-SNACK SERVICE PROJECT

On behalf of Philoptochos, I would like to thank everyone in our community who donated nonperishable snacks or made a monetary donation to our Pack-a-Snack Service project! We were able to fill 60 bags! Our community has been very generous in supporting this ongoing project with Roundhill Elementary. Once again, the faculty and staff at Round Hill Elementary were overwhelmed with our generosity! A special thank you goes out to Anna Robertson and Diane Simmons who delivered the bags and to Angela Flegas who coordinated filling the bags with snacks! This service project continues to bless many underprivileged children during their long breaks from school!

Frances Simopoulos

Community Easter Card

Philoptochos is starting a new tradition with creating a Community Easter Card! We hope the Holy Trinity Community joins in this opportunity to share Easter greetings by placing your name in our first ever Community Easter Card.

Your contribution (\$15.00 minimum) would be appreciated as all proceeds will be donated to Camp Good Shepherd to be used to assist with expenses for those attending the camp from our community.

This card will be mailed directly to our Holy Trinity Parishioners by the end of April. Please complete the form below with the names of your family, as you would like them to appear, and return it to the church hall either to Angela Flegas, Danna Owen, Anna Robertson or Frances Simopoulos by **April 7, 2024**. You can also visit our table in the church hall or pay online through our website noting that your donation is for the Easter card.

Print Name as you would like it to appear on the card:

Donation amount: _____

(If paying by check, please make checks payable to: Philoptochos and in the memo section write Easter card)

2024 GREAT LENT AND HOLY WEEK FLOWERS

Flowers for the Epitaphios	\$400.00
Flowers for Theotokos Icon – 1st Salutation – Mar. 22	\$45.00
Flowers for Sun. of Orthodoxy Icon – Mar. 24	\$35.00
Flowers for Theotokos Icon – 2nd Salutation – Mar. 29	\$45.00
Flowers for St. Gregory Palamas Icon – Mar. 31	\$35.00
Flowers for Theotokos Icon – 3rd Salutation – Apr. 5	\$45.00
Flowers for Ven. of Holy Cross Icon – Apr. 7	\$35.00
Basil for Holy Cross – Apr. 7	\$30.00
Flowers for Theotokos Icon – 4th Salutation – Apr. 12	\$45.00
Flowers for St. John Climacus – Apr. 14	\$35.00
Flowers for Akathist Icon – Apr. 19	\$45.00
Flowers for St. Mary of Egypt Icon – Apr. 21	\$35.00
Flowers for Sat. of Lazarus Icon – Apr. 27	\$35.00
Flowers for Palm Sun. Icon – Apr. 28	\$35.00
Palms for Palm Sunday – Apr. 28 (church)	\$90.00
Flowers for Nymphios Icon – Apr. 28	\$35.00
Flowers for Nymphios Icon – Apr. 29	\$35.00
Flowers for Nymphios Icon – Apr. 30	\$35.00
Oil for Holy Unction Service – May 1 (church)	\$10.00
Flowers for Last Supper Icon – May 1	\$50.00
Flowers for Crucifixion Icon – May 2	\$35.00
Crucifixion Wreath – May 2	\$45.00
Candles for Candelabra – May 2 (church)	\$80.00
Rose Petals – May 3	\$50.00
Rose Water – May 3	\$10.00
Cross for Epitaphios	\$250.00
Flowers for Apokathelosis Icon – May 3	\$35.00
Good Friday Candles – May 3 (church)	\$30.00
Bay leaves for Holy Saturday, May 4, a.m. service	\$30.00
Flowers for Resurrection Icon – May 4	\$45.00
Resurrection Candle for Priest – May 4 (church)	\$85.00
Pascha Red Eggs – May 4 (20 Dozen) (church)	\$45.00

*Please note: the Flower Donations are to be donated to Philoptochos.
The ones in parenthesis (church) are to be donated to the Holy Trinity Greek
 Orthodox Church

Roanoke



As we continue the Lenten period, the Hellenic Club will not meet in April. Our next outing will be after Easter.

If you have any questions or suggestions for our Club, please contact me at francesimopoulos@gmail.com or 434.851.6830.

Frances Simopoulos



www.RoanokeGreekFestival.com

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

Our Greek Festival will be here before we know it! In these early months of planning, our committee continues to work on the foundation for another successful festival. Our goal is always to make each festival as successful as possible and provide our visitors with the best experience of our Greek culture. With everyone's commitment of time and talents, we are guaranteed success. We look forward to once again working with our church family to achieve this goal.

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. We look forward to another successful festival.

I wish everyone a blessed Lent.

Pete Simopoulos, Chairman

Roanoke Greek Festival

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 Prosfora
- 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:



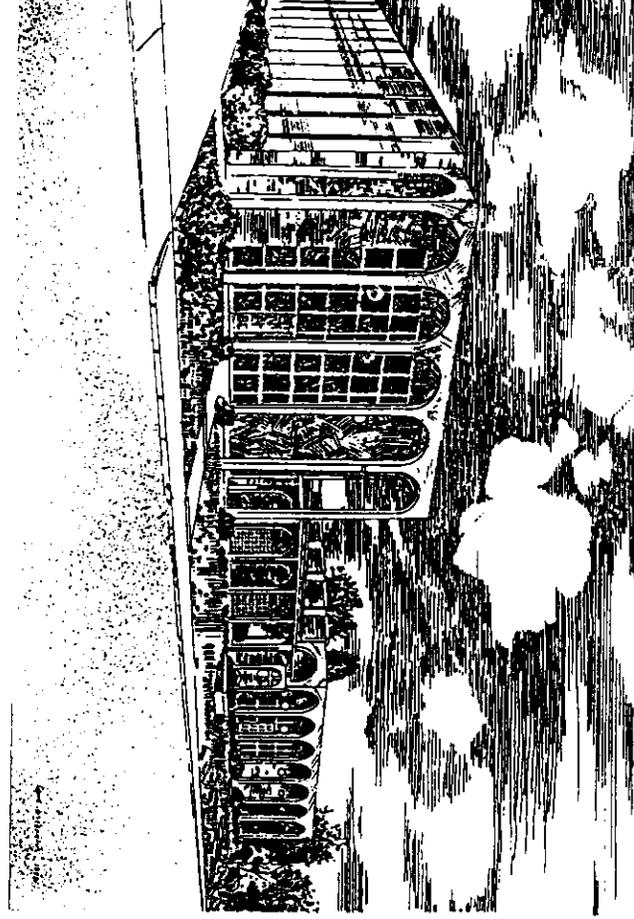
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HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
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