Parish of the Holy Trinity

Community Bulletin

22 August 2026 No. 111

Monthly News & Announcements

Prayers & Services

- Please pray for the newly departed *Esther, Yelena, David, Souria & Heather,* and the sick *Andrew & family, Konstantina, Anastasia, Eireni, Anna, John, Margarita, Ioannis, Monica, Mihaela, Elizabeth & Valentina.*
- Saints' days in Greek and English
- Bilingual texts and music for all services by date
- Archdiocesan Sunday Bulletins and Services from Holy Wisdom Cathedral

Events & Announcements

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

The annual Day of Prayer for the Protection of the Environment (New Year) will be marked on **Tuesday 1 September**, **Matins (8am) & Liturgy (9am)**. Vespers for this feast will be offered as well, **Monday 31 August** (**6pm**).

Fr Ian will continue to lead us through St Mark's Gospel, from **Saturday 5 September**, at the House of Ss Gregory & Macrina after 5.30pm Vespers.

Holy Trinity Parish has been able to secure a table to the now sold-out visit of his All-Holiness The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew at the Name Day Gala dinner for His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain. It will take place in London on **Tuesday 15 September** (see poster below). Tickets cost £120 and places are limited — if interested, please contact Ioanna Christodoulou (president@holytrinityoxford.org.uk) to ask about availability.

Our Food Fair (10 October) approaches — please circulate the poster below! Volunteers, please contact coordinator Roula T (roula1@hotmail.co.uk).

Friends of Mt Athos invite you to join their annual Madingley Conference from **16–18 October.** Forty places only are available for the gathering, devoted to the theme *Holy Beauty: The Iconography of Mount Athos*. 'Few subjects speak so directly to the heart of Athonite spirituality, and few offer such a rich meeting point between theology, history, artistic practice, and the lived experience of the Holy Mountain.'

Community BBQ

The Community BBQ in July was a lively and happy event. It raised a record amount (£4100 and counting), and the parish is first and foremost grateful to Jimmy X and family who again donated the necessary equipment, delicious food and crowd-pleasing live music. We warmly thank the House which provided the venue free of charge, our volunteers* and all those who kindly came to enjoy the day and support our parish.

Pan-Orthodox youth reunited in anticipation of camp starting the next day

Elissa X sets a relaxed and convivial mood

Volunteers Philip A & Fotoula X make sure everyone has an enjoyable afternoon

Altar servers Matt M & Paul B catch up

George X grills some of the kebabs assembled up until very late the night before

New extras such as ice cream (served by Chara T & Alexander) proved popular

***Thank you!** Fr Ian, Phillip A, Ioanna C, Chara T, Fotoula X, Jimmy X, Naomi X (planning) — Ann L (coordinator, set-up, clean-up); Paul B (site safety & set-up) — Manos K (site safety & clean-up) — Sevi Z, Family (iced coffee & tea) — George K, Alexander L, Despina N (sangria & beer) — Chara T, Alexander (ice cream stand) — Phillip A, Ioanna C, Skev P (donations & ticket sales) — Celeste L, Seraphim, Clara P (games) — Roula T, Magda T, Margaret L, Celeste L, Fotoula X, Katya V, Despina N (desserts) — Lina P (donation boxes)

A Tribute to Fr Alexander

Fr Alexander Haig Jr was a dedicated priest of the Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland. He was ordained Deacon in 2015 and Presbyter in 2019. He was devoted to mission work, and founded the parish of the Twelve Apostles in Eastleigh in 2021. Sadly, Fr Alexander suddenly died on 25 June 2026 due to a recently identified aggressive brain tumour. He leaves behind his wife Mihaela (Ella) and 13-year-old son Alexander (Alex) who are trying to come to terms with his sudden repose.

I first met Fr Alexander in 2022 when I began inquiring into Orthodoxy. As Seraphima (Lucy) had shared a flat with him during their final year at the University of Bath, he was, at the time, the only Orthodox Christian we knew. As my Godfather, he patiently guided me, and our family, into the Church. He was a wonderfully patient, kind, and wise man, who would always find the time to answer my many questions. He is greatly missed. Memory Eternal!

Cassian (Matt) Mayer, parishioner

New Vestments & Pectoral Cross

Fr Ian would like to thank the parish and friends who contributed toward gifts celebrating his 40 years serving as a priest in our parish. He went on pilgrimage in June with his godson Fr Gregory Wellington, and ordered these in Thessaloniki — they arrived just in time for Transfiguration and Dormition services. *Axios!*

Upcoming 2026 Events

- *Saturday 5 Sept,* ***Reading St Mark's Gospel*** *resumes, after 5.30pm Vespers*
- *Tuesday 15 Sept,* ***Patriarchal visit, Abp Nikitas' Name Day Gala*** *(poster below)*
- *Tuesday 22 Sept,* ***Discover Orthodoxy classes*** *begin online (poster below)*
- *Saturday 10 Oct,* ***Annual Food Fair*** *(poster below — please circulate!)*

GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY TRINITY OXFORD

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Registered Charity no. 1011772

Please remember Holy Trinity Parish in your prayers

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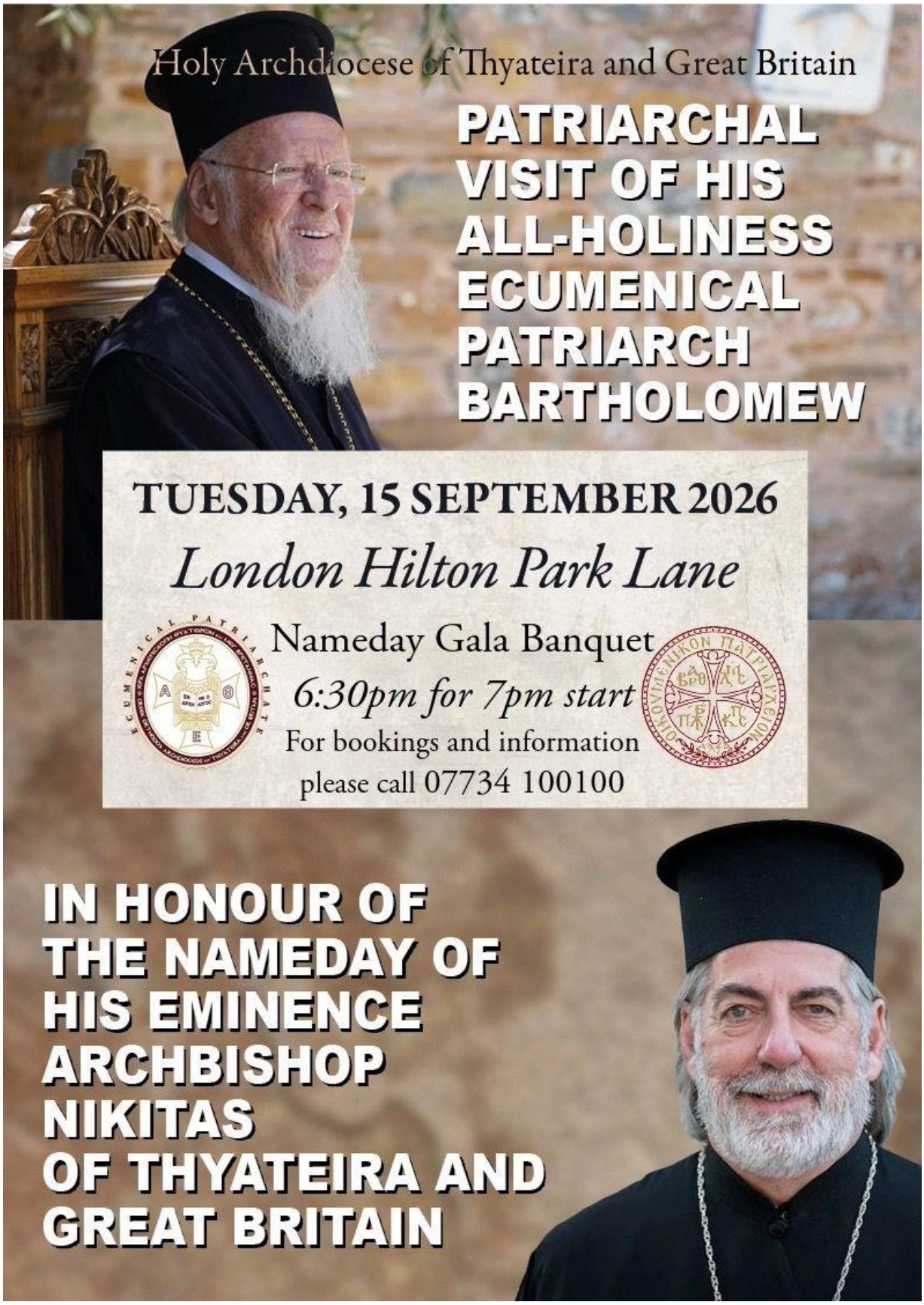
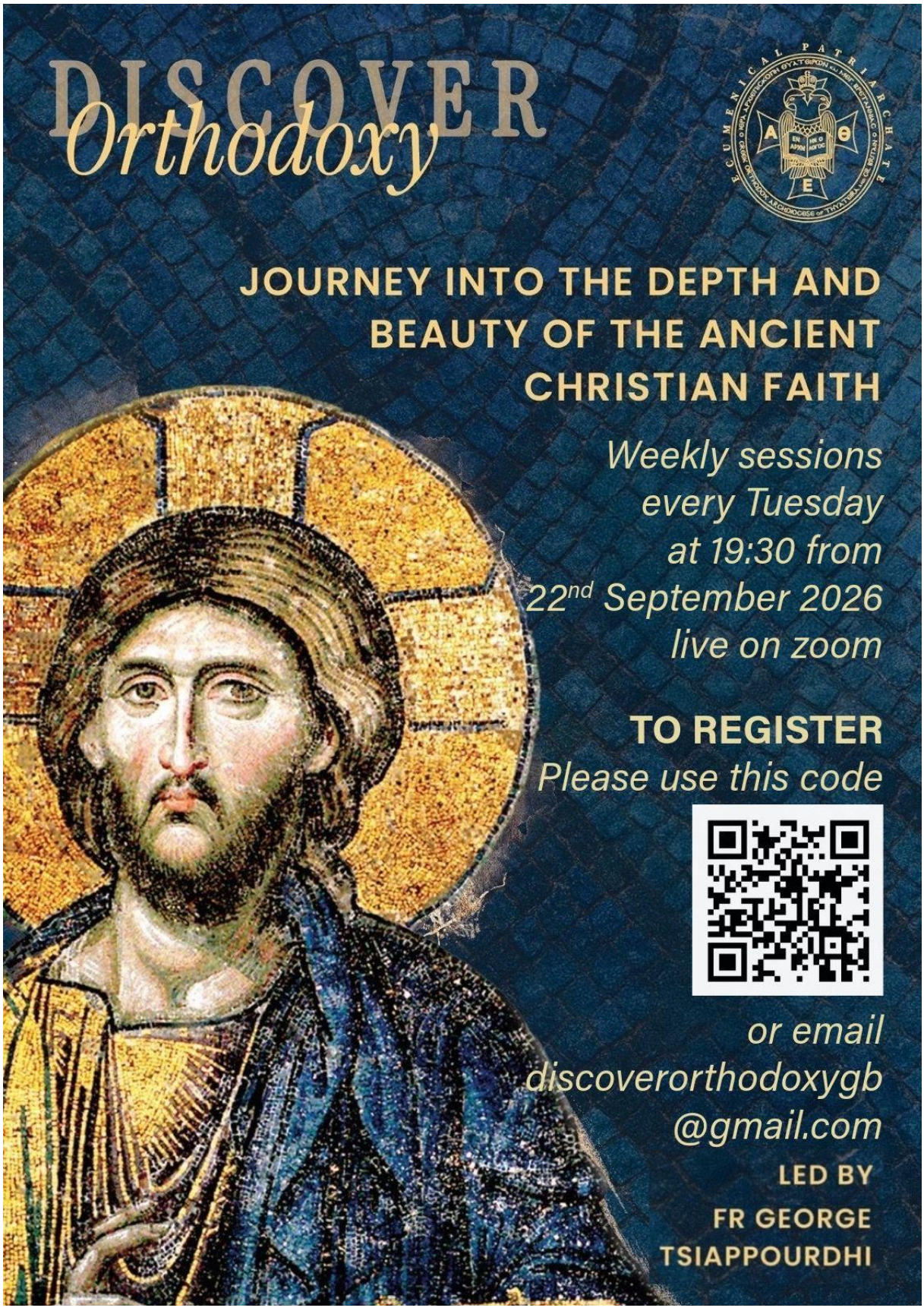
Coming up on 10 October!

Patriarchal Visit for the Feast of St Nikitas



Discover Eastern Orthodox Christianity



Learn Greek with us

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