



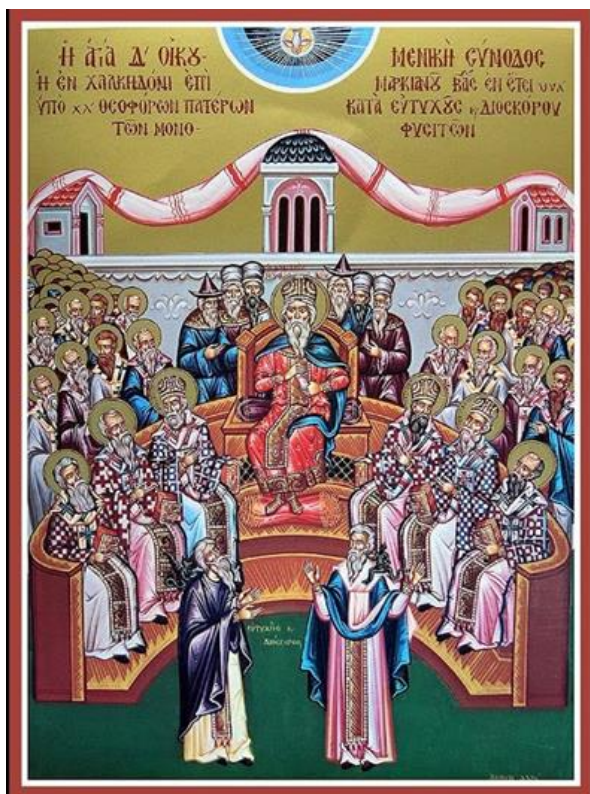
**Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia
Community and Parish of Prophet Elias
Norwood**



Ο ΕΝΣΑΡΚΟΣ ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ - THE INCARNATE ANGEL

Fortnightly Newsletter

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Message from our Parish Priest, Father Ioannis Choraitis

Σήμερα η Εκκλησία μας εορτάζει η μνήμη των 630 θεοφόρων πατέρων της Δ΄ Οικουμενικής Συνόδου. Η Δ΄ Οικουμενική Σύνοδος συγκλείσθηκε το 451 στη Χαλκηδόνα, επί των αυτοκρατόρων Μαρκιανού και Πουλχερίας και διατύπωσε το Χριστολογικό δόγμα, καταδίκασε την αίρεση του Μονοφυσιτισμού και ασχολήθηκε με τη διοικητική οργάνωση της Εκκλησίας. Οι πατέρες της Δ΄ Οικουμενικής Συνόδου, ως συνεχιστές του έργου και της διδασκαλίας των αγίων Αποστόλων αλλά και των προηγούμενων τους Πατέρων, συνήλθαν και καταδίκασαν την αίρεση ομολογώντας την ορθή πίστη και διδασκαλία της Εκκλησίας.

Οι αποφάσεις της Συνόδου επαναβεβαίωσαν την καταδίκη του Νεστοριανισμού, σύμφωνα με την οποία ο Χριστός είχε δυο πρόσωπα – ανθρώπινο και θείο – και όχι ένα και ενιαίο πρόσωπο, οι Νεστοριανοί ουσιαστικά χώριζαν τον Χριστό μας στα δύο. Υποστήριζαν ότι άλλος ήταν ο Υιός του Θεού και άλλος ο υιός του ανθρώπου. Κατ' αυτούς ο Ιησούς αγωνίσθηκε σκληρά για να ενωθεί με τον Υιό του Θεού και να γίνει Θεός.

Επίσης η σύνοδος συνέταξε τον δογματικό όρο της Χαλκηδόνας, με το οποίο δέχθηκε τις δύο φύσεις του Χριστού (θεία και ανθρώπινη) «ηνωμένασ συγχύτως και αδιαιρέτως εν των ενί προσώπω ή τη μία υποστάσει του Θεού Λόγου».

Οι οπαδοί του Ευτυχή δεν δέχθηκαν το «δόγμα της Χαλκηδόνας» και πολεμώντας τους Νεστοριανούς, έφθαναν στο άλλο άκρο. Εξαφάνιζαν την ανθρώπινη φύση του Χριστού, για την οποία έλεγαν ότι από την θεία Του φύση. Η θεωρία τους αυτή μετατρέπει τον άνθρωπο σε άβουλο πλάσμα, όπως κάνουν γκουρού .

Και οι δύο αιρέσεις αυτές βασάνιζαν τους ανθρώπους εκείνη την εποχή και αργότερα αποσχίστηκαν από το σώμα της Ορθόδοξης Εκκλησίας, δημιουργώντας τις αντιχαλκηδόνειες εκκλησίες, πρώτα την Αρμενική Κοπτική, από την οποία προήλθαν η Αιθιοπική και η Συροϊακωβιτική.

Και τέλος η Σύνοδος ανύψωσε την εκκλησία των Ιεροσολύμων σε πέμπτο Πατριαρχείο σε τάξη και απένειμε στον Πατριάρχη Κωνσταντινουπόλεως ίσα πρεσβεία τιμής και προνόμια με αυτά του Πάπα Ρώμης.

PROGRAM FOR PROPHET ELIAS FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

Πανήγυρις τοῦ Προφήτου Ἡλιοῦ

Wednesday 19th of July

Great Vespers & Holy Unction

Great Vespers will be from 6.30pm-8.30pm with a short intermission and then Holy Unction from approximately 9.00pm to 10.00pm

Officiated by His Grace, Bishop Silhouan of Sinope and the clergy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Adelaide. There will be a short intermission and then Holy Unction will commence from approximately 9pm to 10pm.

Μέγας πανηγυρικός Ἑσπερινός χοροστατοῦντος τοῦ Θεοφιλεστάτου Ἐπισκόπου Σινώπης κ. Σιλουανοῦ - Διάλειμμα, Ἱερὸν Εὐχέλαιον.

Thursday 20th of July

Matins & Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by Lunch

8.00am to 11.00am followed by a Luncheon in the Hall or take-away from front of Church

Matins and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy officiated by His Grace, Bishop Silhouan of Sinope with a procession of the holy icon of Prophet Elias around the Church.

At the conclusion of the Liturgy there will be a Luncheon in the Hall. You can also purchase souvlakia / sausages to take away from the front of the Church.

Luncheon in the Community Hall

Adults \$25.00 and children under 12 \$15.00

Tickets can be purchased on the day .

῾Ορθρος καί πανηγυρική Θεία Λειτουργία Ἱερουργοῦντος τοῦ Θεοφιλεστάτου Ἐπισκόπου Σινώπης κ. Σιλουανοῦ Στό πέρας τῆς Θείας Λειτουργίας μᾶς περιμένει πλούσιο μεσημεριανό φαγητό στό ἐνοριακό μας Κέντρο. Μπορεῖτε ἐπίσης νά αγοράσετε σουβλάκια κοτόπουλου γιά νά πάρετε σπῆτι ἀπό τό μπροστινό μέρος τῆς ἐκκλησίας.

Sunday 23rd of July

The Fundraiser Luncheon on Sunday 23rd of July has been postponed.

There will be sweets and souvlakia available to purchase and take away from the front of the Church

Message from the President of the Executive Committee

Dear Beloved Parishioners, Greetings in Christ.

As we gather once again in the pages of our Church magazine, it is with immense joy and gratitude that we express our heartfelt appreciation for each and every one of you. Over the years, our parish community has flourished and grown, reaching new heights and achieving remarkable milestones. Today, we stand together as a testament to the power of love, generosity, and the unwavering support of our parishioners, past and present.

Our journey has been one of unity, compassion, and the deep-rooted devotion of countless individuals who have poured their hearts and souls into the growth and well-being of our community. Through your love and unwavering dedication, we have been able to create a place of worship and fellowship that stands as a beacon of hope and solace for all who seek spiritual nourishment.

It is through your generosity that we have been able to embark on numerous endeavours, both within our parish and beyond its walls. The love you have shown through your financial contributions, volunteering efforts, and countless acts of kindness has allowed us to build, renovate, and enhance our sacred spaces. From humble beginnings 60 or so years ago, to the expansion of our educational programs, your support has paved the way for these transformative initiatives.

Not only have you generously given of your resources, but you have also given of yourselves. Your time, talents, and passion have enriched our community in countless ways. Whether it was organizing fundraising events, leading youth groups, or providing emotional support to those in need, each act of kindness has left an indelible mark on the fabric of our church family. As we offer our profound gratitude, we also pray for Prophet Elias to bless you and your families abundantly. May his divine guidance continue to illuminate your path and strengthen your commitment to the principles of faith, compassion, and love.

With Warmest Regards, Paul Paleologos

YOUTH GROUP

On Wednesday the 5th of July, Dimitri Hassouros, a member of our Youth Group spoke about the Gospel Reading of 9th July, Matthew 8:28-9:1. The themes discussed by our youth regarded the water, which in the Old Testament God uses to destroy people through Noah's Ark and the flooding, which parallels in the New Testament, where water is used to Baptise Christians and cleanse them of their sins. Adding to this, our youth discussed the fact that in the 21st century, we have many material goods at our disposal, yet we are further away from each other, our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. The individualism of the world has fostered the growth of ego and pride, making the divide between us and God greater.

On Wednesday the 12th of July, our Youth Group learnt about our Parish's Patron Saint, Prophet Elias of Thesbite. Father John held the lesson and enlightened us on the life of Prophet Elias, as well as his teachings. Father John specifically spoke about the miracle of the widow Prophet Elias had visited and through the Grace of God had resurrected her dead son. Our youth were amazed to learn that Prophet Elias is the only Saint in the Orthodox church who ascended into Heaven on his chariot and did not experience earthy death as we know it. Additionally, our Patron Saint appeared at the Transfiguration of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ together with Moses.

A reminder that our Youth Group is held every Wednesday from 7pm – 8pm, at our youth hub (Upstairs area of community hall) Age group 16 and older are all welcome!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School students have been busy learning about Holy Icons and the role they play in our Orthodox faith. The children have learned that veneration of icons means to kiss and bow down before icons, whilst describing Heaven as a happy place where God is and where we pray to go. God bless you

In Christ always, Zaharoula

GREEK SCHOOLS

Το Ελληνικό σχολείο διανύει τις σχολικές διακοπές του δεύτερου τριμήνου ενώ πολλοί από τους μαθητές μας βρίσκονται ήδη στην Ελλάδα, απολαμβάνοντας τις καλοκαιρινές τους διακοπές στα νησιά και στα χωριά.

Από την επικοινωνία μας μέσα από τα social media τους βλέπουμε να επισκέπτονται εκκλησίες, μοναστήρια, αρχαία μνημεία, παραλίες καθώς και τοπικά παραδοσιακά πανηγύρια. Το σίγουρο είναι πως θα γυρίσουν με τις βαλίτσες τους γεμάτες από εικόνες, γεύσεις, αρώματα και χρώματα Ελλάδας!! Μια αξέχαστη εμπειρία!

NORWOODS ARK “Neighbours In Need”

On the **2nd of August**, Norwood’s Ark will be visiting the homeless with donations from our parishioners. We would be most grateful for any donations of the foods below that you would like to offer. Please see Elia Hatzopoulos for any further details.

We always welcome non-perishable donations such as: canned baked beans, canned tuna or spaghetti, muesli bars, small packets of dry biscuits (sweet and savoury), bottled water, fruit bars, small packets of sultanas or raisins. If you are donating canned products, can they please be self-opening rather than needing a can opener.

Alternatively, you can also make a monetary donation to the account below :



Account name:
PROPHET ELIAS GREEK
LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS
SOCIETY

BSB:
065115

Account number: 00903456
Reference:
Norwoods Ark
Neighbours in Need

Thank you so much

CHURCH DONATIONS

Heartfelt thanks to Dr Dimitrios Kosmas who so kindly donates to our Parish regularly

Dr Dimitrios Kosmas \$200.00 for the Parish

Dr Dimitrios Kosmas \$200.00 for Ladies Philoptochos

SACRAMENTS IN OUR PARISH

ADULT BAPTISM

Our Parish was blessed to have the adult Baptism of our dear Vasiliki Xiaoxi. Her Godmother Marie Dimopoulos gave her the name Vasiliki. May Vasiliki be blessed by God and may her Godmother guide and support her in her life in Christ.



FUNERAL



The funeral of Mrs Evgenia Maroulis was held in our Parish on 7th of July. Mrs Maroulis passed-onto-the Lord on the 2nd of July and she was 99 years old.

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of Mrs Maroulis. May God give rest to her soul and comfort to her family and loved ones.

Thank you to the parishioners below who donated to the Church in memory of Mrs Maroulis

Harry Karatassas Family \$20 Angela Hatsibris \$20

Konstantina Venizelos \$50 Loula Tsimiklis \$50

George Karatassas \$20

HALL HIRE

Hall Hire is available only for Funerals and Memorials. Cost for the hire of the hall is \$350 plus \$150 Cleaning fee (\$500).

Should the family require the assistance of the Ladies Philoptochos to prepare and serve the food a \$300 donation can be offered. Thank you

“Let your light so shine”

Today we remember the 630 holy and God-bearing fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council in Chalcedon in the year 451. They proclaimed that Christ is fully God and fully human: one Person with two natures. They rejected the views of the Monophysites who claimed the Lord has only one nature, a divine one. If that were the case, we could not participate in His divine life, for we would then be cut off from His healing as human persons.

Today’s commemoration is not merely a lesson in Church history; it is a proclamation of the Gospel, for Jesus Christ must be both fully God and fully human in order to make us “partakers of the divine nature” who shine with His holy light. He must truly be one of us in order to restore and fulfill us in the image and likeness of God.

Christ is the Light, the eternal Son of God who becomes fully human while remaining fully divine. That is how He makes it possible for us to shine with His holy glory even as we live and breathe upon the earth as flesh and blood. He fulfills all the foreshadowing and preparation of the Law and the Prophets. The God-Man Jesus Christ is our perfection, our salvation, our *theosis*. He has conquered sin and death and ascended into heaven in order to make us participants in the eternal life of the Holy Trinity. Our calling is to open our lives fully to His light in order to become radiant living icons of the divine glory He has shared with us.

For us to become the light of the world, we must be on guard against everything that threatens to darken our souls. Things have not changed that much since St. Paul wrote to St. Titus and noted that some preferred to waste their time in foolish, unprofitable, and useless arguments which led to nothing but division. The apostle teaches that it is much better to devote our energies to actually doing good works, meeting the urgent needs of people, and bearing fruit for the Kingdom. It is better to focus on the basic practices of the Christian life—such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, than it is to distract ourselves with the nonsense of serving our passions and the delusions of the world.

There is so much today that passes for Christianity that can easily keep us from becoming beacons of light. We must open our darkened souls to Christ’s healing in order to become shining beacons of His salvation, if we are to have anything worthwhile to contribute to others. If we are truly in Christ, we must become the light of the world in every dimension of our existence. This is a calling that none of us has fulfilled, but which we must pursue each day - we must enter into the life of the God-Man through repentance by entrusting ourselves to the One Who alone can make every dimension of the human person radiant. That is the only way to “**Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven.**”

