

PARISH OF THE HOLY TRINITY



COMMUNITY BULLETIN

20 MAY 2023

No. 72

Monthly News & Announcements

Prayers & Services

- ❖ Please pray for the newly departed *Fr Ioann, Paul and Meropi*, and the sick *Vincent, Michael, Philip, Richard and Monica*.
 - ❖ Saints' days in [Greek](#) and [English](#)
 - ❖ Bilingual texts and music for [all services by date](#)
 - ❖ Archdiocesan Sunday [Bulletins](#) and [Services](#) (Holy Wisdom Cathedral, London)
-

Events & Announcements

Please see our parish [website](#) for a full community calendar

Today, Saturday 20 May is the parish's annual concert — **proceeds up to £1000 will be matched with a donation directly to Holy Trinity**. Please share on [Facebook](#), donate through the [JustGiving page](#) and forward the **poster below!** Tickets are available on the door or through [Eventbrite](#).

Sunday 21 May we will hold Metropolitan Kallistos' nine-month memorial service (*mnemosino*), followed by **the Parish AGM**. Please make sure your membership is up-to-date and plan to attend — we need every member to come and support the work of our community!

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain has blessed a new initiative for young people aged 16–35, and has asked parishes to announce the launch of an official website for Christian Orthodox Thyateira Youth, www.coty.org.uk. An Instagram page is forthcoming. COTY is having two upcoming events: **Thursday 25 May** the organisation will host A Karaoke Night, followed by a Young Adult Picnic on Pentecost, **Sunday 4 June**. The pertinent flyers with further details are included below.

Since his arrival last year after the invasion of Ukraine, **Fr Ioann Gashchin** had served with us on a number of occasions (most recently on Easter Sunday), and was becoming a part of our community. We knew that his health was not good, but it was a shock to us all to learn that he had returned to Ukraine for some medical treatment and died on the way to the hospital on May 4th. **May his memory be eternal!**

Orthodox Elements in the Coronation

In addition to Archbishop Nikitis' role in the Coronation Service on 6 May, Orthodox iconographer Aidan Hart was commissioned to design the anointing screen, the main panel of which is pictured at right.

He has described the experience and the process of choosing appropriate materials and motifs in an article written for the [Orthodox Arts Journal](#).



Our very own Alexander Lingas also selected and led a seven-member Byzantine Chant choir during the evocative [Exchange of Swords](#). Dimitris Skrekas, another cantor in our community, was one of the singers chosen for the occasion. The King requested the inclusion of music that honoured his father's Greek Orthodox background. The text chosen was Psalm 71, and the setting was published and used in Greece in the 1930s for the Greek monarchy.

Rehearsal. Photo credit: Benjamin Ealovega



Registered Charity no. 1011772

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**Please remember
Holy Trinity Parish
in your prayers**

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Unique Connections

A Fundraising Concert & Reception For



Saturday May 20th, 2023 at 7:30pm
St Nicolas Church, Abingdon
Market Place, OX14 3JD

FEATURING WORKS OF SCHUBERT, SCHUMANN, SPOHR
& Popular Songs from Around the World.

Despina Nikolakis (Piano)

Jayne Dawson (Clarinet)

Margaret Lingas (Soprano)

Costas Nikolakis (Piano)

Tatiana Soloviova & Jon Bennett (Voice-Guitar)

***All proceeds will be matched for the benefit of The Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Church in Oxford (Registered Charity 101772)!***

Sponsored by the Nikolakis family, Piano Key Studio and the Atzemoglou family.



Registered Charity 269425

The High Priestly Prayer

In the Gospel extract for May 28 (John 17: 1-13), we see Christ addressing the Father, praying not just for himself, but also for His disciples and apostles. Below in the same chapter (17: 20-24) we see that this prayer is extended beyond the apostles to all followers and believers of Christ, i.e. to the entire Church. Christ's prayer to the Father, uttered shortly before his arrest, Passion and Crucifixion, is known as the High Priestly Prayer, for it reveals His mediation with the Father on behalf of his disciples and the Church.

The Evangelist John is known as Theologian because his Gospel, composed towards the end of the first century AD, later than those of the three other Evangelists, reflects a relatively more developed and mature theology than theirs. This chapter encapsulates the core of his theological thought. The extract contains references to some of the most important elements of Christian tradition. It summarizes the work of salvation. In the first place, the prayer tells us something important about the relationship of the Father and the Son, because the Son glorifies the Father who existed before all ages, so that we may come to know him for ourselves. It clarifies the meaning of salvation as the boon of eternal life awaiting anyone who achieves a living relationship with the Father and with Jesus Christ, who reveals and discloses him to us. It expounds the message of the Gospel, which is addressed, through Christ's disciples, to the whole world.

The prayer also tells us that Christ, by coming into our world, revealed to mankind the name of the Father. This refers back to the partial revelation of God in the Old Testament, where God did not make His name known to mankind, i.e. did not show us how to address Him in such a way as to build an existing and loving relationship with Him. When the name of God is revealed to Christ, He gives us that possibility for the very first time. The name of God is Christ Himself, precisely because through Him and His High Priestly Prayer, mankind can more readily come to know God. And in other parts of the Gospel, Christ reveals this to be His unique role, unparalleled in any other tradition, i.e. to unite the Uncreated with the created being, the divine nature with the human. And through that union, He gives us the opportunity to share in and to live eternal life, which is God's mode of existence, beyond all conceivable limitations.

It is not, of course, coincidental that all this is revealed and expressed with such clarity in the Gospel just before the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection. John's theological revelation is followed by the road of self-sacrifice which Christ opens up to us, in order to fit us by our own self-sacrifice to share in His glory, meaning the revelation of His divine nature on the Cross, within our own lives.

It is important to bear in mind that the picture of Christ as supreme High Priest, as here, was preserved in the memory of the Church in the intervening years between the above-mentioned events of around 33 AD, and the composition of John's Gospel some 60 years later, through the liturgy. The Arch-Priest image was maintained in priestly consciousness and Church practice not merely in the first century, when it was recorded in our extract, but also in the ensuing centuries right

down to the present day. Even today the High Priestly Prayer of Christ lends significance to the prayers of priest and bishop in the Holy Liturgy. Every priest, to some degree, repeats and continues this prayer for the sake of the faithful, praying for the ability to reveal the glory of God to the faithful so that we may taste the eternity of God, and also for the unity of the body of the faithful. For that reason the Church ordained that this extract should be read on the Sunday when we commemorate the Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council, which was the first time when bishops from the whole Christian world met together to discuss some of the difficult themes of their times, and to proclaim the unity of the Church.

By Presby. Andreas Andreopoulos

[Translation of the Archdiocesan bulletin offered by Rosemary B-M, [Source.](#)]

THURSDAY
MAY 25TH @ 6.30PM



KARAOKE EVENING *Party*

ENTRY FEE £8
SECURE YOUR SPOT NOW!

YOUNG PEOPLE (AGES 16-35) ARE INVITED TO
AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING OF SINGING,
COMMUNITY BUILDING, AND DINNER.

LOCATION

CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM (CRYPT)
71-75 MOSCOW ROAD
LONDON W2 4LQ



Christian Orthodox Thyateira Youth is hosting a



GREEK ORTHODOX
CATHEDRAL OF
DIVINE WISDOM

PICNIC FOR YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 16-35)

4th June 2023, Sunday of Pentecost
Following the Divine Liturgy in the Archdiocesan
Cathedral of the Divine Wisdom

WHERE: Gather at Cathedral (W2 4LQ)
Walk to Kensington Gardens/Hyde Park

WHAT TO EXPECT:
An entire day in the park with picnic foods,
treats, snacks, games, fellowship

COST: Absolutely Free
(subsidised by Christian Orthodox Thyateira Youth)

WHAT TO BRING: Good will, openness, blankets,
snacks and carbonated beverages to share

TO SIGN UP: [COTYPICNIC.eventbrite.co.uk](https://cotypicnic.eventbrite.co.uk)

For questions or to volunteer,
kindly email: coty@thyateira.org.uk

ALL YOUNG
ADULTS ARE
WELCOME!

