

## **COMMUNITY BULLETIN**

#### 20 AUGUST 2022

NO. 63

## Monthly News & Announcements

### **Prayers & Services**

See the parish website for all upcoming services

- Please pray for the newly departed Mary, Peter, Konstantinos and Jessica, and the sick Richard and Monica.
- Saints' days in <u>Greek</u> and <u>English</u>
- Bilingual texts and music for <u>all services by date</u>
- Archdiocesan Sunday <u>Bulletin</u> and <u>Services</u> (Holy Wisdom Cathedral, London)

### **Events & Announcements**

Please see our parish website for a full community calendar

Tuesday 23 August, leave-taking (Apodosis) of the Dormition Feast.

**Monday 29 August** marks our remembrance of the Beheading of St John the Baptist (strict fast).

Thursday 1 September, Ecclesiastical New Year — Happy Feast to all!

Our BBQ in late July was a great success with outstanding food, weather and fellowship. We raised £2420, and are so grateful to Jimmy X and his family for bringing the event back at a key moment, and of course for the many years they have made this offering to the community at One Canterbury.

The next fundraiser is our **Greek Food Fair on Saturday 15 October**, which is being coordinated by Roula T & Ioanna P. Our venue costs will be higher this time around, so please support the event by sharing our forthcoming poster and announcements on social media. As always, we are asking parishioners to cook and bake their wonderful dishes to sell — **please email** <u>roula1@hotmail.co.uk</u> with what you would like to prepare, or if you would like help in deciding.

## From Fr Ian

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday there were many rumours circulating regarding the death of Metropolitan Kallistos. I am writing to let you know that he is indeed seriously ill, but he remains alive and conscious and under the care of professionals as well as of members of the Canterbury Road and Ferry Road Orthodox communities. The Metropolitan is unable to receive visitors and cannot answer phone calls, so the best that we can do for him is to continue to keep him in our prayers. It may be that he is reaching the end of his life, but none of us knows when the end will come, either for ourselves or for another.

In our services we pray regularly for 'a Christian end to our life, painless, unashamed and peaceful,' and even if this illness is one from which it may seem unlikely that our beloved Metropolitan will recover, this petition can still be part of our prayer for him, as it is for each one of us when we pray it in the Liturgy and other services. If and when there is more news about Metropolitan Kallistos' health we will be circulating it. Meanwhile we pray that God will comfort and strengthen him and also all those who are caring for him and working to make his life as comfortable as is possible.

With my love to you all, Fr lan

## **Upcoming Community Dates**

**Peter (Panayiotis) Shannon** passed away after a long illness on Sunday August 7th. Our sympathies go out to his sister Katerina Clennett and his niece Helena Clennett. His funeral will be celebrated at our Church on Canterbury Road at 1:00 p.m. on **Friday 26 August**. All who can come will be welcome. Please remember Peter and his family in your prayers.



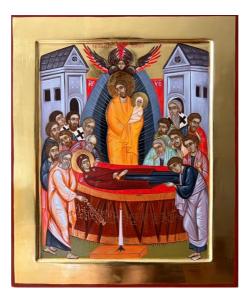
A 40-day blessing for baby Alexander will be held after the Liturgy on Sunday 21 August, accompanied by his parents Chara Tzanetaki and Philip Atzemoglou, and grandmother Elsa Gardikioti George is one of our five new Parish Council members elected in May — please be sure to introduce yourself if you haven't had a chance to meet yet!



I've been a member of the Orthodox communities in Oxford since coming here to start a DPhil in linguistics in 2014, and I'm delighted to have joined the Parish Council earlier this year. I'm married to Margaret, a singer and music teacher (we were married at Canterbury Road), and work as a linguist and project manager in artificial intelligence.

-George Krasovitsky

Many thanks to Fr Dobromir for the wonderful icon he was kind enough to finish in time for the Dormition Feast — it was commissioned by the joint Parish Councils, and blessed just in time for the 15<sup>th</sup>!





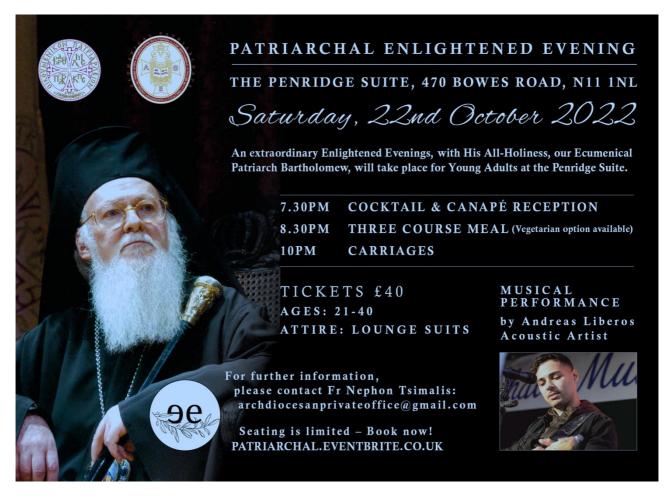
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Greek Orthodox Parish of the Holy Trinity, 1 Canterbury Road, OXFORD, OX2 6LU Website: <u>www.holytrinityoxford.org.uk</u> Fr Ian: frian@holytrinityoxford.org.uk

## Please remember Holy Trinity Parish in your prayers...

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#### Event for Young Adults Please contact <u>Fr lan</u> if you would like to attend



As we are quickly approaching the Archdiocesan Centenary Celebrations and the visit of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, at the request of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas, I would like to ask for your gracious assistance in spreading the word concerning an event we are hosting specifically for **Young Adults (ages 21-40) on 22nd October 2022, at The Penridge Suite.** Flyers and information about this gathering were already sent by post to all of our parishes for dissemination. I have attached the flyer to this email, so that you may post it on your social media as well. (This event is not for Clergy)

As our **'Enlightened Evenings'** are normally sold out, we would like to allow greater opportunity to young adults who have not attended our events before, to attend this 'once in a lifetime' event with the Ecumenical Patriarch. We will also have live music by one of our very own Acoustic Artists, Andreas Liberos. It will be a wonderful occasion of meeting, eating, and celebrating.

In light of this extraordinary occasion, The Archbishop strongly encourages, especially, our London-based parishes to send **a minimum of three young adults**. Those outside of London can do their best to send as many as are able to travel, taking distance and expenses into consideration, always. Parishes, if possible, may sponsor their young adult representatives when the need arises. Pastoral discretion should be used concerning this point. Kindly know that we have done everything possible to make our event affordable for all within the framework of such gatherings.

At present, almost half of the available tickets are sold. Tickets are allocated on a 'first come, first serve' basis via the Eventbrite link: <u>https://Patriarchal.eventbrite.co.uk</u>.

I would like to thank you in advance for your time and assistance, dear fellow co-laborer, and I hope that you will do everything possible to afford our young adults with an in-person meeting with our Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ, Archimandrite Nephon Tsimalis Director, Office of The Archbishop

#### Αγαπητοί μας εν Κυρίω,

Καθώς πλησιάζουμε στις εορταστικές εκδηλώσεις της Εκατονταετούς Επετείου από την ίδρυση της Ιεράς Αρχιεπισκοπής και την επίσκεψη της Α.Θ.Π. του Οικουμενικού Πατριάρχου κ.κ. Βαρθολομαίου και κατόπιν εντολής του Σεβασμιωτάτου Αρχιεπισκόπου μας κ. Νικήτα, επικοινωνώ μαζί σας για να ζητήσω την ευγενική σας συνδρομή για την προώθηση **της εκδήλωσης Enlightened Evenings για την Νεολαία (ηλικίες 21-40) στις 22 Οκτωβρίου 2022 στο Penridge Suite.** Έχουν ήδη αποσταλεί διαφημιστικά φυλλάδια ταχυδρομικώς σε όλες τις Κοινότητες προς διανομή. Έχω επίσης επισυνάψει στο μήνυμα αυτό το σχετικό φυλλάδιο, έτσι ώστε να μπορέσετε να το αναρτήσετε στα μέσα κοινωνικής δικτύωσης. (Η εκδήλωση αυτή δεν αφορά τους Κληρικούς της Αρχιεπισκοπής)

Καθώς οι θέσεις για τα Enlightened Evenings συμπληρώνονται, θα θέλαμε να προσφέρουμε σε περισσότερους νέους την μοναδική αυτή «ευκαιρία ζωής», να συναντήσουν δια ζώσης τον Οικουμενικό Πατριάρχη. Η εκδήλωση θα λάβει χώρα σε εορταστική ατμόσφαιρα με ζωντανή μουσική από τον γνωστό μας μουσικό καλλιτέχνη Andreas Liberos σε μία όμορφη βραδιά που θα συνδυάζει κοινωνική συναναστροφή και εκλεκτά εδέσματα.

Εν όψη αυτής της ιδιαίτερης συνάντησης, ο Σεβασμιώτατος συστήνει, πρωτίστως, στις Κοινότητες του Λονδίνου να αποστείλουν **τουλάχιστον τρία άτομα.** Οι δε Κοινότητες εκτός Λονδίνου παρακαλούνται να αποστείλουν όσα άτομα μπορούν να ταξιδέψουν, λαμβάνοντας υπόψη την απόσταση και το κόστος το οποίο θα μπορούσαν εκείνες να καλύψουν για τα νεαρά άτομα που θα τις εκπροσωπήσουν. Η Αρχιεπισκοπή έχει κάνει κάθε δυνατή προσπάθεια ώστε το κόστος συμμετοχής να είναι μειωμένο. Σας παρακαλούμε να στείλετε τα ονόματα των νέων που θα συμμετάσχουν στην ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση: archdiocesanprivateoffice@gmail.com

Επί του παρόντος, σχεδόν τα μισά από τα εισιτήρια έχουν προπωληθεί. Τα εισιτήρια αυτά διατίθενται μέχρι εξαντλήσεως τους, μέσω της πλατφόρμας Eventbrite στην ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση https://Patriarchal.eventbrite.co.uk

Σας ευχαριστούμε θερμά για την συμπαράσταση σας στη προσπάθεια μας να προσφέρουμε στους νέους της Αρχιεπισκοπής την μοναδική αυτή ευκαιρία συνάντησης με την Α.Θ.Π. τον Οικουμενικό Πατριάρχη κ.κ. Βαρθολομαίο, διατελώ,

Με αδελφική έν Χριστώ αγάπη, Αρχιμανδρίτης Νήφων Τσιμαλής Διευθυντής Ιδιαιτέρου Γραφείου του Αρχιεπισκόπου

### Walking on Water

The holy Evangelist Matthew has left us a description of an adventure, a seafaring adventure (Matthew 14, 22-34). A small fishing boat is sailing over the waters of the Sea of Galilee. On board are the twelve disciples of Christ. Suddenly a storm arises. Darkness is everywhere, most especially in the minds of the disciples, envisaging the loss of their lives at any moment. Far off, in the midst of the darkness, a light appears. Within that light, they discern a human form, walking on the waves. They cry out in an agony of terror. Then: 'Take heart, it's only I; don't be afraid.' Who is this 'I'? It's Jesus. Almighty God himself is hastening at this critical moment to rescue his disciples' boat from danger, walking over the waves to reach it.

Peter asks Christ's leave to go to meet him, to which the response is 'Come!' He sets foot on the water, fixing his eyes on Christ, and runs forward over the waves towards him. But suddenly he lets out an anguished cry: 'Lord, save me!' What happened? At some point he took his eyes off the figure of Christ, looked at the foaming waves, and lost confidence, instantly beginning to sink. Christ addresses to him two remarks of criticism and reproof. 'O man of little faith! Why did you waver?' Stretching out his hand, he caught Peter's, and together they reached the boat and climbed into it. Immediately the wind dropped, the sea grew calm, and everything was restored to tranquillity.

Peter's lack of faith was unjustifiable on two counts. First, he was not alone. Christ was face to face with him, walking towards him -- Christ, to whose command the sea, the winds and the whole of Nature are obedient. Not long before He had instructed His disciples 'Take heart, it's only I; don't be afraid.' The second point is that Peter had witnessed so many of Jesus's miracles; indeed, the last occasion was just before they embarked on the boat, when he was present at the magnificent miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand. In any case, he himself, before he began to sink, had been walking on the water -- wasn't that a miracle?

My friends, if Christ could address those words of reproof to Peter, what sort of remarks should He address to us? Is our own faith liable to waver?

Faith is a pure clear lamplight which burns steadily within the soul, illuminating it with its golden flame. Lack of faith is when that lamp goes out, so that no heavenly light can be shed on the soul's chaos. Little faith is when the lamplight trembles and flickers, sometimes sending up bright flames to illuminate the soul, at other times dimming to leave our innermost being in darkness. True faith demands perfect trust and surrendering oneself to the will of God. As long as Peter directed his eyes high, fixed on the approaching form of Christ, he was able to walk on the waves. As soon as he lowered them to glimpse the foaming surf, he lost trust and began to sink. Accordingly, let us raise our eyes aloft, just as in the liturgy we lift our hearts to the Lord. Let us raise our sights to Heaven, for it is from there that Christ stretches his hand down to catch us up and save us from the turbulence of depravity, lack of faith, affliction and despair. [] Amen.

[Transl. Rosemary BM, The Word of Our Lord, 14 August]

The Theotokos is also able, through her intercessions on our behalf with her Son, to calm the turbulent storms of our souls.

From the Great Paraclesis to the Theotokos Tempests of troubles afflict me, Lady; Turbulent waves submerge and drown me. Quickly, stretch out your hand to save me! Your caring warmth is my protection.

# From the Exapostilaria from the Small Paraclesis to the Theotokos, for her Dormition

'Apostles from far-scattered countries, Now in Gethsemane assembled, Perform the last rites for my body. Dear Son, my God, receive my spirit!'

You are the sweet delight of Angels; Bringer of joy to saddened mortals; Protectress of all Christian peoples. With your compassion, grant my prayer: Rescue me from eternal torments.

I hold you as my intercessor With God. He loves mankind; entreat him Not to condemn my sinful actions When brought before the hosts of Angels. I beg you, Maid, make haste to help me!

You are a gold-emblazoned castle tower; A lovely city, set within twelve ramparts; A sunshine-spangled throne for royal seating. O miracle beyond all comprehension, How could your milk have nourished God the Master?



[Transl. Rosemary BM]