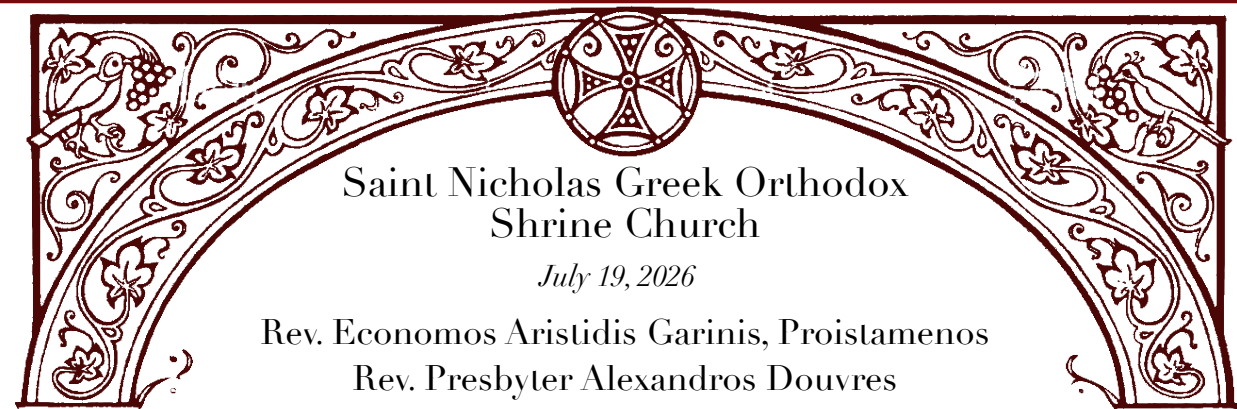




Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church

July 19, 2026

Rev. Ekonomos Aristidis Garinis, Proistamenos

Rev. Presbyter Alexandros Douvres

Office (718) 357-4200 - Email info@stnicholasflushing.org - www.stnicholasflushing.org

Κυριακή τῶν Ἁγίων Πατέρων - Sunday of the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀνασιόισιμον

Ἀγγελικαὶ Δυνάμεις ἐπὶ τὸ μνήμά σου, καὶ οἱ
φυλάσσοντες ἀπενεκρώθησαν· καὶ ἴστατο Μαρία
ἐν τῷ τάφῳ ζητοῦσα τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα.
Ἑσκύλευσας τὸν Ἄδην, μὴ πειρασθεὶς ὑπ' αὐτοῦ·
ὑπήντησας τῇ Παρθένῳ, δωροῦμενος τὴν ζωὴν. Ὁ
ἀναστὰς ἐκ τῶν νεκρῶν, Κύριε δόξα σοι.

Τῶν Πατέρων

Ὑπερδεδοξασμένος εἶ, Χριστὲ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ὁ
φωστῆρας ἐπὶ γῆς, τοὺς Πατέρας ἡμῶν
θεμελιώσας, καὶ δι' αὐτῶν, πρὸς τὴν ἀληθινὴν
πίσιν, πάντας ἡμᾶς ὁδηγήσας. Πολυεύσπλαγγε
δόξα σοι.

Κοντάκιον

Προστασία τῶν Χριστιανῶν ἀκαταίσχυντε,
μεσιτεία, πρὸς τὸν Ποιητὴν ἀμετάθετε, μὴ παρίδης,
ἁμαρτωλῶν δεήσεων φωνάς, ἀλλὰ πρόφθασον, ὡς
ἀγαθὴ, εἰς τὴν βοήθειαν ἡμῶν, τῶν πιστῶς
κραυγαζόντων σοι· Τάχυνον εἰς πρεσβείαν, καὶ
σπεῦσον εἰς ἱκεσίαν, ἢ προστατεύουσα ἀεὶ,
Θεοτόκε, τῶν τιμώντων σε.

Resurrectional Apolytikion

When the angelic powers appeared at Your tomb,
the soldiers guarding it feared and became as dead.
And standing by the sepulcher was Mary, who was
seeking Your immaculate body. Unassailed by
Hades, You divested it of spoils. Then You met the
Virgin. You granted life. O Lord, risen from the
dead, glory to You!

For the Fathers

Supremely glorified are You, O Christ our God,
who established the holy Fathers on earth as
beacons, and through them guided us all to the
true Faith. Most compassionate Lord, glory be to
You!

Kontakion

O Protection of Christians that never falls,
intercession with the Creator that never fails, we
sinners beg you, do not ignore the voices of our
prayers. O good Lady, we implore you, quickly come
unto our aid, when we cry out to you with faith.
Hurry to intercession, and hasten to supplication, O
Theotokos who protect now and ever those who
honor you.

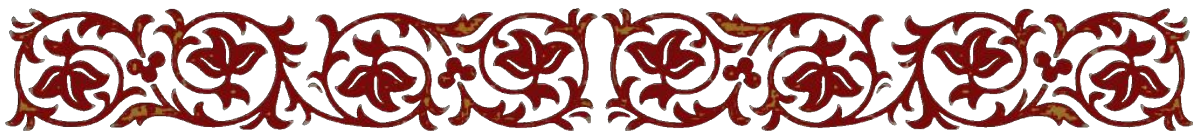


ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (Τίτ. 3:8 15)

Τέκνον Τίτε, πιστὸς ὁ λόγος· καὶ περὶ τούτων βούλομαί σε διαβεβαιοῦσθαι, ἵνα φροντίζωσι καλῶν ἔργων προϊστασθαι οἱ πεπιστευκότες τῷ Θεῷ. ταῦτά ἐστι τὰ καλὰ καὶ ὠφέλιμα τοῖς ἀνθρώποις· μωρὰς δὲ ζητήσεις καὶ γενεαλογίας καὶ ἔρεις καὶ μάχας νομικὰς περιίστασο· εἰσὶ γὰρ ἀνωφελεῖς καὶ μάταιοι. αἵρετικὸν ἄνθρωπον μετὰ μίαν καὶ δευτέραν νουθεσίαν παραιτοῦ, εἰδὼς ὅτι ἐξέστραπται ὁ τοιοῦτος καὶ ἀμαρτάνει ὢν αὐτοκατάκριτος. Ὅταν πέμψω Ἀρτεμᾶν πρὸς σε ἢ Τυχικόν, σπούδαςον ἐλθεῖν πρὸς με εἰς Νικόπολιν· ἐκεῖ γὰρ κέκρικα παραχειμάσαι. Ζηνᾶν τὸν νομικὸν καὶ Ἀπολλῶ σπουδαίως πρόπεμψον, ἵνα μηδὲν αὐτοῖς λείπη. μανθανέτωσαν δὲ καὶ οἱ ἡμέτεροι καλῶν ἔργων προϊστασθαι εἰς τὰς ἀναγκαίας χρείας, ἵνα μὴ ὦσιν ἄκαρποι. Ἀσπάζονται σε οἱ μετ' ἐμοῦ πάντες. ἄσπασαι τοὺς φιλοῦντας ἡμᾶς ἐν πίστει. Ἡ χάρις μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν· ἀμήν.

EPISTLE READING (Tit. 3:8 15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.



ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (ΜΑΤΘ. 5:14 – 19)

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ μαθηταῖς· Ὑμεῖς ἐστε τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου. οὐ δύναται πόλις κρυβῆναι ἐπάνω ὄρους κειμένη· οὐδὲ καίουσι λύχνον καὶ τιθέασι αὐτὸν ὑπὸ τὸν μόδιον, ἀλλ’ ἐπὶ τὴν λυχνίαν, καὶ λάμπει πᾶσι τοῖς ἐν τῇ οἰκίᾳ. οὕτω λαμψάτω τὸ φῶς ὑμῶν ἔμπροσθεν τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ὅπως ἴδωσιν ὑμῶν τὰ καλὰ ἔργα καὶ δοξάσωσι τὸν πατέρα ὑμῶν τὸν ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς. Μὴ νομίσητε ὅτι ἦλθον καταλῦσαι τὸν νόμον ἢ τοὺς προφῆτας· οὐκ ἦλθον καταλῦσαι, ἀλλὰ πληρῶσαι. ἀμὴν γὰρ λέγω ὑμῖν, ἕως ἂν παρέλθῃ ὁ οὐρανὸς καὶ ἡ γῆ, ἰῶτα ἐν ἡ μία κεραία οὐ μὴ παρέλθῃ ἀπὸ τοῦ νόμου ἕως ἂν πάντα γένηται. ὃς ἐὰν οὖν λύσῃ μίαν τῶν ἐντολῶν τούτων τῶν ἐλαχίστων καὶ διδάξῃ οὕτω τοὺς ἀνθρώπους, ἐλάχιστος κληθήσεται ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν· ὃς δ’ ἂν ποιήσῃ καὶ διδάξῃ, οὗτος μέγας κληθήσεται ἐν τῇ βασιλείᾳ τῶν οὐρανῶν.

GOSPEL READING (MT. 5:14 – 19)

The Lord said to his disciples, “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.”

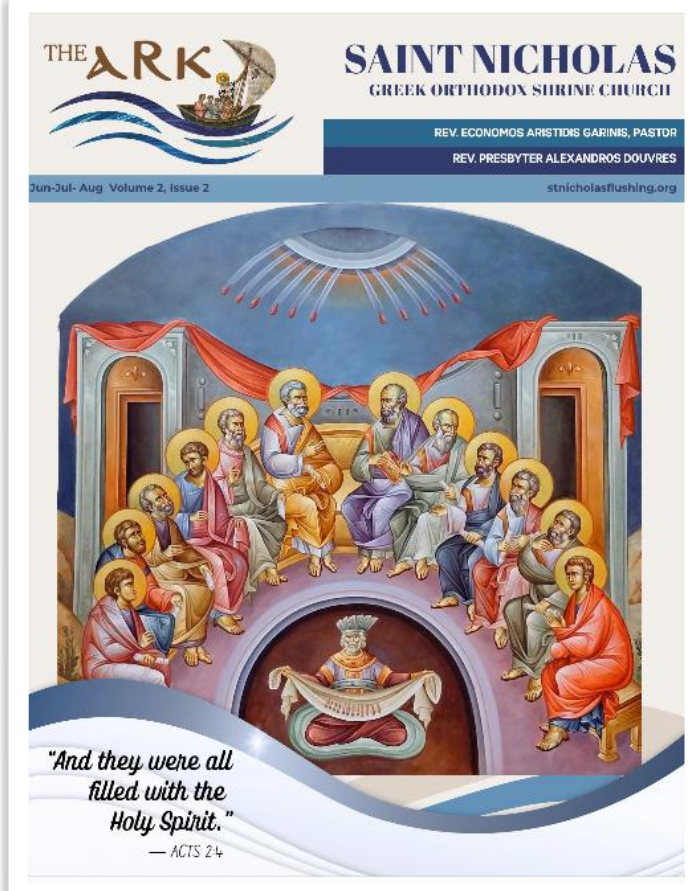
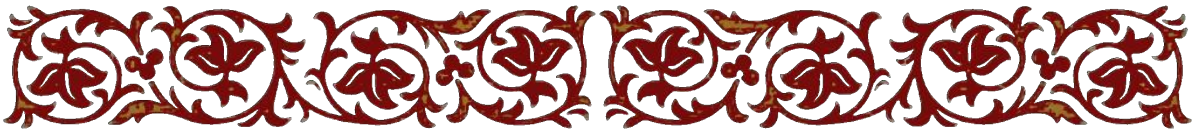


ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

JULY 2026

July 1 WED	Holy Anargyroi Ἅγιοι Ανάργυροι 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy	July 19 SUN	Sunday of the Holy Fathers Κυριακή τῶν Ἀγίων Πατέρων 7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy
July 2 THU	Deposition of the Precious Robe of the Theotokos in Vlachernae Κατάθεσις Εσθήτος τῆς Θεοτόκου ἐν Βλαχέρναις 8:00 Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy	July 20 MON	The Prophet Elias Πρ. Ηλίου του Θεσβίτου 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy
July 5 SUN	5th Sunday of Matthew 4τη Κυριακή του Ματθαίου 7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy	July 22 WED	St. Markella of Chios Αγ. Μαρκέλλης της Χίου 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy
July 7 TUE	St. Kyriaki the Great Martyr Αγ. Κυριακῆς Μεγαλομάρτυρος 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy	July 24 FRI	St. Christina the Great Martyr Αγ. Χριστίνης Μεγαλομάρτυρος 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy
July 11 SAT	St. Euphemia the Great Martyr Αγ. Ευφίμιας Μεγαλομάρτυρος 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy	July 25 SAT	Falling Asleep of St. Anna Κοίμησης Ἀγίας Ἀννης 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy
July 12 SUN	St. Paisios Agiorites Αγ. Παΐσιου του Αγιορείτου 7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy	July 26 SUN	St. Paraskevi the Great Martyr Αγ. Παρασκευῆ Μεγαλομάρτυρος 7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy
July 15 WED	SS. Kyrikos and Ioulita Αγ. Κυρίκου και Ιουλίτας 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy	July 27 MON	St. Panteleimon the Great Martyr Αγ. Παντελεήμωνος 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy
July 17 FRI	St. Marina the Great Martyr Αγ. Μαρίνης Μεγαλομάρτυρος 8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy		





Read our next issue:
www.stnicholasflushing.org/SNF-ARK

Temporary Pause on Bookstore Donations

Thank you so much to everyone who has generously donated to our parish bookstore! Because our shelves are currently full, **we are temporarily pausing the acceptance of any new bookstore donations.** We kindly ask that you hold onto your items at home for now, and we will let you know as soon as we are ready to receive them again. Thank you for your warm understanding and cooperation!



BRONZE DEDICATION LEAF	\$2,000
SILVER DEDICATION LEAF	\$5,000
GOLD DEDICATION LEAF	\$10,000
BENEFACTOR DOVE	\$25,000
GREAT BENEFACTOR STONE	\$50,000

Please consider supporting our *Renovation For Our Future* project to continue passing the torch of Orthodox faith and Hellenism to our future generations.

 BRONZE LEAF \$2,000

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 GOLD LEAF \$10,000

 DOVE \$25,000

 STONE \$50,000

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PLEASE PRINT INSCRIPTION CLEARLY. 3 LINES (33 CHARACTERS MAX)

"SO LET EACH ONE GIVE AS HE PURPOSES IN HIS HEART; NOT GRUDGINGLY OR OUT OF NECESSITY; FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER"

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH

COME & JOIN US FOR
**PANAGIA'S
GARDEN
DAY CAMP**

FAITH- GAMES- FELLOWSHIP

Open to students entering
grades 2-8
10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. daily

Jr. counselors 9th - 12th grade
Parent counselors requested

WEEK ONE:

Mon-Friday (Aug 3-7)

WEEK TWO:

Mon-Friday (Aug 10-14)



Price \$250 per week
\$50 off for siblings

For more information:

WWW.STNICHOLASFLUSHING.ORG/PGSUMMER



Attention rising 9-12th graders and college students. Sign up to volunteer as a camp counselor this summer. At www.StNicholasFlushing.org/PGCounselor

Girl Scout Troop 4212

Saint Nicholas Flushing

JOIN US!



CONFIDENCE

Building girls of
courage, leaders,
taking action to make
the world a better place



SISTERHOOD

Building friendships,
meeting new friends,
cheering and
supporting each other



FUN

Fostering creativity and
discovering
themselves, making
memories to last a
lifetime

Open Enrollment NOW until September or until spots close!

Girls K-8th Grade

Meetings on Fridays, Bi-weekly, 6:30-8pm and 7-8:30pm, Drop-off
at Saint Nicholas 43-15 196th Street, Flushing, NY
Need Parent Volunteers

**MORE
INFO**

stnicksgstroop04212@gmail.com



Instagram

@gstroop04212

ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH

LITTLE ANGELS

MOMMY & ME PROGRAM

For Children Ages 0-2.5



About the Program

Program Director Margarita Eleftheriadis

Our "Little Angels" program is a vibrant, faith-centered ministry designed for our youngest parishioners (infants through Pre-K) and their caregivers.

It's more than just a playgroup—it's a place for moms, dads, and grandparents to connect, share experiences, and build lifelong friendships within our St. Nicholas family.

Classes

- Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Featuring:

- Creative Music and Movement
- Greek songs and themes
- Sensory Stimulation
- Arts and Crafts
- Early Social Interaction
- Great opportunity to meet other families.

Email: SaintNicholasLittleAngels@gmail.com

718-357-4200 - www.stnicholasflushing.org



ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH

COLLEGE
STUDENT
Prayer Service

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH

Everyone is welcome • Sign up below

Whether you are packing your bags for campus or commuting from home, join us for a special prayer service dedicated to all of our college students. Come receive a blessing for wisdom, safety, and success in the new academic year ahead.

All students and families are welcome!



KIDS BULLETIN PAGE

Prophet Elias (celebrated on July 20th) was a great and brave prophet of the Old Testament who lived long ago. He loved God so much that he lived in the wild mountains, where God even sent friendly ravens to bring him food! Elias is famous for praying for rain during a long drought, hearing God's voice in a gentle whisper, and finally being taken up to Heaven in a magnificent, fiery chariot. Because he is closely associated with mountaintops and heaven, many chapels dedicated to Prophet Elias are built on hilltops and mountain peaks throughout Greece.

Saint Marina (celebrated on July 17th) was a young girl from Asia Minor who possessed an incredibly strong and courageous heart. Even though she was very young, she refused to give up her love for Christ, even when the rulers of her city tried to scare her. According to Holy Tradition, while she was

imprisoned, a frightening dragon appeared to her. She made the sign of the cross, and it vanished. Because of her remarkable bravery and trust in God, Saint Marina is loved worldwide as a special protector of young children, helping them overcome their fears.

Saint Markella (celebrated on July 22nd) was a gentle and kind young woman from the beautiful, mastic-scented island of Chios. She loved quiet prayer, helping the poor, and living a pure life close to God. To protect her faith and purity, she fled to the rocky seashore, where, according to Holy Tradition, the rocks opened at her prayer. She was eventually martyred, and today pilgrims visit her seaside shrine, where a spring of warm, holy water flows, asking for peace, healing, and comfort.

Read the clues carefully and fill in the blanks using the details from the saint biographies.

1. Prophet Elias was taken up into Heaven not by a boat or a cloud, but in a magnificent, _____.
2. When Saint Marina was trapped in a dark room, she used the _____ to make a scary dragon disappear.
3. Saint Markella came from the beautiful island of _____.
4. If you want to visit a chapel dedicated to Prophet Elias in Greece, you will have to hike up to a _____.
5. At the rocky shore where Saint Markella prayed, a spring of warm, _____ still flows today.

Use your detective skills to match the Saint to the correct statement.

Sleuth Clue A: "I did not live during the New Testament times, but my prayers brought rain to a dry land, and my chapels touch the sky." Who am I? _____

Sleuth Clue B: "Though I am known as a great protector of children, I had to face a terrifying illusion in a dark room with nothing but my faith." Who am I? _____

Sleuth Clue C: "When I needed to hide, the earth itself opened up to protect me by the sea." Who am I? _____



MEMORIALS

Costa Hayden
Constatninos Karathanasis
Martha Klitsakis
Joanne Kokkoris
Nikolaos Lamnatos
Thomas Lolis
Eleni Sioukas

MNHMOΣYNA

Κωνσταντίνου Hayden
Κωνσταντίνου Καραθανάση
Μάρθας Κλιτσάκη
Ιωάννας Κοκκόρη
Νικολάου Λαμνάτου
Θωμά Λώλη
Ελένης Σιούκα

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Son of
Nicholas & Milena Gliagias
Saturday, July 25, 2026 at 2:00pm



🌟 Join the Team at Panagia's Garden Day Camp! 🌟

We are gearing up for an incredible summer of faith, games, and fellowship—but we need your help to make it happen! We are looking for both campers and enthusiastic leaders to join our camp family:

Campers (Grades 2–8): Don't miss out on the fun! Secure your spot today for an amazing community experience.

Jr. Counselors (Grades 9–12): Gain leadership experience, earn service hours, and be a role model.

Parent Counselors: We are actively requesting parent volunteers to help guide and support our campers.

Whether you're signing up a camper or stepping up to lead, your participation is vital to making this summer a success!

 **Dates:** Week 1 (Aug 3–7) & Week 2 (Aug 10–14)

 **Price:** \$250 per week (\$50 sibling discount)

*Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church
196-10 Northern Blvd Flushing, NY 11358*

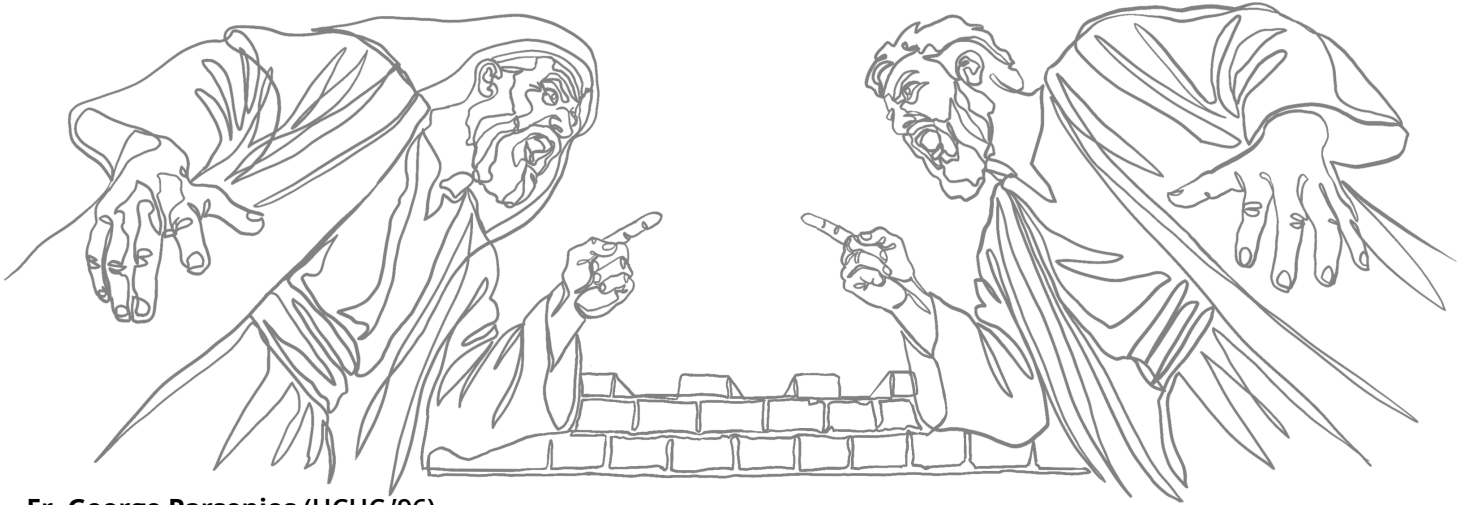


DIAKONIA

A National Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

REFLECTIONS FROM TODAY'S READING | *Titus 3:8-15*

"A little learning is a dangerous thing..."



Fr. George Parsenios (HCHC '96)

Theology is the queen of all learning, and we should devote ourselves eagerly to its study. But as we do so, we should also remember today's reading from the Letter to Titus, where Paul tells Titus to avoid "stupid controversies and...dissensions and quarrels," because they are "useless and futile." This is an odd thing to hear from Paul. He regularly quarreled with people who corrupted the Gospel, and he urged his readers to reject false teaching. Why does he tell Titus to avoid theological controversies? The answer to this question lies in the fact that Titus seems to be overseeing a newly planted Church, full of recent converts who are still learning the rudiments of the faith. Paul writes this warning in order to prevent a problem that commonly afflicts people in the early stages of learning any new subject. Alexander Pope famously said that "a little of learning is a dangerous thing." This is especially true for theology. A little bit

of learning often leads to unnecessary "dissensions and quarrels." As people study theology seriously for the first time, their new learning almost inevitably leads to a touch of arrogance and to a desire to correct and admonish other people. "Knowledge puffs up," says St. Paul elsewhere (1 Corinthians 8:1). The Internet doesn't help. Theological beginners can easily start a podcast posing as experts and then delight in producing "engagement" in the form of dissensions and quarrels. The mature theologian, however, operates like a seasoned physician, able to distinguish between a common cold that can be ignored and a devastating disease that requires intensive surgery. We certainly must defend the Orthodox faith, but most people in our Churches require gentle and careful instruction, not heated argument. The mature theologian knows the difference. Study theology, therefore, but avoid unnecessary dissensions and quarrels.

Fr. George Parsenios is Professor of New Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. www.hchc.edu



*Diakonia is made possible by a generous grant from **Leadership 100***

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FROM THE ORIGINAL GREEK: *doxa* (δόξα)

What does “doctrine” or “glory” mean?

Fr. George Parsenios (HCHC '96)



The Greek word *δόξα* (*doxa*) has two meanings in Christian usage. The first sense is well known, where the word *doxa* means “belief” or “doctrine.” Several important terms in theology use this sense of *doxa*, including the foundational word “orthodox.” The Greek root *orth-* means “correct” or “straight,” so orthodox theology is “correct belief.” Conversely, the Greek word *hetero* means “different” or “other,” so a “heterodox” teaching is a “different belief,” not a true one. Finally, the Greek root

para- means “beyond,” so if something is a “paradox,” it is “beyond belief” because it violates standard logic. What is Orthodox is often a paradox, as when we insist that Jesus is fully God and fully man. Alongside this theological sense of *doxa* meaning belief or doctrine lies the biblical and liturgical sense of *doxa*, which means “glory.” *Doxa*, in this sense, translates the Hebrew word *kavod*, which literally means “heavy.” When used for God, it refers to the might of his presence, a palpable presence that inspires awe. When we say, “Glory to God” in our services we acknowledge God’s weighty presence (see 2 Corinthians 4:17). The two different senses of *doxa* are equally important for Orthodox theology.

THIS WEEK’S LOOK AT CHURCH HISTORY

Archbishop Michael (Konstantinides)



Archbishop Michael on a pastoral visit in Canada. Public Domain.

Ben Malian, MTS-Holy Cross

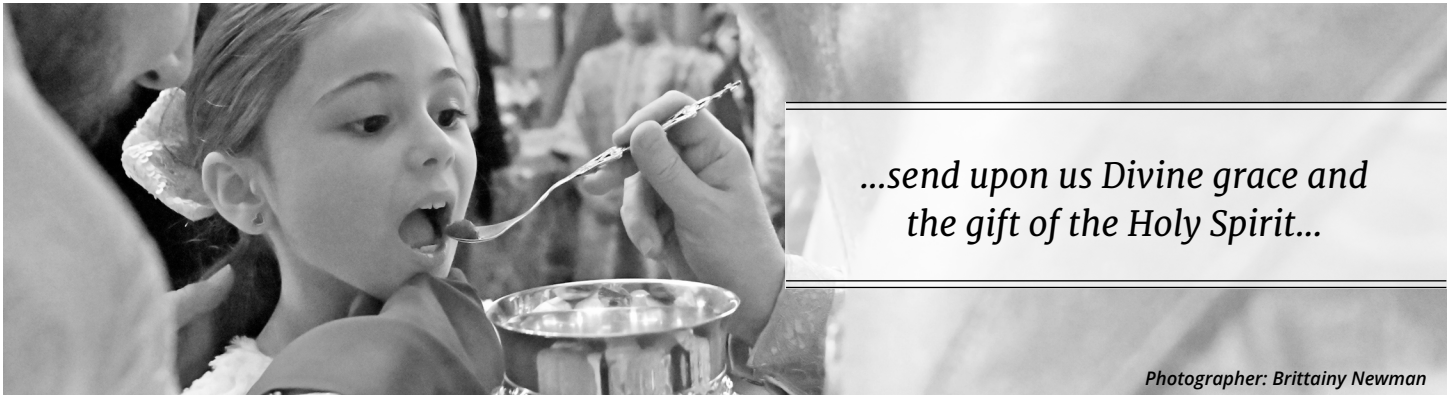
Archbishop Michael (Konstantinides) faithfully served the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America from 1949–1958. Replacing a larger-than-life predecessor, Athenagoras, and being somewhat overshadowed by his long-serving successor, Iakovos, Archbishop Michael is often overlooked in the history of the Greek Orthodox Church in America. Yet, according to Fr. Demetrios Constantelos, “While others lay the foundations and yet others erected the building, Michael provided the goods with which the structure was filled.”

A well-trained, deeply spiritual theologian and a highly sophisticated administrator, Michael served at a pivotal moment in archdiocesan history. In addition to overseeing the foundation of GOYA, he was the first Greek archbishop to visit South America and the first Orthodox hierarch to participate in a presidential inauguration ceremony. Representing the Ecumenical Patriarchate, he was also elected one of the six presidents of the World Council of Churches at the Second Assembly held in Evanston, Illinois, in 1954.

On July 13th, 1958, Archbishop Michael passed away shortly after making a memorable final public appearance at the 14th Clergy-Laity Congress in Salt Lake City.

The Holy Spirit in the Divine Liturgy

Fr. Steven Tsichlis



The Divine Liturgy is a charismatic, Pentecostal event—an event in which the Holy Spirit makes the Risen and Living Christ present among us. In the Liturgy, all things are accomplished by God through Christ in the Spirit. Where the Spirit is, there is Christ; and where Christ is, there is the Spirit. Christ is present in the Divine Liturgy by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, making the Eucharist the source and summit of the Christian life, what St. Maximos the Confessor (580–662AD) called "the mystery of mysteries." And when we are receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion, we are also participating in what St. Paul and the text of the Liturgy calls "the communion of the Holy Spirit" (2 Corinthians 13:14). In Orthodoxy, the *epiclesis* or invocation, the "calling forth" of the Holy Spirit upon the faithful and the gifts of bread and wine being offered, is an essential element in the Eucharistic action, affirming the fact that it is only in and by the power of the Holy Spirit that the Church worships, lives and acts. The Church is the Body of Christ and it is the Holy Spirit that constitutes the Church on the day of Pentecost, at every baptism and at every Liturgy.

To have received "divine grace and the gift of the Holy Spirit" and be in communion with God means that no matter who we are or whatever language we speak or country we're from, whether we're rich or poor, white, black, red or yellow, God has touched our lives and filled us with the inexpressible joy of His love. God has called us to Himself so that we can become, by His grace, like Him in every possible way. God is good, holy, righteous, merciful, true, forgiving, loving and compassionate—and we, as baptized Christians, are given the gift of the Holy Spirit so that these qualities can blossom in us. St. Paul writes, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22). Does this describe us? Are we generous and gentle, kind and loving, patient and joyful? Have we allowed the Holy Spirit to be active in our lives so that we can become the living icons of His glory that we're called to be?



YOUR FAITH IN ACTION

Intentionally practice one fruit of the Spirit—such as patience, kindness, or love—in a situation where it does not come naturally.



COLORING SHEET
Prophet Elias

Just For Kids!
(...and the young at heart)



Prophet Elias (also called Elijah) was a brave prophet in the Old Testament who loved God very much and taught people to trust and obey Him. He prayed with strong faith, and God performed miracles through him, like sending rain after a long drought and feeding him in the wilderness. Prophet Elias is remembered for his courage, his powerful prayers, and his close relationship with God. Orthodox Christians honor him as a holy prophet who reminds us to stay faithful and trust God always. Tomorrow, we celebrate his feast day!