



Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox  
Shrine Church

*April 26, 2026*

Rev. Economos Aristidis Garinis, Proistamenos  
Rev. Presbyter Alexandros Douvres

Office (718) 357-4200 - Email [info@stnicholasflushing.org](mailto:info@stnicholasflushing.org) - [www.stnicholasflushing.org](http://www.stnicholasflushing.org)

**Κυριακή Γ' τῶν Μυροφόρων - Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women**

**ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ**

Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἢ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

**ΑΠΟΛΥΤΙΚΙΟΝ ΤΩΝ ΑΓΙΩΝ ΜΥΡΟΦΟΡΩΝ**

Ὁ εὐσχήμων Ἰωσήφ, ἀπὸ τοῦ ξύλου καθελών, τὸ ἄχραντόν σου Σῶμα, σινδόνι καθαρῇ εἰλήσας καὶ ἀρώμασιν, ἐν μνήματι καινῷ κηδεύσας ἀπέθετο· ἀλλὰ τριήμερος ἀνέστης, Κύριε, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

Ταῖς Μυροφόροις γυναιξί, παρὰ τὸ μνήμα ἐπιστάς, ὁ Ἄγγελος ἐβόα· Τὰ μύρα τοῖς θνητοῖς ὑπάρχει ἀρμόδια· Χριστὸς δὲ διαφθορᾶς ἐδειχθη ἀλλότριος· ἀλλὰ κραυγάσατε· Ἀνέστη ὁ Κύριος, παρέχων τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**ΚΟΝΤΑΚΙΟΝ**

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ κατήλθες Ἀθάνατε, ἀλλὰ τοῦ ἄδου καθεῖλες τὴν δύναμιν· καὶ ἀνέστης ὡς νικητής, Χριστέ ὁ Θεός, γυναιξί Μυροφόροις φθειγᾶμενος, Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀποστόλοις εἰρήνην δωροῦμενος, ὁ τοῖς πεσοῦσι παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.

**HYMNS OF THE DAY**

When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, “O Christ God, Giver of life, glory to You!

**APOLYTIKION FOR HOLY MYRRHBEARERS**

When he took down Your immaculate Body from the Cross, the honorable Joseph wrapped it in a clean linen shroud with spices and laid it for burial in a new tomb. But on the third day You rose, O Lord, and granted to the world the great mercy.

The Angel who had come to the sepulcher said to the Myrrh-bearing women, “Ointments are appropriate for mortal men; but Christ is indeed a stranger to decay. Now go proclaim that the Lord has risen and granted to the world the great mercy.

**KONTAKION**

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out “Rejoice” to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.



### ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (Πράξ. 6:1 – 7)

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, πληθυνόντων τῶν μαθητῶν ἐγένετο γογγυσμὸς τῶν Ἑλληνιστῶν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑβραίους, ὅτι παρεθεωροῦντο ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ τῇ καθημερινῇ αἱ χῆραι αὐτῶν. προσκαλεσάμενοι δὲ οἱ δώδεκα τὸ πλῆθος τῶν μαθητῶν εἶπον· οὐκ ἄρεστόν ἐστιν ἡμᾶς καταλείψαντας τὸν λόγον τοῦ Θεοῦ διακονεῖν τραπέζαις. ἐπισκέψασθε οὖν, ἀδελφοί, ἄνδρας ἐξ ὑμῶν μαρτυρουμένους ἐπτά, πλήρεις Πνεύματος Ἁγίου καὶ σοφίας, οὓς καταστήσομεν ἐπὶ τῆς χρείας ταύτης· ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου προσκαρτερήσομεν. καὶ ἤρρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐνώπιον παντὸς τοῦ πλήθους· καὶ ἐξελέξαντο Στέφανον, ἄνδρα πλήρη πίστεως καὶ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου, καὶ Φίλιππον καὶ Πρόχορον καὶ Νικάνορα καὶ Τίμωνα καὶ Παρμενᾶν καὶ Νικόλαον προσήλυτον Ἀντιοχέα, οὓς ἔστησαν ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀποστόλων, καὶ προσευξάμενοι ἐπέθηκαν αὐτοῖς τὰς χεῖρας. καὶ ὁ λόγος τοῦ Θεοῦ ἠύξανε, καὶ ἐπληθύνετο ὁ ἀριθμὸς τῶν μαθητῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλὴμ σφόδρα, πολὺς τε ὄχλος τῶν Ἰουδαίων ὑπήκουον τῇ πίστει.

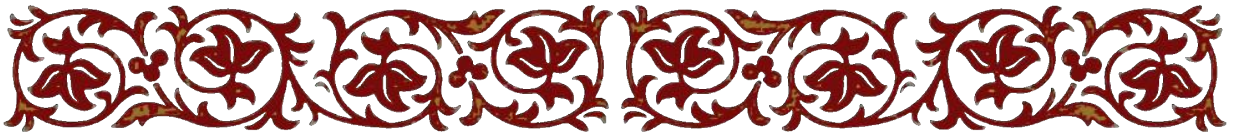
### EPISTLE READING (Acts 6:1 – 7)

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.



### ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΚΟ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΜΑ (ΜΑΡΚ. 15:43 - 16:8)

Τῷ καιρῷ ἐκεῖνῳ ἐλθὼν Ἰωσήφ ὁ ἀπὸ Ἀριμαθαίας, εὐσχήμων βουλευτής, ὃς καὶ αὐτὸς ἦν προσδεχόμενος τὴν βασιλείαν τοῦ Θεοῦ, τολμήσας εἰσῆλθε πρὸς Πιλάτον καὶ ἠτήσατο τὸ σῶμα τοῦ Ἰησοῦ. ὁ δὲ Πιλάτος ἐθαύμασεν εἰ ἤδη τέθνηκε, καὶ προσκαλεσάμενος τὸν κεντυρίωνα ἐπηρώτησεν αὐτὸν εἰ πάλαι ἀπέθανε· καὶ γνοὺς ἀπὸ τοῦ κεντυρίωνος ἐδωρήσατο τὸ σῶμα τῷ Ἰωσήφ. καὶ ἀγοράσας σινδόνα καὶ καθελὼν αὐτὸν ἐνείλησε τῇ σινδόνι καὶ κατέθηκεν αὐτὸν ἐν μνημείῳ, ὃ ἦν λελατομημένον ἐκ πέτρας, καὶ προσεκύλισε λίθον ἐπὶ τὴν θύραν τοῦ μνημείου. ἡ δὲ Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ καὶ Μαρία Ἰωσῆ ἐθεώρουν ποῦ τίθεται. Καὶ διαγενομένου τοῦ σαββάτου Μαρία ἡ Μαγδαληνὴ καὶ Μαρία ἡ τοῦ Ἰακώβου καὶ Σαλώμη ἠγόρασαν ἀρώματα ἵνα ἐλθοῦσαι ἀλείψωσιν αὐτόν. καὶ λίαν πρῶτὴ τῆς μιᾶς σαββάτων ἔρχονται ἐπὶ τὸ μνημεῖον, ἀνατείλαντος τοῦ ἡλίου. καὶ ἔλεγον πρὸς ἑαυτάς· τίς ἀποκυλίσει ἡμῖν τὸν λίθον ἐκ τῆς θύρας τοῦ μνημείου; καὶ ἀναβλέψασαι θεωροῦσιν ὅτι ἀποκεκύλισται ὁ λίθος· ἦν γὰρ μέγας σφόδρα. καὶ εἰσελθοῦσαι εἰς τὸ μνημεῖον εἶδον νεανίσκον καθήμενον ἐν τοῖς δεξιῶις, περιβεβλημένον στολὴν λευκὴν, καὶ ἐξεθαμβήθησαν. ὁ δὲ λέγει αὐταῖς· μὴ ἐκθαμβεῖσθε· Ἰησοῦν ζητεῖτε τὸν Ναζαρηνὸν τὸν ἐσταυρωμένον· ἠγέρθη, οὐκ ἔστιν ὧδε· ἴδε ὁ τόπος ὅπου ἔθηκαν αὐτόν. ἀλλ' ὑπάγετε εἶπατε τοῖς μαθηταῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ τῷ Πέτρῳ ὅτι προάγει ὑμᾶς εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν· ἐκεῖ αὐτὸν ὄψεσθε, καθὼς εἶπεν ὑμῖν. καὶ ἐξελθοῦσαι ἔφυγον ἀπὸ τοῦ μνημείου· εἶχε δὲ αὐτὰς τρόμος καὶ ἔκστασις, καὶ οὐδενὶ οὐδὲν εἶπον· ἐφοβοῦντο γάρ.



**GOSPEL READING (MK. 15:43 16:8)**

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?” And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you.” And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.



# ΕΟΡΤΟΛΟΓΙΟΝ

MAY 2026

May 3  
SUN  
**Sunday of the Paralytic**  
Κυριακή του Παραλυτικού  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 6  
WED  
**Mid-Pentecost**  
Μεσοπεντηκοστής  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 9  
SAT  
**St. Christopher the Martyr**  
Αγ. Χριστοφόρου Μάρτυρα  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 10  
SUN  
**Sunday of the Samaritan Woman**  
Κυριακή της Σαμαρείτιδας  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 11  
MON  
**SS. Cyril and Methodios**  
Αγ. Κύριλλου και Μεθοδίου  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 14  
THU  
**St. Isidore of Chios**  
Αγ. Ισιδώρου του εν Χίου  
8:00 a.m. / 9:00 Liturgy

May 17  
SUN  
**Sunday of the Blind Man**  
Κυριακή του Τυφλού  
7:30 Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 20  
WED  
**Apodosis of Pascha**  
Απόδοση του Πάσχα  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy  
**9th Hour - 9τη Ώρα 6:30 p.m.**  
**Great Vespers of the Ascension**  
Μέγας Εσπερινός της Αναλήψεως

May 21  
THU  
**Feast of Ascension**  
Εορτή της Αναλήψεως  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy

May 24  
SUN  
**Fathers of the 1st Council**  
Αγ Πατέρων τής Α' Οίκουμ. Συνόδου  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy

May 25  
MON  
**+Memorial Day+**  
**+Τρισάγιον στα Μνήματα+**  
Flushing Cemetery  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

May 27  
WED  
**St. John the Russian**  
Αγ. Ιωάννου του Ρώσου  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy

May 30  
SAT  
**Saturday of the Souls**  
Ψυχοσάββατο  
8:00 a.m. Orthros / 9:00 Liturgy

May 31  
SUN  
**Sunday of Pentecost**  
Κυριακή της Πεντηκοστής  
7:30 a.m. Orthros / 8:45 Liturgy



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

**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
- SILVER LEAF \$5,000
- GOLD LEAF \$10,000
- DOVE \$25,000
- STONE \$50,000

LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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





ST. NICHOLAS FLUSHING GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH

# GOYA DANCE

FRIDAY, MAY 1ST, 2026

7:30-10:30pm

SPECIAL GUEST

DJ SPYRO

X MC MJ

geoevents

*\$30 PER PERSON*

*Food & Drinks Included  
Inter-Goyans are welcomed*

SIGN UP!



ST NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX SHRINE CHURCH



**AUTHENTIC GREEK FOOD & PASTRIES † FLEA MARKET †  
RAFFLE PRIZES † CHURCH TOURS † GAMES † VENDORS**

**MAY 14 TO MAY 17**

*Come & join us for great evening of  
Greek Food, Music & Dance*

<b>THURS MAY</b>	<b>FRI MAY</b>	<b>SAT MAY</b>	<b>SUN MAY</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>6PM TO</b>	<b>6PM TO</b>	<b>2PM TO</b>	<b>12PM TO</b>
<b>10PM</b>	<b>11PM</b>	<b>11PM</b>	<b>9PM</b>

**140+ RAFFLE PRIZES**

**196-10 NORTHERN BOULEVARD, FLUSHING**

**ENTRY: FREE**

*For more information:*

**STNICHOLASFLUSHING.ORG/FESTIVAL**



196-10 NORTHERN BLVD  
FLUSHING, NY 11358  
718-357-4200

**54TH ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL  
MAY 14 – 17, 2026**

**FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP CONTRACT**

- \$250.00 FESTIVAL FRIEND SPONSOR**  
(Your name or business will be displayed on the sponsor list)
- \$500.00 FESTIVAL FOOD BOOTH SPONSOR**  
(Your name or your business will be displayed over the food booth of your choice and sponsor list)
- \$550.00 FESTIVAL BANNER SPONSOR**  
(Must supply own banner 2' x 6')

**To become a sponsor, visit: <https://www.stnicholasflushing.org/become-a-sponsor>**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount \$:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Display Location:**     SOUVLAKI     LOUKOUMADES     KAFENIO     BAR

**Method of Payment:**     CASH     CHECK (payable to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church)  
    CREDIT CARD (please call the church office to make payment)

Please note: A 3% processing fee will be applied to all credit card transactions.  
Thank you for helping us maximize the impact of your donation!

\*\*\*\*Payments must be received no later than May 11, 2026\*\*\*\*



If you have any questions, please call Karen Kalkanis at (917) 584-2322

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



196-10 NORTHERN BLVD  
FLUSHING, NY 11358  
718-357-4200

## 54TH ANNUAL GREEK FESTIVAL MAY 14 – 17, 2026

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΗ - CHRIST IS RISEN!

Beloved Parishioners,

We invite you to help defray the expenses of our Festival by becoming a Festival Sponsor of our four-day Festival to be held **THURSDAY MAY 14th through SUNDAY MAY 17th**, on our Church grounds. Previous festivals have attracted tens of thousands of area residents to sample and enjoy Greek Food, Folk Dancing, and learn about Hellenic Orthodox Heritage.

With you, we can concentrate our efforts on making our annual major fundraiser the best ever. We need to be successful to carry on the vital operations of our beloved Church. The #1 moneymaker in the festival is the Souvlaki stand, however, the biggest expense in the festival is the Souvlaki. If we could reduce our Souvlaki expenses, our profits would be greater. Thank you for your kind consideration!

Please donate the funds to purchase some of the necessary food items or supplies.  
If you prefer to donate merchandise, please contact the Church Office at 718.357.4200.

### 1 CASE OF GYRO/SOUVLAKI \$50

Please drop off the form below OR mail this letter along with your contribution to the Church Office.

Please note on the envelope: ATTENTION FESTIVAL COMMITTEE.

With love in Christ,

Economos Fr. Aristidis Garinis, Proistamenos

Demetrios Athansopoulos  
Michael Haralambous

Festival Chairpersons

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State Zip

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_



# FLEA MARKET



## DON'T MISS OUT!

The Philoptochos Society is now accepting donations for our upcoming Festival Flea Market. Your "pre-loved" treasures can help us make a huge impact in our community!

We are seeking gently used, clean items:

- **Household Goods:** Kitchenware, décor, linens, and small appliances (in working order)
- **Clothing:** Freshly laundered clothes for all ages.
- **Small Furniture:** Side tables, chairs, lamps, and accent pieces.

**Drop-off Location: Sarantakos Hall (Michelis Cultural Center) Accessible via the Northern Boulevard Parking Lot only.**

*Important Note: To ensure proper handling, items will NOT be accepted by the Church Office. Please bring all donations directly to Sarantakos Hall.*

*Please note: A 3% processing fee will be applied to all credit card transactions. Thank you for helping us maximize the impact of your donation!*

### Festival Hours:

Thurs. 5/14 6pm-10pm  
Sat. 5/16 2pm-11pm

Fri. 5/15 6pm-11pm,  
Sun 5/17 12-9 pm

196-10 Northern Blvd Flushing, NY 11358  
[www.stnicholasflushing.org](http://www.stnicholasflushing.org)



# SAVE THE DATE

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE NEW YORK, GREEK DIVISION

# Niki Sideris 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Walk & Spring Festival



**Saturday, May 2, 2026**

**405 E 73rd St, New York, NY 10021**

**\$30 per Participant**

**Registration begins at 9 AM | Walk starts promptly at 11 AM**

**Live Music by Pelagos Entertainment**

**Chairperson: Kalomira Sarantis-Boosalis**



- Greek-American Popstar, songwriter and TV personality
- 2004 Fame Story Winner
- Represented Greece in the Eurovision Song Contest 2008



**Questions? Contact the Greek Division**

[rmh-newyork.org/greekwalk](http://rmh-newyork.org/greekwalk)

212-639-0218

[skatechis@rmh-newyork.org](mailto:skatechis@rmh-newyork.org)



Scan Me

For more information contact Mrs. Catina Monogioudis (718) 428-9037



**ST. NICHOLAS LADIES  
PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY  
YOUNG PHILANTHROPIST  
SCHOLARSHIP**

*The Scholarship application is now open for a  
Graduating High School Senior of the Greek  
Orthodox faith who has excelled in Philanthropic  
works during their high school career*

*Our chapter will be offering two (2) scholarships*

*Family must be a member in good standing of the parish of  
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church, Flushing NY  
and a member of the St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos chapter*



[stnicholasphiloptochos.org](https://forms.gle/NLks53pkCVJwA1kt5)

<https://forms.gle/NLks53pkCVJwA1kt5>

information email [pripsosm@gmail.com](mailto:pripsosm@gmail.com)

**APPLICATION DUE BY  
MAY 11, 2026**

**CLASS OF 2026**

**Gus Cherevas Estia-Pindus Chapter 326**

# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

*Empowering Our Youth  
Since 1982*

Established by Van Pappas and Andy George, the Estia-Pindus Chapter No. 326 of the Order of AHEPA is proud to announce our 2026 Scholarship Program.

For over 40 years, we have awarded more than \$75,000 to deserving students who have gone on to become leaders, doctors, lawyers, and educators. This year, we continue that tradition by awarding \$7,250 in total scholarships!

We are proud to announce \$7,250 in total scholarships for the Class of 2026:

- High School Seniors: (3) Awards of \$2,000 (Enrolled in College for Fall 2026)
- W. Spyropoulos 8th Graders: (2) Awards of \$500 (Entering High School in Fall 2026)
- St. Nicholas Hellenic School: (1) Award of \$250 (Graduating Student)

**Eligibility:** Applicants must be of Hellenic descent residing in Queens (or attend school in NYC), or be children/grandchildren of Chapter 326 members.

Application Deadline:  
**MAY 18, 2026**



Apply Here: [forms.gle/Um89bJPRrDKA56Gk7](https://forms.gle/Um89bJPRrDKA56Gk7)

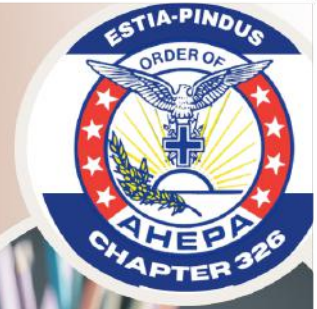
## OTHER SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**AHEPA Empire District No. 6**

<https://www.ahepad6.com/ahepa-district-6-scholarship>

**The AHEPA Education Foundation (AEF)**

<https://www.ahepa.org/education>



Contact Information:

[moskos.ahepa326@verizon.net](mailto:moskos.ahepa326@verizon.net)

# KIDS BULLETIN PAGE

## The Story of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

After Jesus was buried, a group of very brave women woke up early Sunday morning while it was still dark. They carried jars of sweet-smelling oil called Myrrh to the tomb to show their love for Jesus. When they arrived, the heavy stone was rolled away! An Angel in shining white clothes told them:

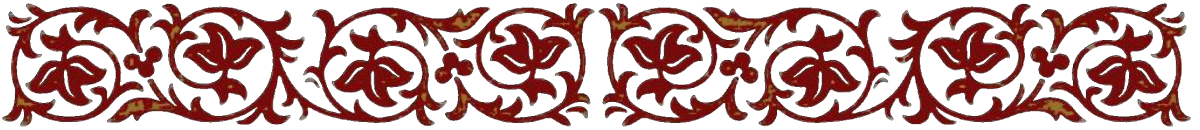
*"Do not be afraid! You are looking for Jesus, but He is not here. He has Risen!"*

These women—including Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Salome—became the very first people to tell the world that Christ is Risen! On this day, we also remember Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, who helped care for Jesus with great courage.

## Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women

T G S W T D N D O Z T N D M U H J P  
R F W B O W G Q B K G S N H K T N E  
W Z O N M B F L W A J A E K Q S E D  
G K O Z B A J P P X D L D C R I S S  
G D Z B H M A R Y V H O R A A R I M  
F S K C U X H M U Q O M A N S H R G  
S R S T S P D O X E J E G E M C V K  
E A Y I Z S S L B A F E J S Y Y R S  
P O P C Y C G K A Q L Q H T R J E U  
K O E W C E J O A N N A S I R G S M  
C K D V X O Q Z B M U E E S H X U E  
S N M W Z P V L V P C N E Y K S R D  
D B C P L B X B A I E L O A Q T R O  
W Z P L O Q F W P L P J P H Q O E C  
U Y X A U J J S A I C M D P Q N C I  
K O O P L L S D C O P A C E F E T N  
G P W T X T G S S Z H S K S R L I K  
N Y U J Q A I H P G I K M O Z X O V  
D A Z J M D G Z K B D B D J D W N N

1. MARY
2. MAGDALENE
3. JOANNA
4. SALOME
5. JOSEPH
6. NICODEMUS
7. ANGEL
8. DISCIPLES
9. MYRRH
10. SPICES
11. TOMB
12. GARDEN
13. STONE
14. PASCHA
15. ANESTI
16. JOY
17. RESURRECTION
18. RISEN
19. CHRIST



### MEMORIALS

Anastasia Boudouvas  
Demetrios Dailakis  
Sevasli Hatzgeorgiou  
Socrates Katsiamides  
Lambrini Monogioudis  
Michael Spanakis  
Nicholas Tzikas

### ΜΝΗΜΟΣΥΝΑ

Αναστασίας Μπουντουβά  
Δημητρίου Δαϊλάκη  
Σεβαστής Χατζγεωργίου  
Σωκράτους Κατσιαμίδου  
Λαμπρινής Μονογιούδη  
Μιχαήλ Σπανάκη  
Νικολάου Τζίκα

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Daughter of  
Eleni & Francis Leto  
Saturday, May 2nd 11:00 a.m.

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### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Spiridoula Zolotas & George Economou  
Saturday, May 2nd 3:00 p.m.

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*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 - *Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8*

## “He has risen, He is not here”

Fr. George Parsenios



The crucifixion and burial of Jesus were humiliating events, and today's Gospel reading emphasizes two features of this humiliation. For ancient Jews, the two most important features of a burial were (1) burial with one's ancestors and (2) a parade of public mourners. Jesus received neither. Burial with one's ancestors was especially important. When people died in the Old Testament, their burial was described with the phrase, “He slept and was gathered to his fathers” (Genesis 25:8). This phrase literally means that the bones of the deceased were placed in a family tomb filled with the bones of one's ancestors. People who betrayed the ancient Israelites were often threatened with the possibility that they would not be given such a burial (1 Kings 13:21; Jer 22:18). Likewise, public mourning of the dead was an essential way to heal the wound of loss. We see parades of mourning when the Widow of Nain buries her son (Luke 7:12) or when the

sisters of Lazarus mourn their brother (John 11). Such public mourning demonstrated a person's importance. The greater the parade of mourners, the greater a person's fame. Jesus is not mourned at all. The women disciples in today's Gospel find his tomb and go to anoint his body. But there is no parade of mourners. Jesus, therefore, is cut off from all the normal rituals of burial. And this is wholly as it should be. The bones of Jesus were not mingled with the dead bones of his earthly ancestors, because his body would not be remaining in the tomb. And his death was not the cause for weeks of public mourning, because his body would not be remaining in the tomb. His executioners meant to see him buried in shame, but they paradoxically affirmed that his tomb was not the end.

Fr. George Parsenios is Professor of New Testament at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. [www.hchc.edu](http://www.hchc.edu)



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

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**FROM THE ORIGINAL GREEK:**

**Symbolon tis Pisteos (Σύμβολον τῆς Πίστεως)**

## What is the “Symbol of the Faith?”

Fr. George Parsenios



The Creed is a summary of our faith. Our liturgy books, however, do not call the Creed a “summary” of the faith, but the “Symbol of the Faith,” which in Greek is *To Symbolon tis Pisteos*. In antiquity, the term *symbolon* referred to various kinds of tokens that people used to identify one another. When entering into a contract, a piece of pottery would be broken and each person would keep half the broken item as a *symbolon* of their contract. The word *symbollo* means “join together,” and

the members of the contract were identified when the two broken pieces were joined together. Likewise, in the great citizen Assembly of ancient Athens, people were given a *symbolon* to prove that they sat in the Assembly as citizens. A figure named Rufinus had this in mind in the 4th century when he explained why the label *symbolon* was applied to the Creed. Reciting the Creed, he explained, prevented false teachers from infiltrating Churches. The Creed was a *symbolon* of Orthodoxy. Before sharing in communion at each Liturgy, therefore, we recite the Creed in order to demonstrate our true faith in the one true God. It is a *symbolon* of our identity.

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### THIS WEEK'S LOOK AT CHURCH HISTORY

## The Greek Orthodox Church Heroically Resists The Nazi Occupation



In April 1941, Nazi Germany invaded Greece in Operation Marita. By April 23, Greek forces were forced to surrender. On April 27 German troops marched into Athens. During the occupation (1941–1944), the Greek Orthodox Church was an important force of resistance. Led by Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens,

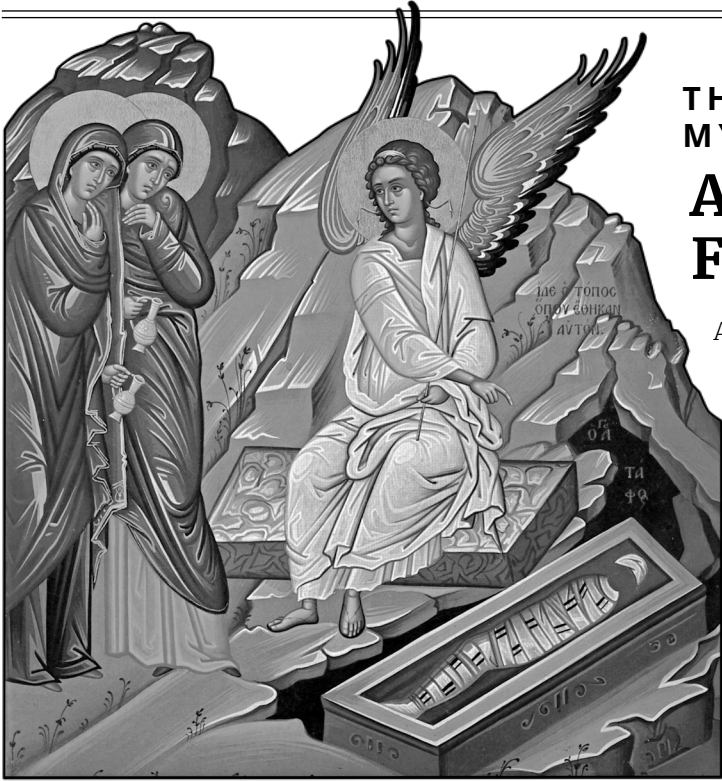
Church leaders openly opposed Nazi rule, especially the persecution of Greek Jews.

Archbishop Damaskinos took bold and dangerous actions. In 1943, he sent a public letter protesting the mistreatment and deportation of Jews. He ordered monasteries, convents, and priests to hide Jewish families. Working with Athens Police Chief Angelos Evert, the Church helped create thousands of fake identification cards and baptismal certificates. These documents gave Jews Christian names allowing them to pass through Nazi checkpoints.

Over 27,000 false IDs were produced, and over 250 Jewish children were hidden by Orthodox clergy alone. When Nazi General Jürgen Stroop threatened Damaskinos with execution, the Archbishop bravely replied that Greek religious leaders were hanged, not shot. His courage saved thousands of lives.

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## THE SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

### An Example of Faith Over Fear

Around the beginning of His thirty-second year, Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, preaching, healing the sick, and performing miracles. During this time, several women who had been helped by Him chose to leave their homes and follow Him. They showed their devotion by caring for Jesus and His disciples, providing for their needs using their own money and belongings. These faithful women remained with Him throughout His ministry, even staying close during His crucifixion and burial.

After Jesus died, they did not lose faith or allow fear of the Jewish authorities to stop them. Instead, they prepared special scented oils called myrrh to anoint His body, which was the custom at the time. Early in the morning after the Sabbath, they went to His tomb to perform this act of love and respect. Because they carried myrrh to the grave, these women are known as the Myrrh-bearers.

Some of their names are recorded in the Gospels. They are believed to have been, Mary Magdalene; Mary, the mother of Jesus; Mary, the wife of Clopas; Salome; Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and a woman named Susanna. Scripture suggests there were even more women, though their names are not known.

The Church also honors two men who secretly followed Jesus: Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a respected Jewish leader and Pharisee who was well educated in the Law of Moses. Early in Jesus' ministry, Nicodemus visited Him at night and came to believe in Him. After the crucifixion, he brought a large amount of myrrh and spices to honor Jesus' body.

Joseph of Arimathea was a wealthy and influential man and a member of the Jewish council. Showing great courage, he went to the Roman governor Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Together, Joseph and Nicodemus buried Jesus. Because there was little time, Joseph placed Jesus in his own tomb, which had been carved out of rock.



#### FAITH IN ACTION

### Remain Faithful and Courageous During Difficult Times

The Myrrh-bearers did not abandon Christ during His suffering and death. Joseph and Nicodemus also risked their reputation and safety to honor Him publicly. Follow their example by standing firm in your Orthodox Christian Faith, even when it is unpopular, misunderstood, or personally costly—at school, work, or in social settings.

**Ask yourself:** *Do I hide my faith out of fear, or do I live it with humility and courage?*



## The Gospel According to Saint Mark 16:1-6

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.

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

