

Ministry of Interior
(Macedonia Thrace sector)

Monasteries and Pilgrimages of Macedonia and Thrace



Directorate of International Relations and Regional Development
Pilgrimages of Orthodoxy
Version 2.00



The Great and Angelic Figure



The tourist guide is dedicated to Saint Constantine, the first Christian Emperor.

**1.CENTRAL MACEDONIA
REGION
Thessaloniki Prefecture
Church of Saint Demetrius of
Myrovlytis**

**Agiou Demetriou 83, Postal
Code 54633 Thessaloniki
Tel.: 2310270008
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/1X2ZGFdVSsgu9RKq7>**

The Church was built in the middle of the 5th century (413), on the site of the martyrdom of the Saint, by the prefect of Illyricum Leontius, who was cured of an incurable disease.



In this area was the "stadium" where gladiatorial contests were held.

In this stadium, the faithful disciple of Saint Demetrius, Nestor, fought a duel and defeated Lyaeus. The entire ground floor complex of the ancient bath, where the Saint was imprisoned, was preserved and converted into a crypt of the temple, which became for centuries and remains a center of worship.



The great fire of 1917 almost turned the historic Temple into ruins and the restoration work that restored it to its original form lasted until 1948. Since then, it has been operating normally and is one of the most magnificent Christian monuments as a monument of art. Demetrius was born around 280 in Thessaloniki, during the reign of Emperor Maximian,

and came from an aristocratic family. At a young age, he joined the Roman army and reached the rank of centurion, at the age of just 22. A studious and inquisitive nature, he sought the sublime and the true and found it in the Christian faith, of which he became a renowned preacher in Thessaloniki.



He formed a circle of young students and taught them the Holy Bible in the underground galleries near the city's public baths. During one such gathering, the pagans arrested him and brought him before the emperor Maximian, who was residing in Thessaloniki. When the emperor asked him

to renounce his faith, Demetrius replied: "I believe only in Christ." Maximian, enraged by the courageous stance of his officer, ordered him to be imprisoned.

Meanwhile, one of Demetrius' disciples, Nestor, appeared at the stadium of Thessaloniki, where Maximian was organizing athletic competitions, and asked to compete on behalf of the Christians with the ferocious and invincible wrestler Lyaeus, a pagan native of Sirmium in Pannonia (present-day Mitrovica in Serbia).

Believing that he had the grace and help of God, Nestor entered the arena and not only defeated Lyaeus, but killed him, like David killed Goliath in the Old Testament.

Enraged by the defeat of his chosen one, Maximilian ordered Nestor to be beheaded and Demetrius to be killed with spears. Demetrius was buried

at the site of his martyrdom, where a prominent church was later built in his honor. Myrrh gushes from his tomb, hence the name Myrovlitis.

His memory is celebrated on October 26th every year with particular splendor for the city of Thessaloniki but also throughout the country where there is a church in his honor.



2. HOLY CHURCH OF HOLY KSENE AGIOS NEKTARIOS, METROPOLITAN OF PENTAPOLEOS

127 Papanastasiou St., 54250 Thessaloniki

Tel.: 2310300448

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/KApz5uEjC7o75E188>



Holy Xeni, refusing the pressure of her parents to marry a man of their choice, secretly fled to Alexandria where she was renamed Xeni so that her traces would be lost. She went to the island of Kos and then settled in Mylasa in Caria. There, together with her two maids (therapaenides) who had remained faithful to her, she built a church in the name of the holy protomartyr Stephen and hesychast cells.

Very quickly, her fame and the virtuous and ascetic life she led brought young girls who desired a life of asceticism and prayer to her, while the monastery became a famous spiritual center, where many suffering women flocked daily to receive advice and ask for the prayers of the saint. Her holiness was also recognized during the burial of her sacred body, when a cross formed by stars appeared in the sky.



The holy Xene

**3. CHURCH OF SAINT
POLYCARPUS Menemeni
ThessalonikiAgamemnon &
Monastiriou Menemeni PC
54628 Thessaloniki**

**Tel: 2310611128mobile
693736369 Father Stylianos**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/o7MB1knrSZZrHqvMA>



One of the few Churches in the entire country that honors Saint Polycarpus, Archbishop of Smyrna.

Saint Polycarpus was born around 80 AD to pious and God-loving parents, Pangratis and Theodora, who had been imprisoned for their faith in

Christ, and was baptized a Christian at a young age.

His original name was Pangratios but because of the excessive alms that Pangratios gave to his suffering brothers, his nurse named him Polycarpus.



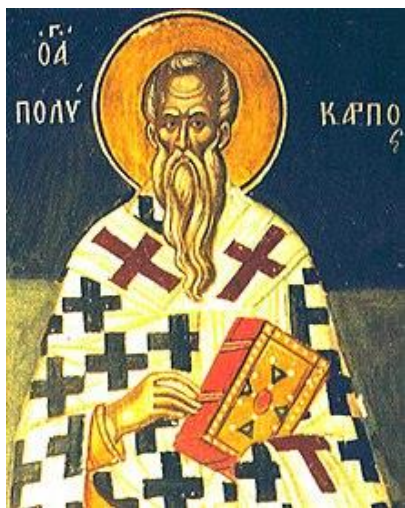
He was the most genuine representative of the apostolic teaching in all the Churches of Asia. The apostolic activity of Saint Polycarp provoked the wrath of the pagans who sought the Saint in order to imprison him.

Saint Polycarp, pressured by the Christians, departed to a farm.

Finally, the Saint was arrested in the year 167 AD by betrayal of children who were playing outside the farm where he was hiding and showed the soldiers with their eyes the house where the Saint was.

He was led before the anti-hipot while the old Bishop was not moved. His face was peaceful and radiant.

The Saint with spiritual courage kept his faith to the end while remaining unharmed by the fire in a bronze ox that was placed to be burned alive. The fire formed an arch around the body of Saint Polycarp without touching him. Then a soldier-executioner finished off the Holy Martyr with a sword. Then the Holy Relic was thrown into the fire, and the faithful collected his holy relics.



In the Holy Church is kept the holy relic of Saint Polycarp the miracle worker.

He is celebrated on February 23 of each year.

4. HOLY CHURCH OF THE ENTRANCES OF THE MOTHER OF GOD Panagia Dexias

Nea Egnatia 123, P.C.

54636 ThessalonikiTel.:
2310212026

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/yGEoD uex7QaHcd6A8>



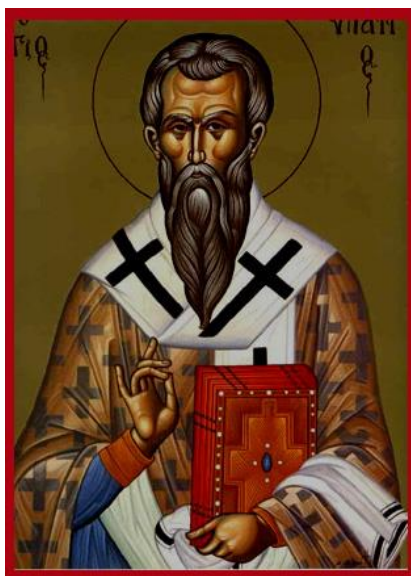
The miraculous icon of Panagia Dexias in the center of the University Campus of Thessaloniki

The church was founded in 1956 on the site of the Byzantine church of Agios Hypatios.

In the church of Agios Hypatios, the miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary of Eleousia was offered, a faithful copy of the homonymous icon of Kykkos in Cyprus, which tradition wants to have been narrated (illustrated) by the Evangelist Luke.

The name "Right" is due to the fact that the Virgin Mary is depicted holding Jesus in her right hand, while the most common iconography is that she holds the Divine Infant in her left hand.

The church celebrates the Assumption of the Virgin Mary on November 21 of each year.



In the right aisle of the church there is the miraculous icon of Saint Hypatios.

Saint Hypatios is celebrated on March 31 of each year.

Saint Hypatios was a figure who glorified the Church in its first centuries and fought for the triumph of Christianity and Orthodoxy.

He was bishop of Gangra in the years of Constantine the Great and participated in the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea (325 AD), against the error of Arius. In his pastoral work, he

continued to teach and guide his flock, but mainly he fought against heresies, and especially the heresy of the Nauthians.



The success with which he fought against the Nauthians aroused their wild passions and they sought his extermination. Thus, in the year 326 AD, they paid some pagans, who in a steep area attacked the Saint with sticks and stones and left him half-dead.

Before he died, one of the fanatical heretic women stoned him to death.

5. CHURCH OF THE SUBJECT OF THE SAVIOR

Chapel of Saint Michael of Mavroudis

Egnatia 148, P.C

54621Thessaloniki

Tel.:2310278514

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/nDJ4U1NuRnto1FU9>



It is the place of execution of the New Martyr Michael of Mavroudis, the baker.

Saint Michael of Mavroudis came from the village of Granitsa, Agrafon. His parents were the pious Demetrios and the virtuous Statira, who raised Michael “in the education and admonition of the Lord”. After the death of his father, he left for Thessaloniki where he practiced the profession of baker, distributing all his money to his poor and weak brothers.



When he tried to catechize a young Turk in the Christian faith, he denounced him and Michael was forcibly led to the tribunal. During the interrogation, where he answered the judge’s questions with frankness and deep theological knowledge, he tried to convert his judges as well. With emotion and courage, he emphasized to the judge:

“Do not waste time, but deliver me to God one hour earlier, because I want and love to be a sacrifice to my Lord, to be baked like sweet bread, to be placed on the Table of the Holy Trinity and to be offered as fragrant incense to Him.”



He was eventually sentenced to death and burned alive in Thessaloniki on 21 March 1547 AD, Thursday at nine o'clock, in the courtyard of the Church of the Assumption of the Savior. Saint Michael the Mavroudis is celebrated on Maundy Thursday.

6. HOLY CHURCH OF AGIOS MENAS OF THE EGYPTIAN

10 Ionos Dragoumi, P.C.54624

Thessaloniki Tel.: 2310272700

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/81S3JDsFVWBeetjW7>

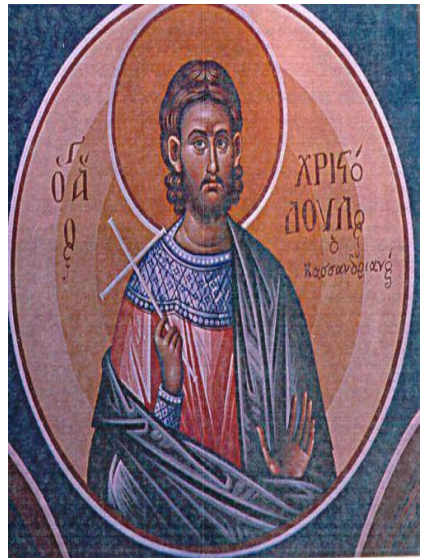


The Church is dedicated to Saint Minas the Egyptian Victor the Brave and Vincent the Divine. It is the first metropolis of Thessaloniki where the first doxology was performed upon the liberation of the city from the Turks in 1912. It is a historical church with the intense grace of Saint Minas the Wonderworker and Saint Christodoulos of Kassandrino

who was martyred at the entrance of the church of Saint Minas.



Saint Minas the Great Martyr
You call him a great martyr because with his life and his martyrdom he attracted hundreds of pagans to the true faith



The neomartyr Christodoulos was born in the 18th century in the village of Valta in Kassandra, Chalkidiki. At a young age he came to Thessaloniki, where he worked as a tailor.

When he was informed that a certain Bulgarian Christian was preparing to deny Christ, he procured a small cross and went to the cafe, where the circumcision of the Christ-denier was to take place. He crossed the crowd of Janissaries, and while the drums were beating, he

approached the Christ-denier, presented the cross and said to him: "Brother, what have you suffered? Here is our faith, here is Christ, who was crucified for our love. Why do you leave Christ your Savior and become a Turk?"

The enraged Turks rushed and arrested Christodoulos and, with blows, led him to the judge, where they demanded his death. When the judge urged him to deny Christ, the Martyr courageously replied: "... and you leave Mohammedanism and become a Christian."

Thus demonstrating his unwavering faith, he was handed over to the executioners, who hung him at the entrance to the church of Saint Minas in Thessaloniki.

The saint's relic, with the cross nailed to his back, remained hanging naked for two days. Then the Christians bought his

relic for 600 groschen and buried it with honors.



His memory is honored every year on July 28.

**7. CHURCH OF PANAGIA
LAODIGITRIA - Neomartyr
Alexander Dervis**

**30 Ioulianou, P. C. 54634
Thessaloniki Tel.: 2310210159**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/gsU7E4KjVuVfW4G28>



The chapel is dedicated to the Holy Neomartyr Alexander the Dervish

Saint Alexander was from Thessaloniki and lived in the area of Laodigia or Lagodiani (today's Laodigitria). At a young age, he arrived in Smyrna, trying to avoid the

unscrupulous intentions of a Turk. For reasons unknown to us, in this city he renounced his faith and converted to Islam. Later, he visited Mecca and entered the Order of Dervishes.



However, controlled by his conscience, he pretended to be crazy and, under the guise of a Dervish, he toured for 18 years in enslaved countries, severely controlling the Turkish tyranny. Whenever he was given the opportunity to manifest his faith in Christ, he did so by performing good deeds.

While in Chios, he fearlessly attended the holy services of Great Lent in a Christian Church, still wearing the clothes of a Dervish.

From Chios, he went to Smyrna and presented himself to the judge of the city, to whom he confessed with courage that he had repented of his previous state and was now returning to Christianity. In front of him, he took off and trampled on the clothes of a Dervish. They immediately threw him into prison, from which they released him three times, trying with flattery and threats to bend his mind and his faith.

However, Alexander remained unyielding and firm in his decision to bear witness to his holy faith. When he arrived at the place of execution, he prayed on his knees and unperturbed in front of the numerous and furious crowd of Turks, Greeks, Franks and Armenians. Full of joy and courage, he endured with

fortitude his martyr's death by beheading, on May 26, 1794, thus becoming a resident of the upper Jerusalem and a sharer of heavenly glory.



8. CHURCH OF AGIOS GREGORIOS PALAMA

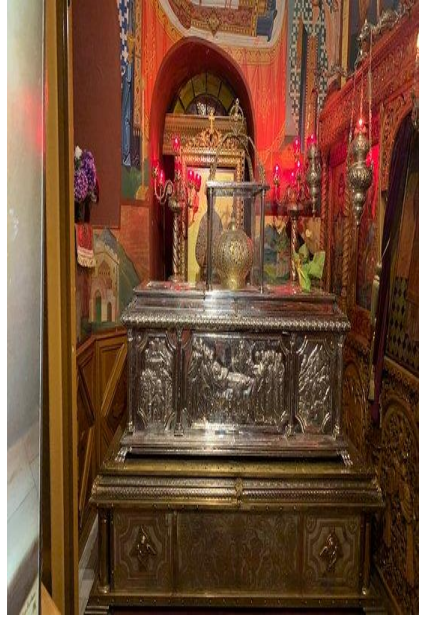
**Ag.Sofias 6, Postal Code 54623
Thessaloniki Tel.:2310271520**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/FkZrWdcEZqRfMuCa6>



The church of Saint Gregory Palamas, the metropolis of Thessaloniki, was built in 1891-1914. The basic architectural design was made by Ernestos Ziller, but it was completed with changes by the architect Xenophon Paionides. It is the first church of the Ottoman rule with a dome in Thessaloniki and is a representative example of architectural eclecticism with

elements from the Byzantine tradition of the city.



In a special chapel inside the church, the saint's relics are kept in a precious larnax with relief representations.



Saint Gregory Palamas was a keen theologian, an eminent orator, philosopher and writer.

We do not know the exact time and place of his birth. S. Efstratiadis, in his hagiology, states that Saint Gregory was born in 1296 AD in Constantinople, to Constantine the Senator and the pious Kalloni. We do know, however, that during the first half of the 14th century AD he was at the imperial court of Constantinople, from where he withdrew to Mount Athos for a quieter life, and dedicated himself to his moral perfection and various studies. In 1335 AD, with his two evidentiary speeches "On the Descent of the Holy Spirit", he came into conflict with the heretic Barlaam and all the Latins. He is the father of the noetic heart prayer "Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us" and the prayer "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me". Gregory wrote many and various theological works, approximately 60. He was elected bishop of Thessaloniki while he also

served as abbot of the Holy Monastery of Esphigmenou on Mount Athos of Elder Methodius. To this day, there is the well of Saint Gregory, bishop of Thessaloniki, in the courtyard of the Esphigmenou Monastery, from which abundant drinking water gushes. The well is a blessing and fruit of the prayer of Saint Gregory Palamas.

His memory is honored on the second Sunday of Lent, while for the Latins, the memory of the saint is a reproach and shame, since he defeated them more than a few times, as well as their heretical doctrines.

9. HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT THEODORA of Myrrh-Bearing Yours

Thessaloniki

34 Ermou,

P.C.: 546 23 Thessaloniki

(email): info@agiatheodora.gr

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/e75g1pb8K6C1rHhD7>



Saint Theodora was born in Aegina in the year 812 to pious parents, Antonius, who was a priest, and Chrysanthi. Her mother died during childbirth, leaving Theodora an orphan. Antonius, after the sudden death of his wife, decided to follow a hermit's life. For this reason, he entrusted little Theodora to a pious relative of

his, giving her the name Agape. Theodora also had two siblings, a nun and a brother deacon. While she was still seven years old, according to the legislation in force at that time, her father betrothed her to a rich and wise man. We are in the period of iconoclasm, when raids by Saracen pirates from Crete in the Saronic Gulf are commemorated. Aegina is plundered and the saint and her husband are forced to migrate for safety to Thessaloniki. There they have three children, two of whom died. The saint and her husband decide to offer their only child to God and for this reason they take him at the age of just six to the monastery of Evangelist Luke. There the saint's little daughter received the angelic form and the name Theopiste.

Shortly after Theopiste's monastic consecration, Theodora's husband also died. This new tragic event did not break her faith. The three-day and nine-day memorial service

for her husband ends and immediately afterwards, distributing most of her property to the poor, she takes refuge in the Holy Monastery of Saint Stephen, where the confessor Anna was abbess. At the age of twenty-five, she takes monastic vows, taking the name Theodora. Theodora lived in the monastery of the protomartyr Saint Stephen for fifty-five years. During this time, her virtuous life was a model of monastic life.





At the time when the saint was in her fiftieth year of age, her daughter, Theopiste, was promoted to the helm of the abbessship of the monastery. The former abbess Anna was already in deep old age, had lost her senses and her reason, and the saint Theodora nursed her, enduring all her whims. On August 29, 892, at the age of eighty, the saint, after a five-day illness, passed into eternal life, after having previously requested and received the Holy Mysteries. However, the

celebration of the memory of the saint Theodora prevailed to be celebrated on August 3, the day of the translation of the saint's relics, and not on August 29, because it coincided with the feast of the beheading of the Holy Forerunner.



The Monastery of Saint Stephen during the Ottoman Empire

The monastery was called in Turkish Kizlar Manastir (Monastery of the Girls), although its Turkish name did not prevail among the Christian population, who continued to call it by its original name. Its district was one of the twelve Christian districts of the city. Among other things, it included a house for its priests, a school and a shop belonging to the

monastery, as well as a chapel in the district of Saint Constantine in Hippodrome Square.



The monastery's catholicon was severely damaged during the two fires of 1890 and 1917. The fire of 1917 completely destroyed the monastery's catholicon. The only building that survived was the bell tower of the church, which was built at the end of the 19th century.

10.Holy Church of the God Sophia

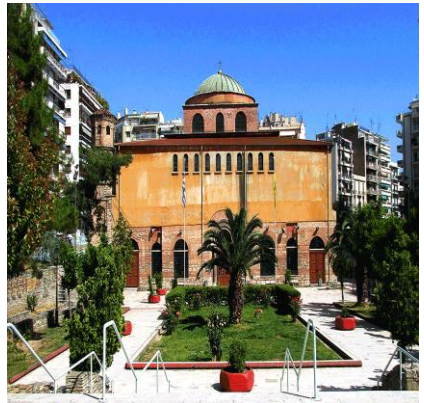
Thessaloniki

Agia Sophia Postal Code
54622

Tel 2310270253

2310270253

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/IS2awXHUsioK2YJh9>



The holy cathedral and pilgrimage church of the Holy Sophia is located in the center of Thessaloniki, at the intersection of Agia Sophia and Ermou streets. Dedicated to Christ, the true Word and the Wisdom of God, it celebrated

the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14.



It is a World Cultural Heritage monument.



The oldest written reference to the temple dates back to 795, but archaeological data indicate that it was built at the end of the 7th century on the site of a 5th-century five-aisled basilica, which was destroyed by an earthquake around 620. After the restoration of Byzantine

rule in the city, it once again served as the Orthodox episcopal seat of Thessaloniki until 1523/24, under Maktul Ibrahim Pasha, when it was converted into a mosque.



Hagia Sophia in 1860



A fire in 1890 destroyed the building, which was restored in

1907-1909 by the Byzantium scholar Charles Dill. On 29 June 1913, the site was reconsecrated and returned to Christian worship.

**11. Church of Saints
Constantine and Helen
Thessaloniki
Stratou Avenue, Thessaloniki
PC54640
tel 2310893174
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/RJXG2wQqv1shCa7v5>**



Located in the center of Thessaloniki
Constantine the Great was probably born in Naisos, Upper Moesia, present-day Serbia between the years 272-288 AD
His father was Constantius, also called Chlorus and was a relative of Emperor Claudius.
His mother was Saint Helen, daughter of an innkeeper from Drepano in Bithynia.
In 305 AD, Constantine was at the court of Emperor Diocletian in Nicomedia with the office of a thousand-arch. Diocletian and Maximian resign their positions and retire. Augustus becomes the father of Constantine along with Galerius. Constantius Chlorus in the West and Galerius in the East. A year later, Constantius dies on July 25, 306 AD and the army proclaims Constantine the Great as Augustus, something that Galerius does not accept. Constantine the Great wanted to clash with Maxentius, son of Maximian, who had a strategic advantage,

because he had four times the army and Constantine's army was already exhausted. He began to pray to God, raising his right hand and begging to show him a sign for what he was thinking of doing. In the afternoon he saw a cross in the sky, which read "this is victory". He could not understand what this meant. At night the Lord appeared to him in his sleep and told him that with this you will conquer. So he made a banner with his vision and began to march to Rome without any defeat or resistance. In February 313 AD, in Milan, where the marriage of Licinius to Constantia, sister of Constantine the Great, takes place, a historic agreement is made between the two men that establishes the principle of religious tolerance.

12. HOLY MONASTERY OF PANAGIA ELEFTHEROTRIA

Panorama of Thessaloniki

Postal Code 55236

Tel.: 2310341102, 2310261216

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/6jvqH68>

[EtwdsKReFA](#)



The monastery has a thriving monastic community of dozens of nuns (70 in number) under the spiritual guidance of the nun Melani. In the central church is the miraculous icon of Our Lady of Liberation.

The holy Monastery is worthy of a pilgrimage trip since in

addition to the grace of the Virgin Mary there is also a church of St. Anastasia of Rome as well as a holy relic of the Saint.



Holy relic of the saint on the icon Celebrated on October 29 of each year.

The church is inaccessible to both men and women since it is located in the main area of the monastery, right next to the cells of the nuns on the first floor. In the main area of the monastery on the ground floor there is the beautiful altar of Saint Panteleimon, the healer, which is also inaccessible.

13. HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT PARASKEVI GIANNITSA

P.C 58100 N.PELLAS

Giannitsa Tel. 2382082375

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/3uPY6Y3SZVx8jeLQ8>



It is located in the town of Giannitsa, on its southeastern edge. The church was an old mausoleum and later a Turkish mosque.

It was renovated in 1990, some new sections were added and it was transformed into a church,

which is dedicated to Agia Paraskevi.



Saint Paraskevi was born in Rome during the reign of Emperor Antoninus (138 - 160 AD). She was the daughter of devout Christians, Agathon and Politeia, who took care of her Christian education, as they had promised God in the event that he would give them a child. Because the child was born on Friday, she received this name. After the death of her parents, Paraskevi distributed all her property to the poor and developed missionary activity in Rome and the outskirts of the city, preaching the word of Christ. Her action provoked the pagan emperor Antoninus, who

arrested her and promised her material goods in the event that she would sacrifice to idols. However, seeing that the Saint remained steadfast in her faith, he subjected her to the torture of the red-hot helmet, which she endured with patience. Then Antoninus ordered that she be placed in a cauldron of hot oil and tar. But because he saw the Saint intact, he approached his face to the cauldron - as he could not explain how the saint had remained intact - to test whether it was really hot, and he was immediately blinded. The Saint, through prayer, gave Antoninus his light, resulting in him believing in Christ or, according to others, in stopping the persecutions against them. However, he freed Saint Paraskevi, who continued to preach the Gospel in other places, until she reached Greece. In Tempe, a pagan ruler subjected her to horrible tortures, which she patiently

endured, to end with death by beheading.

She is celebrated on July 26.

14.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT HILARION OF MOGLEN, PROMACHOI ARIDAIA

8th km north of Aridaia, P.C 58400, PELLAS

Tel.: 2384075700

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/XiPKddwj cAzeRw5N9>



The monastery celebrates the feast of the Saint's repose on October 21.

There is a miraculous consecration of Saints

Constantine and Helen in the area. From oral tradition we learn that the Monastery initially had a large brotherhood (approximately 170 monks) and a large number of cells (around seventy) until the time of the Turkish occupation when the Monastery suffered complete destruction and the massacre of the monks by the Turks who entered the monastery by deceit.



Saint Hilarion

Saint Hilarion was born around 1080 - 1090 AD to pious Greek parents after the incessant

prayers of his barren mother to the Most Holy Theotokos.

One night, the Virgin Mary appeared to her in her sleep and promised her that she would give birth to a son, who would convert many from error to the light of knowledge of God.

When he turned eighteen, Hilarion went to a monastery in his area and became a monk. He lived with great asceticism, so that all the brothers of the Monastery spoke about him.

Later, he was also entrusted with the eldership of the Monastery and while he was still abbot, the saint performed many miracles and his fame spread everywhere. Just as the Virgin Mary appeared to his mother and announced his birth, so she appeared to the Archbishop of Ohrid, Eustathius, urging him to appoint Saint Hilarion as the Shepherd of the people of Moglena. Indeed, after a short

time, the Saint was ordained Bishop of Moglena.

The seat of his diocese is rumored to have been the present-day village of Chrysi. However, the area where the Saint served as bishop was full of heretics who followed the Monophysite Armenians and Bogomils. These heretics had been settled in Moglena, which was a place of exile for all kinds of heretics, by the Komnenian dynasty. Saint Hilarion, with his preaching work and his persistent anti-heretical struggle, caused the conversion of large masses of heretics to the Orthodox faith.

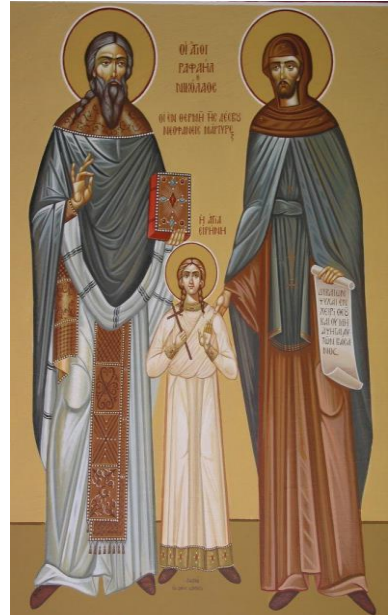
15.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT RAPHAEL NICHOLAS THE DEACAND AND SAINT ERINI

Goumenissa-Griva P.C. 61300
Kilkis Prefecture,
Tel.: 2343 020270

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/DmqJpdWfjhRaNYNG7>



The Holy Monastery of Saints Raphael, Nicholas and Irini is located on a verdant slope of Mount Paiko in the prefecture of Kilkis, at an altitude of 600 m. overlooking the Axios valley, in the area of Griva-Goumenissa.



Saints Raphael, Nicholas and Irini are among the choir of the Newly Appearing Saints and in fact those who were martyred almost immediately after the fall of Constantinople. We know little about their lives. The first information about the existence of the Saints is narrated in a miraculous and revealing way since the year 1959 AD. From an excavation that took place in Thermi of Lesvos, the tomb of an unknown person was discovered, who, as revealed in

continuous visions, belonged to the Holy Hieromartyr Raphael, who martyred together with the Holy Holy Martyr Nicholas and Saint Irene. The tomb and relic of Saint Nicholas were discovered on June 13, 1960 AD.

16.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT CYRIKOS AND IOULITI (Women)

Sidirokastro Postal Code 62122,

Tel.: 2323022395 SERRES

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/RLAv6c8VaXtMjnPn8>



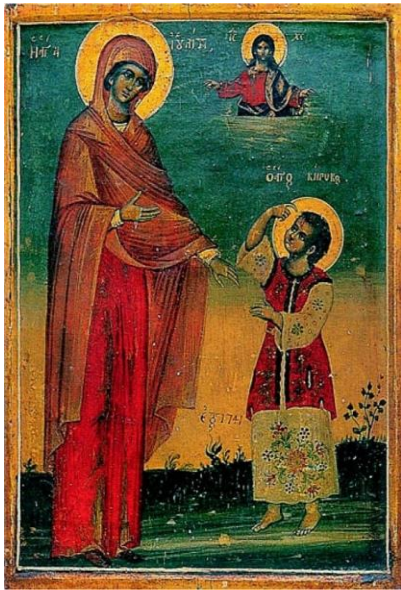
On a hill, northeast of Sidirokastro, Serres, is built the imposing Holy Monastery of the Holy Martyrs Cyrikos and Iouliti.

The Monastery celebrates on July 15, the feast day of Saint Cyrikos and his mother Saint Iouliti.

The latter came from Iconium in Asia Minor, and lived during the time of Emperor Diocletian.



She was arrested by the ruler Alexander, who subjected her to terrible torture in front of her child. Then he tried to take the little one with him. Not only was he not convinced, but invoking the name of Christ, he gave a strong kick to the stomach of the tyrant ruler Alexander.



He became so enraged that he pushed the little boy down the stairs and broke his skull. In this way, the little Preacher obtained his crown. His mother, after being subjected to torture for a while longer, gave up her holy soul to Jesus Christ.

17.HOLY MONASTERY OF PROPHET ELIAS – HOLY SPIRIT

**Holy Spirit P.C. 62048 SERRES
Tel.: 23210 91360**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/t8qYXaWnUHksUn5o7>



A few minutes (8 kilometers) outside the city of Serres, stands the beautiful Holy Monastery of Prophet Elias. It is located on the north side of the settlement of the village of Agios Pneuma.



The first church was built in 1900 but fell into ruin over the years.

The current Catholic church, built in the Athonite style, has preserved only two walls from the old church. In the chapel of Panagia Myrtidiotissa, there is the miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary.

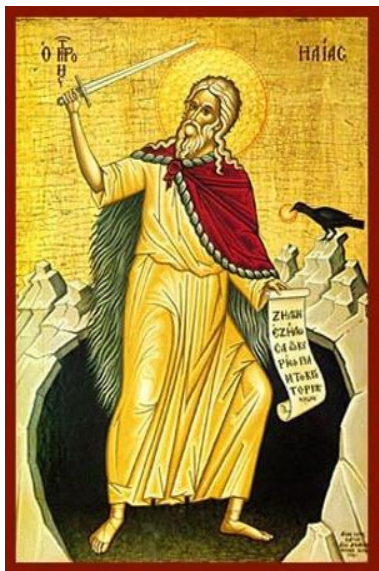


Prophet Elias lived in 9 BC century and was the son of Shobach and came from Thesbe (which is why he was called Thesbite), today's El Istib, in the Gilead region and belonged to the tribe of Aaron. When he was born, his father saw a divine vision: Two men dressed in white called him

Elijah, they swaddled him in fire and gave him fire to eat.

Then his father went to Jerusalem and after describing the vision to the priests, they told him, interpreting the vision, that his son would become a prophet and would judge Israel with a double-edged sword and fire.

The Prophet Elijah exercised his prophetic charism for 25 years during the reign of King Ahab, who reigned from 873 to 854 BC. Ahab and especially his wife Jezebel were wicked people and the war of the prophet Elijah was against them. Jezebel, who was not an Israelite and was the cause of the faith being corrupted by pagan customs, therefore she persecuted the prophet Elijah a lot, which is why he was constantly forced to flee and hide. Jezebel persecuted the prophet Elijah, just as Herodias persecuted John the Baptist.



The prophet Elijah with a sword in a cave and a raven that fed him
Celebrated on July 20th every year.

18.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT KYRIAKIA ALISTRATI, SERRES

SERRES P.C. 62045

Nea Zichni, Tel.: 2324031499

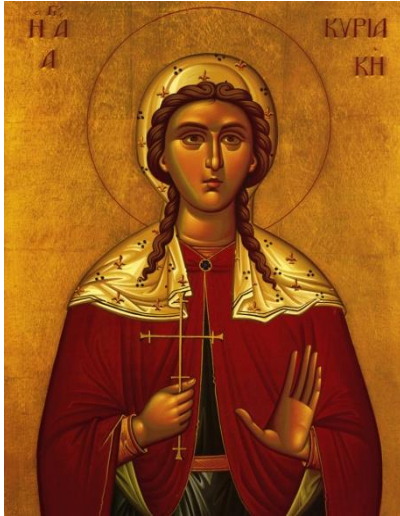
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The monastery celebrates the 7th of July, Saint Kyriaki.

Saint Kyriaki was the daughter of Dorotheos and Eusebia. They were childless and prayed to God to give them a child. Indeed, God was pleased, and this Christian couple had a child. She was born on a Sunday, which is why they gave her the name Kyriaki. During the persecution of Diocletian, in the year 282 AD, her parents were arrested and after

interrogation, they were tortured and beheaded by Duke Justus.



Kyriaki was referred to Caesar Maximian, and from there to the ruler of Bithynia, Hilarian, who reminded her that her beauty was for pleasure and not for torture. Then his virgin daughter replied: "I pay no attention to my youth or my beauty. And the brightest of earthly things are temporary, like flowers, and hollow, like shadows. Today, she said, I am beautiful, tomorrow an ugly old woman. Should I then make my beauty the center of my

life?Enraged, Hilarianus tortured her cruelly and ordered her beheaded. But before the sword fell, she prayed and gave up her spirit to the Lord.

19.HOLY MONASTERY OF PANAGIA EIKOSIFOINISSA

SERRES P.C. 62047

Municipality of Amfipolis

Tel.:2510516581

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/UZdacgqAwCYhfk67>



It is a historical monastery built at an altitude of 753 meters, on the north side of Mount Pangaios.

Today, this monastery is for women and hosts 23 nuns. It celebrates on three different dates. On August 15, the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, on September 14, the Holy Cross, and on November 21, the Presentation of the Virgin Mary.



The miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary, the unshakable hope of all Christians.

20.HOLY MONASTERY OF THE HOLY PRODRAMOS "VEROIA SKETE

P.C. 59132 IMATHIA

Tel.: 2331043430, 2331772796

mobile6980015361

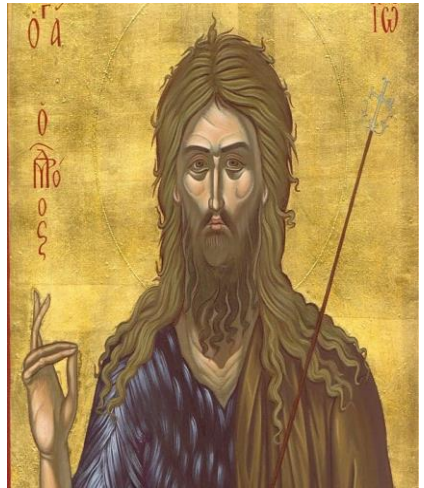
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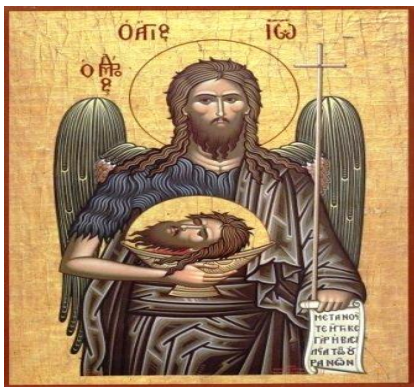
The Holy Monastery of the Holy Forerunner of Veroia or the Holy Stavropegic Monastery of the Holy Forerunner of Imathia is located at the foot of the Pieria Mountains next to the Aliakmonas River and is approximately 11 km. S.-SE. from Veroia. The skete

celebrates on August 29 the beheading of the venerable head of John the Baptist and on All Saints' Sunday all the saints who settled in the Skete.

One of the most historic monastic centers in Macedonia, it has existed as a Holy Skete since the 9th century and as a Holy Monastery since the 14th century. It has a special prestige since great fathers of our Orthodox Church passed through and practiced asceticism there, such as Gregory Palamas, Dionysius of Olympus, Saint Cosmas the Aetolian, Saint Anthony the Ascetic, etc.



He was called the Forerunner, because his mission was to prepare his compatriots to accept Jesus Christ. When John saw Christ approaching him, he said: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who has become before me, because he was before me.'"



He was honored to baptize the Lord in the Jordan River and saw the Holy Spirit descending from heaven and sitting on Him while the voice of the Father confirmed the divinity of the Son as the second Person of the

Holy Trinity, saying: “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

The Skete houses the holy relics of the Holy Forerunner (phalanxes from the fingers of his hands), Saint John Chrysostom, Saint Charalambos, Saint Tryphon, Saint Barbara, Saints Cosmas and Damian, etc.

21. HOLY MONASTERY OF PANAGIA DOVRA, VERIA Tel.: 2331027599 Mobile 6970952120 6946933493

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Q6ryKLC9TdfgAtyEA>



It is a historical monastery. On February 19, 1822, the beginning of the Revolution for the entire region of Macedonia was declared in Naoussa and the revolutionary banners were blessed in the holy church of Agios Demetrios.

The next day, the chieftain Tassos Karatasos and his fellow fighters set up their headquarters in the monastery of Dovra with the aim of occupying Veria. They choose the Monastery because it is close to Veria, but is invisible from it due to the hills in the surrounding area, but is also familiar to Karatasos due to his origin from the village of Dovra.

The Monastery is fortified, bastions are built and guards are placed on the surrounding hills. Karatasos remains inside the Monastery with approximately 240 men, while a second body under his command occupies the heights near the road through which the Turkish army would pass.

Thousands of Turks will be killed in the battle and Karatasos flees to Naoussa to continue his fight there. The monastery buildings are burned and the village of Dovra is not spared from the fury of the Turks, who were fooled in this way, and is completely destroyed.

In their passage, no one and nothing remains standing. As they leave, they take with them the abbot of the monastery Gerasimos, whom they hang as an example in Orologio Square in Veria, while they sell the residents of the village of Dovra as slaves in the slave markets of Thessaloniki, thus showing the fate that awaits anyone who dares to help the revolutionaries.

The Monastery celebrates the Friday of the Renewal, the feast of the Life-Giving Spring.

22.HOLY MONASTERY OF IBIRON, MOUNT Athos

Karyes, Tel.2377023646

Pilgrims' Office

Tel.2310252575

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/rVEW9AEFk61pbugEA>



The Holy Patriarchal and Stavropegic Monastery of Iviron is one of the twenty monasteries of Mount Athos and is ranked third in the hierarchical order of the Athonite Monasteries. It is Greek, coenobitic and celebrates the Assumption of

the Virgin Mary. At the entrance to the monastery is the miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary called Portaitis, the Gatekeeper and steward and protector of all Macedonia.



In 1651, the Iberian monks were experiencing great financial hardship in terms of food and living expenses. At that time, the daughter of the Tsar of Russia, Alexei Mikhailovich, was seriously ill. Her legs were paralyzed and, according to the doctors, incurable. He appeared

to her one night in her sleep, and after giving her courage and promising to cure her, he said to her:

- Tell your father to bring my icon, Portaitissa, from the Iberian monastery.

In the morning the sick daughter conveyed the order and immediately an emergency mission was launched to convey the Tsar's wish to the Iberian monks.

The Princess was cured and the Tsar, in token of his gratitude to the Virgin Mary, donated 2,500 rubles as an annual allowance to the monastery, a meteocho of St. Nicholas and duty-free on everything imported and exported from the country to and from Russia with the direction of the Holy Monastery of Iveron.

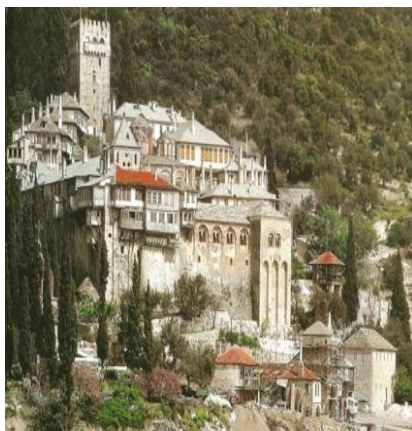


It is celebrated on the third day of the Holy Week of Easter.

23. HOLY MONASTERY OF DOCHIARIOS, MOUNT Athos

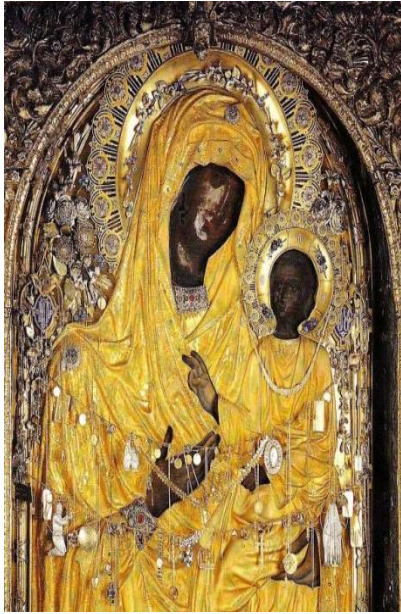
**Tel.:2377023271Pilgrims'
Office tel.2310252575**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/o1Pu5y6VuVQXpha68>



The Holy Monastery of Dochiarios is one of the twenty Monasteries of Mount Athos and celebrates the Synaxis of the Archangels on November 8 and of Saint Nicholas on December 6.

The most important relic of the Monastery is the famous miraculous icon of Panagia Gorgoypikou.



In 1646, the monk Niles, who regularly passed in front of the icon holding lit incense in his hand for his service at the table, heard a voice telling him the following: "Do not pass by here again with incense, smoking my icon." Niles did not pay much attention to the voice, but it was soon heard again, rebuking the monk and leaving him blind. The brothers began to pass in front of the icon with great reverence, hung a lamp that never went out and ordered the new monk to

incense it daily.



The blind Nilos spent all his time in a pew in front of the icon, begging the Virgin Mary to forgive him and heal him, which was done when, for the third time, a voice was heard from the icon, informing Nilos that his prayer had been heard and that the monks should henceforth resort to Her divine protection and shelter for all their needs. She will hear them quickly because her name is "Gorgoypikoos".

Gorgoypikoos and Portaitissa always have a monk as their patron.

24.SKETE OF SAINT ANDREAS AND ANTHONY OF THE GREAT MOUNT ATHOS

Karyes, Tel.: 2377023810,
Pilgrims' Office tel.
2310252575

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/FZTveHnEoa1SSHbz5>

The Skete of Saint Andrew belongs to the Holy Monastery of Vatopedi. It is a magnificent complex of buildings in the Russian style, in the outer south wing of the Skete the Athonia School is housed.



It celebrates twice a year Saint

Andrew the First-Called and Saint
Anthony the Ascetic.



Saint Ephraim the Just has worthily patronized the Greek-speaking monastic community since 2001, while he renovated almost the entire skete, creating at least four new churches which are operated daily on a rotating basis.



Saint Andrew, a fisherman by profession and brother of the Apostle Peter, was from Bethsaida in Galilee. His father was called Jonah. Because he was called by the Lord first in the group of disciples, he was called the First Called. His memory is honored on November 30.

Both brothers had joined the circle of disciples of Saint John the Baptist.

One day John the Baptist, seeing Jesus, said to Andrew and Peter, who were standing near him: "Behold the Lamb of God." The two brothers decided to follow Christ, with the intention of talking to him and not becoming his disciples. This happened later, after the arrest and imprisonment of the Baptist, when Christ told them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."



The Apostle Andrew went to Achaia, where he founded a church and managed to convert Maximilla, wife of the proconsul Aegeates, to Christianity, whom he cured of an incurable disease. The Roman official was enraged and ordered the crucifixion of the Apostle Andrew on an X-shaped cross, which was then called the "Cross of Saint Andrew"



The flag of Scotland bears the cross of St. Andrew.



The flag of the Russian Navy bears the cross of St. Andrew, The Apostle Andrew is the patron saint of Russia, Romania, and Scotland, as well as the patron saint of Patras, the Karyos of Mount Athos, and many Christians.

25.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT PAUL OF MOUNT Athos

Tel.: 2377023741

Pilgrims' office tel. 2310252575

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/FeF7L1pJ7Xhv689B7>

The Monastery of Saint Paul is located at an altitude of 140 meters above sea level and is

dedicated to the Presentation of Christ (February 2). It was founded in the late 9th and early 10th centuries by Paul Xeropotaminus or Xeropotamitis on the ruins of a small cell of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary, which had been founded in 377.

Among the relics, part of the Holy Gifts of the Magi to the newborn Christ stands out.



A Christian feast day, commemorating the arrival of the infant Christ by his parents

in the Temple of Jerusalem and his reception by the presbyter priest Simeon.

The Presentation of the Lord is one of the 12 great feasts of the Orthodox Christian Church. The ecclesiastical event of the Presentation of the Lord, narrated by the Evangelist Luke (2:22-38), occurred forty days after the birth of Jesus. Since, according to Mosaic law, he was the first child of the family and a boy, he had to be dedicated to God and at the same time the parents had to offer Him a small sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. The Virgin Mary was preceded in the temple by the aged Simeon, who received Jesus in his arms. The high priest had received a promise from God that he would not die before seeing Christ, and he thanked Him with the words:

"Now you are dismissing your servant, Lord, according to your word, in peace,

for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel."



The Righteous Simeon was worthy to take in his hands the Redemption of Israel, Jesus Christ.

According to tradition, in the 3rd century BC, 72 bilingual Jewish scholars from Alexandria, Egypt undertook to

translate the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek.

This particular translation is also the first written translation from Hebrew into Greek. For the sake of brevity, and possibly paraphrasing, it has gone down in history as the translation of the seventy and not the seventy-two.

Among these 72 translators was a young man named Simeon.

Like the others, he was also credited with some parts that he undertook to translate. When Simeon was studying with other fellow teachers the prophet Elijah and arriving at the passage with the prophecy "Behold, a Virgin shall conceive in her womb and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which is, being interpreted, God with us," he wondered how a Virgin could be called a Virgin and did not believe that such a thing could happen. In fact, it is said that

during the rendering of the translation, instead of Virgin, he tried to translate into Greek the word *nvara* (young woman) and not the word *virgin*, and then an angel's voice was heard saying, "You, Simeon, will live and see the Christ and will hold him in your hands," while at the same time an invisible hand slapped him on the cheek for his disrespect in attributing a different meaning to Greek than the one it had in Hebrew.

On the same day, while hiking next to a river, Simeon takes the ring off his hand (it is known that all influential men for many centuries wore rings on their hands with which, by placing their upper side in wax, they signed with a unique design that represented their 'signature') and throws it to the bottom of the river, saying that if he somehow finds this ring then and only then will he believe that Isaiah's prophecy can be fulfilled.

Indeed, that same evening, together with his fellow teachers, they sat down to eat in a nearby village and bought fish. When Simeon opened the fish to eat, he found the ring that he himself had thrown into the river in the morning and he told the others about this miraculous event.

From then on, Simeon went to Jerusalem and waited for many, many years to receive information so that the prophecy of the angel's voice would be fulfilled...

...and indeed this day arrived many, many years later when Simeon was very old and the same voice of the angel informed him to go to the temple of Solomon: "Simeon, go to the temple and see the desired thing that you have been waiting for for so many years."

At the scene was also the prophetess Anna, a virtuous elderly widow, who came from

the tribe of Asher, who lost her husband 7 years after their marriage and then dedicated herself completely to God and was constantly day and night in the temple with much prayer and fasting, while God had given her the prophetic gift and made her worthy to see Christ up close and worship him, prophesying-confirming that Jesus is the expected Messiah.



Simeon received it in his hands, throwing the mantle so that his "unworthiness" would not touch the Divinity with his bare hands and addressing the Virgin Mary, he prophesied that "Behold, this man is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that will be spoken against"

26.SKETE OF SAINT ANNA OF MOUNT ATHOS

Tel.2377023320,2377023922

Pilgrims' office tel. 2310252575

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/oVZcfnGrKeDsqvgy8>



The Saint Anna Skete belongs to the Monastery of Megisti Lavra. It is the largest and oldest Skete of Mount Athos. It was founded in the late 17th century by monks who arrived in the area in 1686 with the aim of protecting the left foot of Saint Anna, mother of the Virgin Mary, which they carried with them.



The miraculous icon of Saint Anne is located in the Kyriakos of the Skete.

Saint Anna was the mother of the Virgin Mary. Her name, Anna, was perhaps pronounced with an X from the Hebrew Hannah, which means favor, grace. She was the daughter of Matthan of the tribe of Levi and Mary. She had two sisters, Mary and Sobie, mother of Elizabeth, who gave birth to John the Baptist. Anna married

Joachim, who was from the tribe of Judah.

They lived near the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem. But Joachim and Anna had no children and the gifts of the childless were not accepted in the Temple.

With the shame of childlessness, Saint Anna begged God to give her a child. Finally, the barren Anna, now an old woman, gave birth to the long-desired child, Mary.

Joachim and Anna fulfill their vow to God by offering their three-year-old daughter to the Temple, as a dedication to God. Joachim died eight years after the Presentation of his daughter Mary at the age of 92, and Anna 11 months after Joachim's death, at the age of 83. Therefore, Joachim conceived the Theotokos at the age of 80 and Anna at the age of 70. The Theotokos was 11 years old when she was orphaned by both her parents.



She was still in the Temple of Jerusalem. Our church celebrates her memory three times a year:

- a) On September 9, together with the God-forgoer Joachim.
- b) On December 9, the conception of Saint Anne is celebrated.
- c) On July 25, her holy Dormition is celebrated.

Saint Anne was honored by the Church since ancient times. In 550 AD, Emperor Justinian dedicated a church in Constantinople in honor of Saint Anne.

27. HOLY MONASTERY OF XIROPOTAMOS OF MOUNT ATHOS

Tel.:2377023251

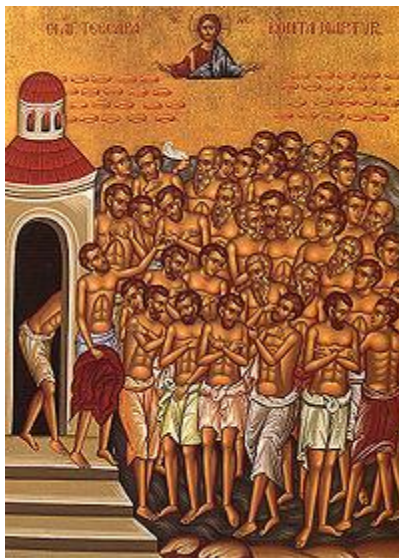
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The Holy Monastery of Xiropotamos celebrates the 40 Martyrs on March 9. It was founded at the end of the 10th century by the monk Paul Xiropotamos, where he was the first hegemon of the Monastery and was one of those who signed the first Typicon of Mount Athos, the "Goat".

In the Holy Monastery of Xiropotamos there is the largest piece of the Holy Wood on the Mount.

Because this part of the Holy Wood also bears a hole from the nails of the Crucifixion, the Monastery also celebrates on the feast of the Holy Cross.



And these forty Saints were soldiers in the most elite battalion of Licinius' army. When he launched a persecution against the

Christians, the forty Saints were immediately arrested by the prefect Agricola (in Sebasteia). At first he praised them and promised them rewards and positions, so that they would deny their faith. Then one of the forty, Candide, responded negatively on behalf of all. Agricola understood that he could not impose himself on them in a calm manner and ordered them to be tortured. So, one freezing winter night, they were thrown into the cold waters of a lake. The torture was horrible. Their bodies began to turn blue. But they encouraged each other, saying: "Winter is harsh, but paradise is sweet. Let us endure a little and in one night we will gain all eternity." While the martyrdom was going on, only one fainted and came out of the lake. However, he was replaced by the guard (Aglaios), who saw the crowns above their heads. He confessed Christ, entered the lake and together with the 39 he also received the crown of martyrdom, after they were

pulled half-dead from the lake in the morning and their limbs were crushed. The martyr's relics were found by Christians on a cliff, where they had been gathered according to divine providence and were reverently buried.

Basil the Great "possessed parts of their holy relics" and wrote a wonderful sermon on the Saints, while he built a chapel in memory of the forty holy martyrs, the first church in the East in honor of the Saints, on their estate in Pontus. That is why in the chapel of the Saints that exists in the center of Aristotle in Thessaloniki, in addition to the Icon of the forty holy ones, there is also the icon of Basil the Great on the right.

**28.HOLY MONASTERY OF
KONSTAMONITOS AGIOS
STEFANOS**

MOUNT ATHOS

Tel.: 2377023228

Pilgrims' Office

Tel.2310252575

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Bz5zJXz27xobmBKMA>



According to tradition, this Monastery was built by Constantine the Great and is dedicated to the Protomartyr Saint Stephen. However, historical evidence survives from the 11th century. Among the relics of the monastery are the miraculous icons of the Protomartyr Stephen, a work of the 8th century, and two

miraculous icons of the Virgin Mary Hodegetria and Antiphonitria.

Among the other relics are a piece of Holy Wood, a Byzantine epitaph, vestments and church utensils. The library of Konstamonito contains 110 manuscripts and about 5,000 printed books.

Today it has about 80 hardworking monks.





The first martyr of Christianity, he shed his blood for Jesus Christ. He was a zealous worker of the Gospel and of the meals that were made for widows and orphans. With his deep theological training, he easily overturned the Jews' misgivings about the work of Christ, provoking their anger

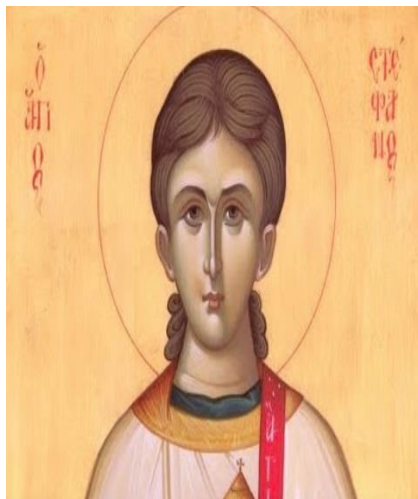
and envy. He was stoned and murdered by deceived Jews and Judaizers in Jerusalem. He is celebrated on December 27th, while the transfer of the holy relics of the Protomartyr Stephen is celebrated on August 2nd in the monastery's metochi in Perea, Thessaloniki.



The discovery of the holy relics occurred during the years when the great persecutions of the early Christians had subsided and Constantine the Great was the emperor.

At that time, Saint Stephen appeared three times to a pious old priest, Lucian, and revealed to him the place where his relic was hidden. He immediately reported

this to the Patriarch of Jerusalem, John, who in turn went to the indicated place and indeed found the Holy Relic of Saint Stephen.



When the relics were found, a great earthquake occurred, and the relic of the Saint filled the place with a fragrance. It is said that angelic voices were heard from heaven, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."



The Holy Abbot of the monastery, Elder Agathon, left a precious legacy of prayer, fasting, abstinence from sin and patience in tribulations for Christ.



Elder Charalambos is a worthy successor and abbot of thousands of Orthodox in the Church of Christ.

29. HOLY MONASTERY OF KARAKALLO

MOUNT ATHOS Pilgrims' office
tel. 2310252575

TEL 2377023225.

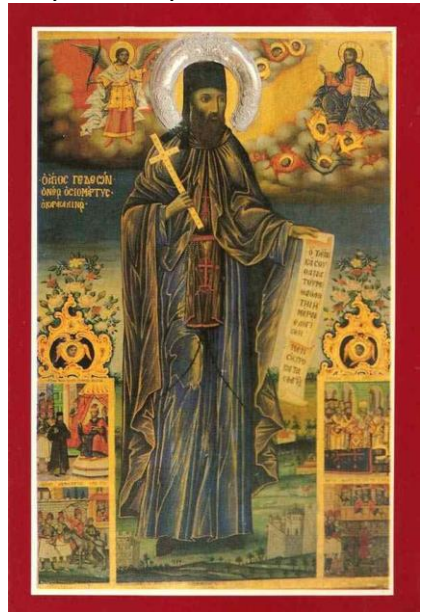
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It was founded in the 10th century and is honored in honor of the Holy First Apostles Peter and Paul (June 29). The library preserves 42 parchment codices from the 9th to the 14th centuries. Of particular value is a parchment scroll

containing the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom.

The monastery houses the venerable relics of Saint Gedeon of Caracallinus, who held the office of Ecclesiastical Deacon in the monastery and of the treasurer in a metochia of the monastery in Crete, where he served with self-denial for many years. . The Holy Monastery has since then boasted of Saint Gedeon and magnificently celebrates his holy memory



He was martyred in Tyrnavos, Thessaly on December 30, 1818



Saint Gedeon was born in the village of Kapourna in Demetrias (Magnesia Prefecture) and was known in the world as Nikolaos. His pious parents were named Avgerinos and Kyratza, while he had three other brothers and four sisters. At the age of twelve, he and his family came to the village of Germi and from there to Velestino, where he worked with his uncle. However, a Turk

kidnapped him and converted him to Islam under the name Ibrahim. After two months, Nikolaos managed to escape and returned to his family. His father took him to the village of Keramidi, where he went to Crete with some builders. There he confessed to a priest and found asylum in his chapel. After the death of the priest, Nicholas left for Mount Athos. There he confessed again, received the immaculate mysteries and in the Monastery of Karakalos, he was tonsured a monk with the name Gideon.

The fathers of the Monastery assigned him the ministry of the Ecclesiarch and in 1797 AD he became a great economist in the Metamorfosis monastery, in the area of Rethymno, Crete. After six years of staying in the monastery, he returned to the monastery of his repentance.

However, with the desire for martyrdom, he came to Velestino, to the place where

he denied his faith, where in the market place he courageously confessed Christ. Persecuted by the Turks, he came to Agia, where he was arrested. The Turks, after having paraded him through the streets of Tirnavos, then cut off his legs and arms and then threw him into the latrines. There, in terrible pain, he gave up his spirit on December 30, 1818 AD.

The Christians received the saint, who was fragrant throughout his burial service.

EASTERN MACEDONIA AND THRACE REGION

Kavala Prefecture

1. CHURCH OF SAINT GREGORY THE THEOLOGIST

**Nea Karvali Postal Code 64006
Kavala Prefecture
Tel.:2510316232**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/vbUcuuHivZ2PPwCMA>



About twelve (12) kilometers east of the city of Kavala, lies Nea Karvali, where the refugee residents from Asia Minor

transported a priceless treasure, the holy relic of Gregory the Theologian, one of the greatest Fathers of our Church. Ignoring myriad dangers, the uprooted Gelveriotis transported most of the relics of the Saint, which had been in their homeland since 390 AD (in his homonymous church), along with all the sacred and holy relics of their homeland. In honor of the Saint and Great Hierarch, a Church was built in Nea Karvali, which is a faithful copy of the holy church of Saint Gregory located in Gelveri in Asia Minor.



2.HOLY TRINITY-FIVE MARTYRS CHURCH

Polystylo, P.C. 64003 Kavala

Tel.: 2510391365

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/B6Y4xSjf1MKekzKAA>



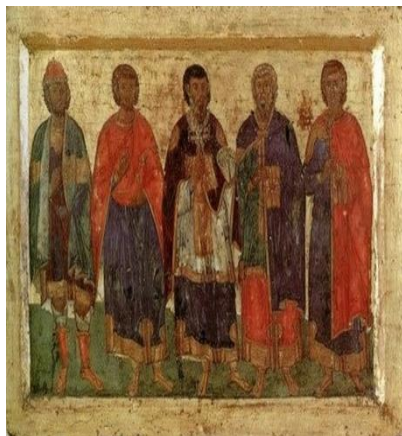
The Holy Five Martyrs, Eustratios, Afxentius, Eugenius, Mardarius and Orestes, suffered in 296 in Cappadocia in Asia Minor, during the harsh persecutions of the Roman Emperors Diocletian and Maximian, and their holy relics were brought to Greece during

the Asia Minor Catastrophe, in 1924, by the inhabitants of Semedere in Cappadocia, a village between the villages of Misthi and Enehil. The pious and virtuous Eustratios was an important ruler of the Arabrak region (otherwise Semedra or Semedere, in Greek it is translated as "Semandra", the present-day Ovacik in Turkey) but also a senior general.



At a dinner, to which he had invited his fellow citizens, he announced that he wished to bear witness for Christ. Thus he was arrested and endured many tortures, including being made to walk several kilometers in shoes with sharp nails inside them, while he was martyred on the

thirtieth of December, in 296, when the prefect of the region, Agricolus, threw him into the fire alive.



Before entering the fire, however, Saint Eustratios made the sign of the cross and prayed.

His Tabernacle was left in the forest to be eaten by beasts, but it was found and rescued by pious Arabs, while as a Hieromartyr, his Honorable Cara bears the sign of the Cross.

The commander of the Roman armed forces, Eugenius, wanted to be martyred together with his friend

Eustratios, and the same commander ordered his tongue to be cut out and his bones to be crushed, and thus he also gave up his spirit in the Lord.

A simple builder, named Mardarius, seeing the glorious star being led to Martyrdom, leaving behind his wife and children, who not only accepted his departure but were glad for the opportunity given to him, followed him.

Saint Mardarius expired in a horrible manner, his ankles were pierced, ropes were passed through the holes, he was hung upside down and his kidneys were pierced with red-hot spits, also an idea of the wretched Lysias.

Finally, the young soldier Orestes, while practicing archery in the plain, his tunic was torn and it appeared that he was wearing a golden cross around his neck, a gift from his mother who was a Christian.

He died after lying down on an iron bed, which, by order of Agricola, was plunged into flames and in fact, before it was finished with joy, he sneered for a moment, but Eustratios encouraged him and so he too received the crown of martyrdom.

The Holy Five Martyrs are also the Patrons of the Skete of Saint Anne.

Chios also solemnly celebrates the Saints, in the beautiful church of Saint Eustratios in Thymiana.

The Five Martyrs have performed numerous miracles. A beautiful event took place in a metochi of the New Monastery of Chios, dedicated to the Saints.

The year the Miracle occurred, a heavy and severe winter fell. Due to the excessive snow, the fathers were unable to descend to the metochi nor the pilgrims to come to the chapel.

The parish priest alone rang the bell, performed the blessing and began the Morning Prayer. Suddenly he sees five dignified men, who entered the Church with reverence, unknown to the priest, taking their places, two by two at the lecterns and in the middle the youngest leading the canon. Their faces are familiar, their clothing is strange, their voices are bright, their style is imposing.

The time has come to read the story of the martyrdom of the saints.

The young man reads: ..."And Saint Orestes, seeing the bed of fire, was moved and said to Saint Eustratios to pray for him" At that moment, the man who resembled Saint Eustratios raises his eyes and, looking very attentively at his counterpart Orestes, says to him:

—Why do you change the words and not say them as they are written? Read this passage a second time.

But he again changed the verb because he was ashamed, he said again, he was ashamed. Then Saint Eustratios shouted to him louder:

—Read it as you felt it, because you were not ashamed when you saw the bed, but you were afraid.

And immediately after this word, the Five also disappeared.

Seeing the paradox, the priest remained speechless for a long time.

When he came to himself, he finished the service as it was. With fear, he then recounted the event to those who came later.

The Memory of the Holy Glorious Martyrs Eustratios, Afxentios, Eugenios, Mardarios and Orestos is celebrated on December 13.

3.HOLY SHRINE OF SAINT LYDIA PHILIPPISIA BAPTISTRY

Amygdaleonas,

Postal Code 64012
Kavala,Tel:2510 225511;

Email: info@lydia-kavala.gr

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/cFQhT47nrD2ELsV39>



The Orthodox Christian Sisterhood "Lydia" is a monastic, missionary Brotherhood. It has been active in the area of Northern Greece since 1958. The Brotherhood's goal is the sanctification of its members and at the same time the transmission of Christian

truths and the timeless values of our Nation to our society.



The Sisterhood is named after the first European Christian, Saint Lydia, who came to know Christ through the preaching of the Apostle Paul in Philippi. She and all her family were baptized and then worked as a missionary, bringing the truth of the Gospel to the pagan world of her time.



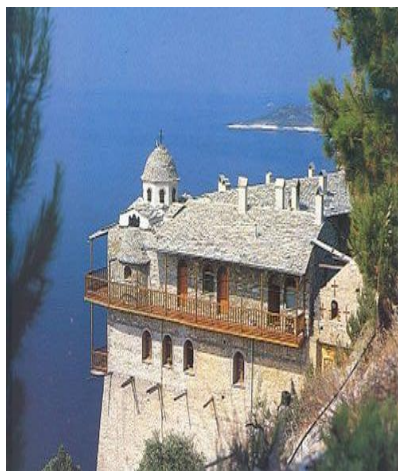
The Holy Elder of the monastery, Fr. Theophilos Zisopoulos

4.HOLY MONASTERY OF ARCHANGELOS MICHAEL

THASSOS P.C.64004

Tel.259301500

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/TWQ66zz69HTzTVMb7>



The Monastery of Archangel Michael of Thassos is a 13th-century women's monastery. It is located between the villages of Astrida and Aliko and is built on the edge of a cliff, above a wild bay, with a unique view, both for those who see it from afar and for those who gaze at the sea from its windows.

The Monastery houses a piece of the Holy Helium, that is, part of the nails with which Christ was crucified, while its exhibition hall is also very rich.

To visit the monastery, one is required to observe dress code rules of decency, while clothes for those who have not been properly prepared are offered at the entrance.



The Presence and Miracles of Archangel Michael in this place are closely connected to the history of the Holy Nail, which

we mentioned above, which is also a source of much grace and healing.

5.HOLY MONASTERY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD THASSOS

Maries P.C. 64002

THASSOSTel: 2593051394

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/uamPY1KiVb4Ksia88>



The holy monastery of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Panagia or Panagouda) is located between Maries and Skala Marien. The church of the Virgin Mary that exists in the monastery was built in 1813 and took the place of an older one. The monastery hosts a miraculous icon of the Virgin

Mary from the 15th - 16th century. The monastery celebrates on August 15.

6.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT MENAS FROM EGYPT

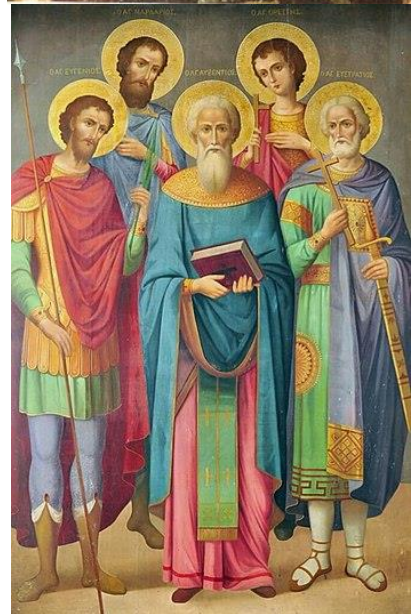
P. C. 62045DramaTel.
2324031991

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/pTSgLA2eh3HGtSma7>



At a distance of approximately 1500 meters west of the village of Perihora in the area of “Tagala”, the Holy Monastery of Agios Minas stands majestically on the slope of a picturesque ravine, surrounded by a pine forest. The entire Church is decorated with rich iconography with scenes from the life of the Old and New Testaments, mentally

transporting the devout visitor to the Holy City of Zion with awe and emotion.



The Holy Monastery has the blessing and joy of being adorned with the Holy Relics of the five Martyrs of Cappadocia: Efstratius, Afxentius, Eugenius, Mardarius, and Orestes.

7.HOLY MONASTERY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE SAVIOR - SIPSA (WOMEN'S)

Taxiarches Dramas Postal Code 66100, Tel: 25210-45023

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/9UJLG944JxbgjAxz6>



In the settlement of Taxiarches Drama (Sipsa) The first "settler" in the year 1930 was the blessed father Saint George Karslidis (1901 - 1959), who acquired the reputation of a holy man.



Today, a large female brotherhood of nuns flourishes at this point, which constitutes the Holy Monastery of the Ascension of the Savior



The Elder of the monastery Saint George Karslidis.

8.HOLY MONASTERY OF PANAGIA ARCHANGELIOTISSA -KALAMOUS XANTHI

P.C. 67100

panagiaarxagelliotissa@gmail.com
om **Tel.:2541029799**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/h7MX4UG7wYrvmnBt6>



The Holy Monastery is built on a rock north of Xanthi in the Samakov district.



The monastery celebrates the Assumption of the Virgin Mary



The miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary that you find in the monastery

The monastery was acquired in 1841 by fundraising and donations from residents of Xanthi. In 1913, during the Bulgarian occupation, cultural treasures and heirlooms of the monastery were stolen and transferred to Bulgaria.

After its liberation in 1919 by the Bulgarians, the monastery distributed most of its property in fields to landless refugees from Asia Minor.

Today, the monastery is a male monastery.

9.HOLY MONASTERY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD EVROS

P.C. 68100

N.Makri, Tel. 25510 71263.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/mSXjsABpG5MXoVvkq5>



The Monastery of Panagia Evros, as the Holy Monastery of the Dormition of the Theotokos is more widely known, was founded in 1980 by the Metropolitan of Alexandroupolis, Anthimos Roussas, on a privately owned site in Makri, a thriving monastic women's community that is particularly active in the arts and ministries.

The nuns of the monastery create a climate of devotion and repentance for the faithful pilgrims

while making a multitude of handicrafts that help them maintain the monastery.



The miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary, the unshakable hope of all Christians.

10.HOLY MONASTERY OF HOLY SKEPIS AND SAINT PARASKEVI

Postal Code 68300

Didymoticho Evros

Tel.:2552300714

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/oT6ZqEBwwMcsaq2H9>



It is located next to the Greek-Turkish border, a short distance from the town of Nea Vyssa, Evros. The small chapel of saint Paraskevi has always been a point of reference for the residents of the wider Orestiada area.

There is also a large attendance of believers on the feast day of Zoodochos Pigi

where a blessing is performed.



The name Zoodochos Pigi tou Baloukli or Panagia Baloukliotissa refers to a holy Christian holy spring located in Constantinople outside the western gate of Silybria, where the so-called "palaces of springs" existed in which the Byzantine Emperors spent their spring vacations.

It took its name from the Turkish name Balık (meaning fish) and includes the monastery, the church and the holy spring.

The later Emperor Leo the Thracian or Leo the Great (457 - 474 AD), when he was coming to Constantinople as a simple soldier, met a blind man at the Golden Gate who asked him for water.

While looking for water, a voice indicated the spring to him.

The blind man drank and the muddy water came to his eyes and he was healed.

When he later became Emperor, the prophetic voice told him that he should build a Church next to the spring.

Indeed, Leo built a magnificent church in honor of the Virgin Mary at that place, which he named "Spring".

WESTERN MACEDONIA REGION

Prefecture of Grevena

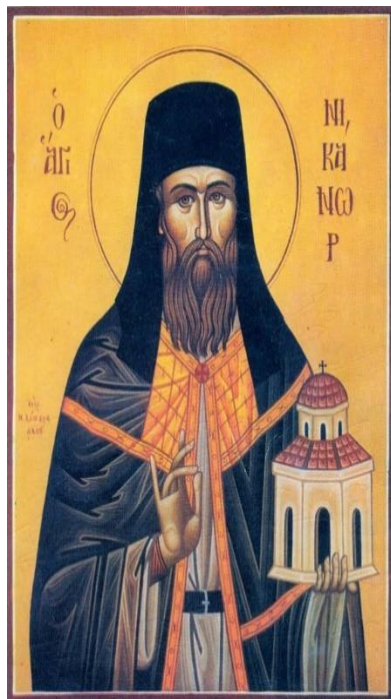
**1.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT
NIKANOROS OF ZAVORDA
P.C.51200Deskati Grevena,
Tel.:2462025261**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/rkhFBu3KdHdPyZVQA>



The monastery was founded by Saint Nikanor from Thessaloniki, probably in the

third decade of the 16th century. Nikanor came from a wealthy family, at a young age he renounced wealth, became a monk and initially lived asceticism in a small cave, known today as the "hermitage of Nikanor", on Mount Kallistrat. Later, when Jeremias I was patriarch, he built the monastery on the foundations of an older temple that existed on this site. The monastery experienced great prosperity, acquired considerable wealth, and for centuries was the most important spiritual institution for the entire region.



Saint Nikanor, the founder of the monastery

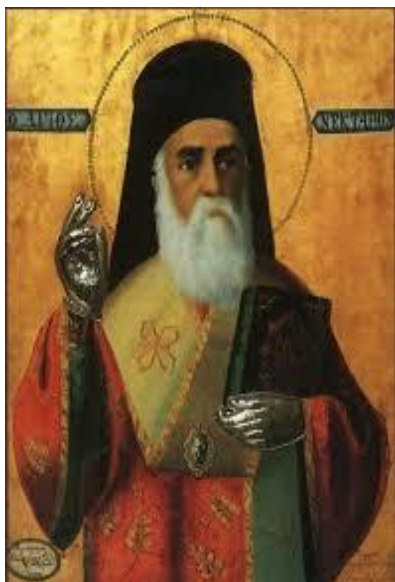
There was a school on its premises, which developed into a major educational center in Macedonia, operating continuously until 1912. The monastery is for men and celebrates on August 6 (Transfiguration of the Savior) and 7 (Assumption of Saint Nikanor).

2.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT NEKTARIUS (ANDRIKI)

Kozani Prefecture Velventos
Postal Code 50400Tel.:2464
024667

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GPNrQzCufcZ31uMY6>

The monastery celebrates on November 9th and on September 3rd the day of the transfer of the relics of the Myrrh-Bearer and Miracle Worker Nektarios, Metropolitan of Pentapolis



The monastery is strongly influenced by the grace of Saint Nektarios.



Regarding the life of Saint Nektarios, he was born on Tuesday, October 1, 1846, in Silybria, Turkish-occupied Thrace, to pious and poor parents - Dimos (Demosthenes) and Vasiliki Kephala, née Balou. His father came from Ioannina, a sailor by profession, and his mother came from Silybria. He was the fifth child in the family and was given the name Anastasios. He took his first lessons in Constantinople, while working, at the age of 13.

He then studied at the Theological School of Athens, graduating in 1885. He went to the Patriarchate of Alexandria, where he was

appointed secretary of the Patriarchate. He was a famous preacher and in 1889 he became Metropolitan of Pentapolis. Patriarch Sophronios intended him to be his successor. This caused the envy of the priests there. Saint Nektarios, in order to facilitate the Patriarch, abandoned his position and returned to Athens slandered and persecuted.

He was appointed director of the Rizareio School in 1894. His work at the school was organizational, educational, pedagogical and writing. He organized the School on the basis of Orthodox ecclesiastical tradition. And the most important thing was his pedagogical thought, which contributed greatly to the reform of the school, so that the graduates would be excellent theologians and educators. He remained there for 14 years, while he signed his resignation which was accepted in 1908 for health reasons (having suffered for years from prostate disease). When at some point the Saint met Chrysanthi Strongyloou (later Abbess Xeni), a blind and pious woman, the first stone was laid for the creation of the monastery in Aegina. Chrysanthi,

along with a few other women, wished to become a nun and were looking for a spiritual guide, which they found in the person of Saint Nektarios. At his urging, they began to look for a place to create a monastery, and eventually ended up in a dilapidated monastery - dedicated to the Life-Giving Spring and dissolved in 1834 by decree of the Bavarians - in Aegina.



When the Saint also visited that place, it was decided to repair the old buildings of the monastery and to put the monastery back into operation. Work for this purpose began in 1904, and the monastery

would be dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The Saint from Athens - he was still the director at Rizareio - guided the nuns and whenever he found time he visited the monastery where he was to spend the last years of his life.



After four years, having now decided to retire to the monastery of Aegina and deal with its organization and the spiritual guidance of the nuns who staffed it, he submitted his resignation to the board of directors of Rizareio on February 7, 1908. The resignation was accepted by the board, which retired him - as a minimal recognition of his work -

with the significant amount for the time, 250 drachmas per month.

3. HOLY MONASTRY MOTHER OF GOD “ZIDANIOU”

P.C.50500

Mikrovaltos Kozani

Tel.: 2464051210

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Ft3umAFTHjXQWRZN9>

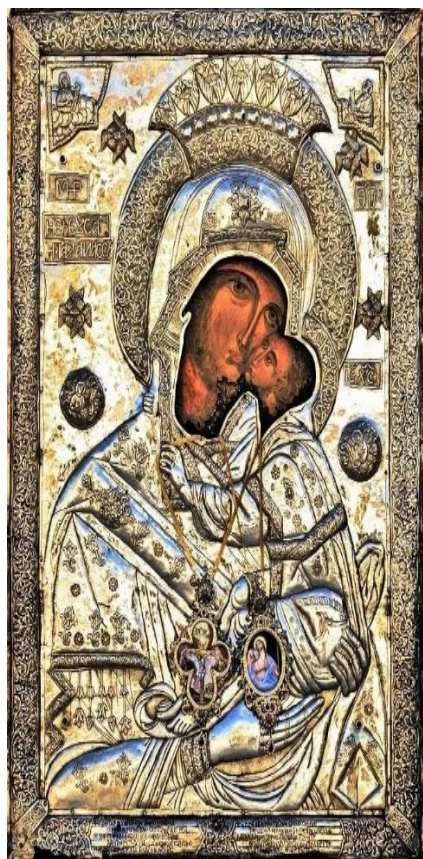


The most important relic of the monastery is the icon of “Panagia, Pantanassa”.

In 1854 the monastery was completely destroyed by the Turks in retaliation for a revolutionary movement in the area.

The monastery was also destroyed by the Nazis in 1940 and by the earthquake in 1995.

Hope unashamed, the grace of the Virgin restored it with the holy nuns Mariam and Theoktistis.



The miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary that heals everyone from every kind of covid flu

4. HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT ANTHONY (MENS)

Siapka-Kastania, Servia
Kozanis,
P.C. 50500 Tel. 6979851211

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/9RqhoJup7N NQuESQ6>



It is a monument of the ecclesiastical and monastic life of the wider region of Serbia. Unfortunately, historical sources or other clear testimonies about the exact time of foundation of the Monastery of Saint Antonios of Siapka have not been preserved. However, it is estimated by the researchers

that the monastery was built in the late Byzantine times around the 13th century.



At the age of 20 he lost both his parents. Six months later he distributed his possessions to the poor and retired to a desert cave, where he lived an ascetic life for 25 consecutive years. His fame soon spread in the local churches, and many Christians fled to the same area to become ascetics and listen to his teaching.

In the year 311, during the persecution of the emperor Maximinus (307-313), he came to Alexandria to encourage and help the faithful of the local church.

When the persecution ceased, Antony returned to the desert. However, he felt disturbed by the presence of many believers who went to meet him, so he sought a new refuge at Mount Colxim on the Red Sea.

Even there, however, many Christians came to receive his blessing and to be healed. His fame reached even the upper echelons of the empire.

Constantine the Great and his sons, Constantius and Constans, corresponded regularly with him and consulted him on various matters.

During his ascetic life he never changed his clothes, nor did he wash his body or feet with water.

He taught his disciples not to consider anything higher than the love of Christ and not to think that because they abstain

from worldly goods, they are deprived of something worthwhile. To leave earthly goods, he said, is like scorning a copper coin to gain a hundred gold coins. He emphasized that we should not forget that human life is temporary compared to eternal life and that we should not strive to acquire temporal goods, which we cannot take with us.

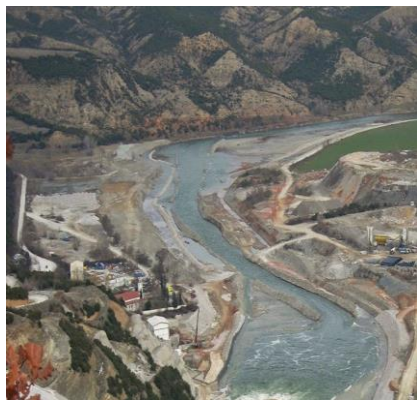
5. HOLY TRINITY MONASTERY OF LARIO (MEN)

P.C 50004

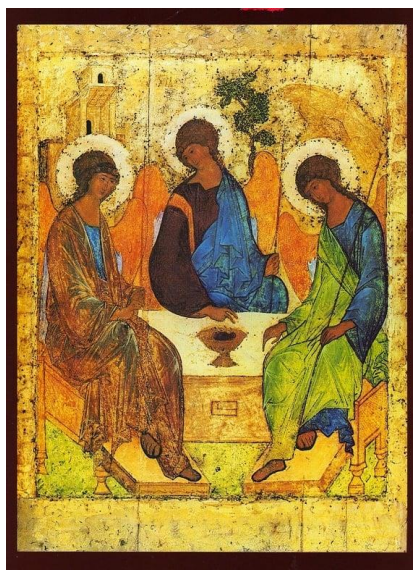
Aiani Kozani

Tel.: 2461098209

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/GWSZutqPsnvKi7tm8>



It is located approximately 40 km southwest of Kozani and about 15 km from Aiani, on the left bank of Aliakmonas in a landscape of infinite beauty. Oral tradition says that the Monastery of Larios was built in the 11th century.



THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY TRINITY

A Triune God with three hypostases



Archimandrite Hilarion Karagiannis has been Abbot of the Monastery for more than 60 years.

6. HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT ATHANASIOS

Eratyra, Kozani

Tel.: 2465031570

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/LXN4LCyTUFzVYQQf7>

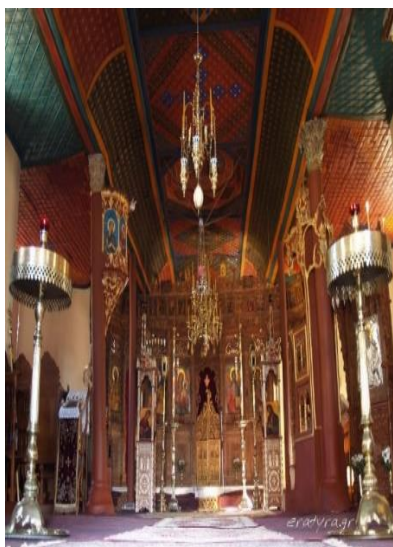


Historical Monument

The monastery of Saint Athanasios dates back to the Byzantine era. It was probably built at the expense of the Byzantine kings, as was customary at that time. It was probably built before 1600, while after 1700 its period of great prosperity began.

The monastery has from time to time suffered many damages from fires and raids. He had a large library with many manuscripts, some of which are now in the National Library. This fact proves that the monks were highly educated. He was engaged in the painting of frescoes and portable images, but no signature has been preserved anywhere.





In the 19th century the monastery declined. In the first decades after liberation, the building, which was in a very bad condition, was demolished. To the west of the monastery, a new guest house was built, which was used as a guest house and recreation area, since the monastery is located in a very beautiful natural landscape. This building has recently been reconstructed. Around 1970, a new guest house was built in order to stimulate tourist traffic to the monastery.



Saint Athanasios the Great

7. HOLY MONASTERY OF Saint KOSMAS OF AETOLOS ARDASSAS

P.C 50200 Ardassa
Ptolemaidas, Kozani

Tel.: 6974934542

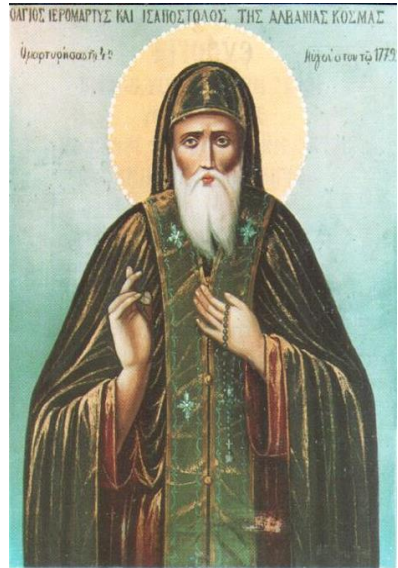
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/A3wx4b3nGNm9UKUL6>

The monastery celebrates
August 24.



The holy Monastery of Agios Kosmas of Aitolos Ardassis was founded by the Most Reverend Metropolitan Theokletos in 2004. It is built on the slopes of Mount Askion, between the villages of Ardassa and Kryovrysi and is 10

minutes from the town of Ptolemaida.



Saint Kosmas the Aetolos

Saint Kosmas was a light-bearing apostle of the Gospel, in the dark years of Turkish slavery. The Church of Christ, to honor his struggle and contribution, named him Isapostolos. Agios Kosmas was born in the village of Taxiarchis in the province of Apokoros, which is located near the village of Megalo Dendro Nafpaktia, in 1714 AD, to pious parents, who raised him in the education and admonition of the Lord.

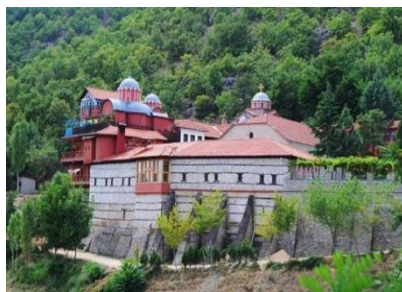
At the age of twenty, he went to Mount Athos, to study at the newly founded school of Vatopedi. St. Kosmas was originally called Konstantinos and after his graduation, he went to the Philotheu Monastery, where he became a monk (1759 AD) and then Hieromonk and received the name Kosmas. From wherever he passed, he built schools, churches, and multitudes of people attended his holy teaching. Finally, the envy of the Jews, in collaboration with the Turks, resulted in the hanging of the Saint in Kolikondasi, in the lands of Northern Epirus in 1779 AD. His remains were thrown into the waters of the river Apsos.

Despite the stone tied around his neck, the relic floated. He was found by priest Markos and buried in the monastery of Theotokou Ardonitsa B. Epirus, where it was found.

8. HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINTS “ANARGIRI”

**Kastoria prefecture
Melissotopos, P.C. 52052
Tel.: 2467098309**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/C3LXEhQRbYnP7THN6>



The Monastery of Saints “Anargyroi” is the oldest in the prefecture of Kastoria and is located on the site of an older one that was founded in the time of Alexios I Comnenus (1080) and was originally dedicated to Agios Panteleimon.

In 1457 it was reconstituted and dedicated to AgioiAnargyroi.

The contribution of the monastery to the Macedonian Struggle was great with the help

the monks offered to the groups of Macedonian fighters operating in their areas.



The pair of fellow doctors who treated all mental and physical illnesses without salary in the suffering brothers.

The monastery celebrates on July 1st and November 1st

9. HOLY MONASTERY OF Saint Nikolaos Tsirilovou P.C.52200

3 km Korisos – Germa Kastoria

Tel.: 24670-51228

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/sWGmwzHoLoro9a4d7>



The monastery is located 19 km from Kastoria near the settlement of Agios Nikolaos amidst lush green nature.

It is celebrated on May 20, the day of the harvest of the holy relics of Agios Nikolaos, bishop of Myron of Lycia.

The monastery hosted the hero Pavlos Melas and was a stronghold of many chieftains during the Macedonian War.

The monastery houses a miraculous icon of Agios Nikolaos as well as a holy relic of Agios Nikolaos.

Agios Nikolaos is one of the most popular saints in the Christian world. His memory is celebrated on December 6.



Nicholas was born on March 15, 270 in Patara, Lycia (present-day Gelemis, Turkey) to pious and wealthy parents

and received an excellent education.

After distributing his property to the poor, he was ordained a priest and fought for the spread of the Christian faith, while protecting every weak, suffering or wronged person. His ascension to the archbishopric of Myra in Lycia (present-day Demre, Turkey) provoked the wrath of the pagans, who arrested him and subjected him to torture. He was released after the rise of Constantine the Great and devoted himself to his pastoral work.

He took part and excelled in the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea (325), where Christian doctrine was largely shaped, with the condemnation of the Arian heresy.

He was imprisoned a second time by Constantine the Great because he dared and publicly beat the impious Arius in front of him.

However, Christ himself justified him by giving him his episcopal ordination in prison. He fell asleep in peace on December 6, 343. After his repose, his holy head exuded myrrh.

10.HOLY MONASTERY OF SAINT MARK

Proti Florina

P.C 53100

Tel:2385037944

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/w4H19heEwTtjJayW7>



The Holy Monastery is built in the Varnountos mountain range, at an altitude of 959m

and is 10 minutes from the city of Florina.

Heroes of the Macedonian struggle were hosted in the monastery. The monastery operates as a commune and celebrates on April 25th in Saint Mark the Apostle and Evangelist.



Lion next to the Evangelist symbol of strength.

Mark wrote the second Gospel in the New Testament around 65 AD and is the shortest of the four and is known as the Gospel of the miracles of Jesus.

In Mark's house in Jerusalem, the most important events associated with the Son of God Jesus and the founding of the first Church on the day of Pentecost took place.

He was a follower of St. Paul and St. Barnabas on Paul's first tour of Asia Minor. During their journey to Asia Minor, when they were about to cross a huge mountain called "Taurus", Mark became discouraged and lost his courage, resulting in him abandoning the missionary group and returning to Jerusalem. On the second tour of the Apostle Paul, Barnabas insists on giving Mark a second chance and taking him back with them. Paul did not accept, Barnabas insists, resulting in a

"paroxysm" among the apostles.

Eventually, the Apostle Barnabas charted a different missionary path than Paul.

He and his nephew Mark traveled to Cyprus and Alexandria, Egypt. Mark is ordained the first patriarch of Alexandria.

In 49 AD, the First Apostolic Council took place, resolving the issue of the Apostle Mark "...of the Gentile Christians", which was the real reason for Mark's separation from the first Apostolic tour of the Apostle Paul.

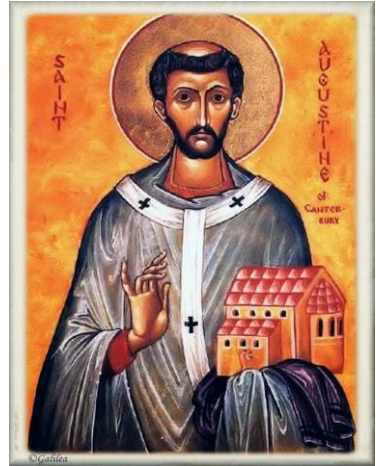
11. HOLY CONGREGATIONAL WOMEN'S MONASTERY OF SAINT AUGUSTINE FLORINA

Florina, tel.: 23850-28610

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/BB8rAPACENEbubYH8>



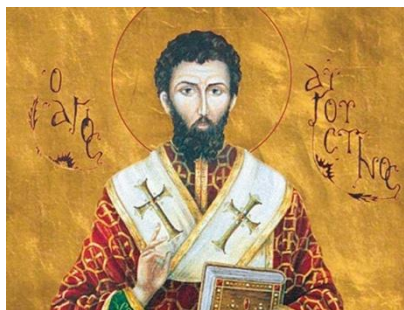
The monastery was founded by the Metropolitan of Florina, Augustine, in 1999. The monastery contains the tomb of the metropolitan and its founder.



Saint Augustine (also called Aurelius) was born in Tagaste, Numidia, Africa, in the year 354 AD to a fervent Christian mother, Monica (honored on May 4) and a pagan father, Patrick.

As a young student he lived a dissolute life, from which he also had an illegitimate child. In Africa, he became a follower of Manichaeism, but when he later arrived in Milan, his mother's fervent all-night prayers, his own careful study of the Holy Scriptures and the fiery sermons of the Bishop of Milan Ambrose, brought Augustine to Christianity. He asked to be catechized and was baptized a Christian along with his 15-year-old son Adeodatus.

Later he returned to Africa where he taught and fervently spread Christianity and after the death of his mother he went to Rome. When in 391 AD visited some of his friends in Hippo (on the coast of Numidia), the bishop of the city, appreciating his rich gifts, his passion for teaching and his profound theological knowledge, ordained him a presbyter and later an assistant bishop. After the death of Valerius, he succeeded him on the throne of the Bishopric of Hippo in 396 AD.



He shepherded his flock with prudence and discernment for 34 full years and fell asleep peacefully at the age of 76, on 28 August 430 AD