

KANONA ΠΙΣΤΕΩΣ - MODEL OF FAITH

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA PARISH OF SAINT NICHOLAS MARRICKVILLE

Priest: Very Rev Eirinaios Tralonakis 0418 883 107 | 9558 4453

www.stnicholas.com.au | FaceBook: Parish St Nicholas Marrickville



Κυριακή 4 Ιανουαρίου 2026 Προεόρτια τῶν Φώτων.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἡχος πλ. α'.

Τὸν συνάναρχον Λόγον Πατρὶ καὶ Πνεύματι, τὸν ἐκ Παρθένου τεχθέντα εἰςωτηρίαν ἡμῶν, ἀνυμνήσωμεν πιστοὶκαὶ προσκυνήσωμεν, ὅτι ηύδοκησε σαρκί, ἀνέλθειν ἐν τῷ Σταυρῷ, καὶ θάνατον ὑπομεῖναι, καὶ ἐγεῖραι τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐντῇ ἐνδόξῳ Αναστάσει αὐτοῦ.

Προεόρτιον.

Κατεπλάγη Ιωσήφ.

Ἐτοιμάζου Ζαβουλών, καὶ εύτρεπίζου Νεφθαλείμ. Ἰορδάνη ποταμέ, στῆθι ὑπόδεξαι σκιρτῶν, τοῦ βαπτισθῆναι ἐρχόμενον τὸν Δεσπότην. Ἀγάλου ὁ Ἄδαμ σὺν τῇ Προμήτορι· μὴ κρύπτετε ἑαυτούς, ὡς ἐν Παραδείσῳ τὸ πρίν· καὶ γὰρ γυμνούς ιδῶν ὑμᾶς ἐπέφανεν, ἵνα ἐνδύσῃ τὴν πρώτην στολήν. Χριστὸς ἐφάνη, τὴν πᾶσαν κτίσιν, θέλων ἀνακαυνίσαι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἅγιου Νικολάου.

Κανόνα πίστεως καὶ εἰκόνα πραότητος, ἐγκρατείας διδάσκαλον, ἀνέδειξε σε τῇ ποιμνῇ σου, ἡ τῶν πραγμάτων ἀλήθεια διὰ τοῦτο ἐκτήσω τῇ ταπεινώσει τὰ ὑψηλά, τῇ πτωχείᾳ τὰ πλούσια, Πάτερ ιεράρχα Νικόλαε· πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Ἀπολυτίκιον Κοσμά καὶ Δαμιανού

Ἄγιοι Ανάργυροι καὶ θαυματουργοί, επισκέψασθε τάς ασθενείας ημών, δωρεάν ελάβετε, δωρεάν δότε ημίν.

Sunday 4 January 2026 Forefeast of Epiphany

Resurrectional Apolytikion

The Word eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation, let us believers praise and worship; for he was pleased to go up on the Cross in his flesh, to endure death and raise the dead, by his glorious resurrection.

For the Forefeast Joseph marveled.

O Zabulon, prepare, and be ready, Nephthalim. Jordan River, hold your course, and exultantly receive the Master who is coming to be baptized. Adam leap for joy with Eve the Foremother. No longer hide yourselves, as once in Paradise; for having seen you naked He has appeared to clothe you in your former vesture. The Christ has appeared, wishing to renew the entire creation.

St Nicholas Hymn

A model of faith and the image of gentleness, the example of your life has shown you forth to your sheep-fold to be a master of temperance. You obtained thus through being lowly, gifts from on high, and riches through poverty, **Nicholas**, our father and priest of priests, intercede with Christ our God that He may save our soul.

Sts Cosmas & Damianos

Sainted Unmercenaries and Wonder Workers, regard our infirmities; freely you have received, freely share with us.

Άπολυτίκιον Τοῦ Ἁγίου Παΐσιου Τόν συνάναρχον Λόγον

Αύστραλίας προστάτην, φρουρόν τε
ἄγρυπνον, καὶ τοῦ Ἀθωνος ὄρους στύλον
ἀείφωτον, ἀνύμνησωμεν πιστοί, Θεῖον
Παΐσιον, ἔχαιτούμενοι αὐτοῦ τάς
πρεσβείας πρός Θεόν, κραυγάζοντες
όμοιφρόνως· ύρουν ὡς πάτερ παντοίων, τῶν
τοξευμάτων τοῦ ἀλάστορος.

Κοντάκιον.

Ἐν τοῖς ῥείθροις σήμερον τοῦ Ἱορδάνου,
γεγονώς ὁ Κύριος, τῷ Ἰωάννῃ ἐκβοῦ· Μὴ
δειλιάσῃς βαπτίσαι με· σῶσαι γάρ ἡκω,
Ἄδαμ τὸν πρωτοπλαστὸν.

ΑΠΟΣΤΟΛΟΣ

Πρὸς Τιμόθεον Β' Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου
(δ', 5-8)

Τέκνον Τιμόθεε, νῆφε ἐν πᾶσιν,
κακοπάθησον, ἔργον ποίησον
εὐαγγελιστοῦ, τὴν διακονίαν σου
πληροφόρησον. Ἐγὼ γάρ ἡδη σπένδομαι,
καὶ ὁ καιρὸς τῆς ἐμῆς ἀναλύσεως
ἐφέστηκεν. Τὸν ἀγῶνα τὸν καλὸν
ἡγώντισμαι, τὸν δρόμον τετέλεκα, τὴν πίστιν
τετήρηκα· λοιπόν, ἀπόκειται μοι ὁ τῆς
δικαιοσύνης στέφανος, ὃν ἀποδώσει μοι ὁ
κύριος ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ ἡμέρᾳ, ὁ δίκαιος
κριτής· οὐ μόνον δὲ ἐμοί, ἀλλὰ καὶ πάσιν
τοῖς ἡγαπητικόσιν τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν αὐτοῦ

St Paisios Hymn The Word Eternal

O Protector of Australia, vigilant
guardian and resplendent pillar of Mount
Athos, we the faithful let us praise the
holy **Paisios**, and beseeching his
intercessions before God, crying out with
one voice, deliver us, O father of all,
from the arrows of the vengeful one.

Kontakion

To the flowing streams today of River
Jordan comes the Lord and cries aloud to
John the Baptist, and He says, "Be not
afraid to baptize me now; for I have
come to save Adam, the first-formed
man."

EPISTLE

Paul's 2nd Letter to Timothy
(4:5-8)

TIMOTHY, my son, always be steady,
endure suffering, do the work of an
evangelist, fulfil your ministry. For I am
already on the point of being sacrificed;
the time of my departure has come. I
have fought the good fight, I have
finished the race, I have kept the faith.
Henceforth there is laid up for me the
crown of righteousness, which the Lord,
the righteous judge, will award to me on
that Day, and not only to me but also to
all who have loved his appearing.

**Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Μᾶρκον ἀγίου Εὐαγγελίου
(α', 1-8)**

Αρχὴ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ,
υἱοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ. Ὡς γέγραπται ἐν τοῖς
προφήταις, ἵδού ἐγὼ ἀποστέλλω τὸν
ἄγγελόν μου πρὸ προσώπου σου, ὃς
κατασκευάσει τὴν ὁδόν σου ἔμπροσθέν
σου· φωνὴ βιοῦντος ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ,
έτοιμάσατε τὴν ὁδὸν Κυρίου, εὐθείας
ποιεῖτε τὰς τρίβους αὐτοῦ, ἐγένετο
Ἰωάννης βαπτίζων ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ καὶ
κηρύσσων βάπτισμα μετανοίας εἰς
ἄφεσιν ἀμαρτιῶν. Καὶ ἐξεπορεύετο πρὸς
αὐτὸν πᾶσα ἡ Ἰουδαία χώρα καὶ οἱ
Ἰεροσολυμῖται, καὶ ἐβαπτίζοντο πάντες
ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ
ἐξιμολογούμενοι τὰς ἀμαρτίας αὐτῶν.
Ἦν δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐνδεδυμένος τρίχας
καμήλου καὶ ζώνην δερματίνην περὶ τὴν
όσφυν αὐτοῦ, καὶ ἐσθίων ἀκρίδας καὶ
μέλι ἄγριον. Καὶ ἐκήρυσσε λέγων· ἔρχεται
ὁ ἴσχυρότερός μου ὡπίσω μου, οὗ οὐκ
εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς κύψας λῦσαι τὸν ἴμαντα τῶν
ὑποδημάτων αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν ἐβάπτισα
ὑμᾶς ἐν ὕδατι, αὐτὸς δὲ βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν
Πνεύματι Ἅγιω.

**Holy Gospel according to St Mark
(1:1-8)**

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.' John was baptizing in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Ευαγγελικό μήνυμα

Αγαπητοί αδελφοί,

Τῇ Τρίτῃ, ἡ Ἑκκλησία μας ἔορτάζει τῇ Βάπτιση τοῦ Κυρίου καὶ Σωτῆρος μας Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, μία ἀπὸ τις Μεγάλες Δεσποτικές Ἐορτές, διότι ἀποκαλύπτεται πλήρως ἡ φανέρωση τῆς Ἁγίας Τριάδος. Στὸν ποταμὸν Ἰορδάνη, ἡ φωνὴ τοῦ Πατρὸς μαρτυρεῖ γιὰ τὸν Υἱό, καὶ τὸ Ἀγιον Πνεῦμα κατέρχεται μὲν μορφῇ περιστερᾶς. Διὰ τοῦτο ὁ λόγον ἡ ἔορτὴ ὄνομάζεται Ἐπιφάνεια, δηλαδὴ φανέρωση, καὶ ἀκριβέστερα Θεοφάνεια, ἡ ἀποκάλυψις τοῦ Τριαδικοῦ Θεοῦ.

Το ιδιαίτερο Ευαγγελικό ανάγνωσμα από την αρχή του Ευαγγελίου του Αγίου Μάρκου μας παραπέμπει στην αρχή της δημιουργίας στη Γένεση, αναγγέλλοντας μια νέα αρχή στην ιστορία της σωτηρίας. Αυτή η πολυαναμενόμενη «καλή αγγελία» προετοιμάζεται από τον Ἀγίο Ιωάννη τον Βαπτιστή, τον προφήτη που είχε προαναγγελθεί από τον Ησαΐα, ο οποίος κήρυξε τη μετάνοια και βάπτιζε με νερό για την ἀφεση των αμαρτιών. Ως Ναζαραίος και ασκητής, ο Ιωάννης στέκεται ως γέφυρα μεταξύ της Παλαιάς και της Καινής Διαθήκης, ο τελευταίος προφήτης της Παλαιάς και ο Πρόδρομος του Χριστού.

Ἡ ταπείνωσις τοῦ Ιωάννου ἀποκαλύπτει τὴν ἀγιότητα Ἐκείνου ποὺ ἔρχεται. Τὰ λόγια του, ὅτι δὲν εἶναι ἄξιος νὰ λύσῃ τὸν ἴμαντα τῶν ὑποδημάτων τοῦ Χριστοῦ, θυμίζουν τὶς συναντήσεις τῆς Παλαιᾶς Διαθήκης μὲ τὸν Θεὸν ἐπὶ ἀγίου τόπου, ἐπιβεβαιώνοντας ὅτι μόνον ὁ Ἰησοῦς εἶναι ὁ Ἀγιος. Ἐνῷ ὁ Ιωάννης βαπτίζει μὲ νερόν, ὁ Χριστὸς βαπτίζει μὲ τὸ Ἀγιον Πνεῦμα, χαρίζοντας ἀναγέννησιν καὶ ἀνακαίνισιν. Μέσα ἀπὸ τὸ Βάπτισμα λαμβάνομεν τὸ Φῶς τοῦ Χριστοῦ. Αν καὶ ἡ ἀμαρτία τὸ θαμπώνει, ποτὲ δὲν σβήνει καὶ ἀνανεοῦται μὲ τὴν μετάνοιαν, ιδιαίτερως μὲ τὸ Μυστήριον τῆς Ἐξομολογήσεως, ποὺ συχνὰ ὄνομάζεται «βάπτισμα τῶν δακρύων». Σήμερον, ὥπως τότε στὸν Ιορδάνην, ὁ Θεὸς μᾶς καλεῖ εἰς μετάνοιαν καὶ ἀνανέωσιν. Σὲ ἔναν κόσμον ποὺ χαρακτηρίζεται ἀπὸ ἀδιαφορίαν καὶ φιλαυτίαν, καλούμεθα νὰ ζῶμεν ἐν κοινωνίᾳ μὲ τὸν Θεὸν καὶ μεταξύ μας.

Αγαπητοί ἀδελφοί, ἀς κάμωμεν τὸ 2026 τὸ ἔτος κατὰ τὸ ὄποιον θὰ ἀνανεώσωμεν τὴν βαπτισματικήν μας ἀναγέννησιν, συμφιλιώνοντας καὶ ἐπανενώνοντας τὸν ἑαυτόν μας μὲ τὸν Κύριον καὶ Σωτῆρα μας Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν. Άμήν.

Gospel message

Dear Brother and sisters in Christ. On Tuesday, our Church celebrates the Baptism of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, one of the Great Feasts, because it reveals the full manifestation of the Holy Trinity. At the Jordan River, the Father's voice bears witness to the Son, and the Holy Spirit descends in the form of a dove. For this reason, the feast is called Epiphany—meaning manifestation—and more precisely Theophany, the revelation of the Triune God.

The special Gospel reading from the opening of St Mark recalls the beginning of creation in Genesis, announcing a new beginning in salvation history. This long-awaited “good news” is prepared by John the Baptist, the prophet foretold by Isaiah, who preached repentance and baptised with water for the forgiveness of sins. As a Nazarite and ascetic, John stands as a bridge between the Old and New Covenants, the final prophet of the old and the forerunner of Christ.

John's humility reveals the holiness of the One to come. His words about being unworthy to untie Christ's sandals echo the Old Testament encounters with God on holy ground, affirming that Jesus alone is the Holy One. While John baptises with water, Christ baptises with the Holy Spirit, granting rebirth and renewal.

Through baptism, we receive the Light of Christ. Though sin dims this light, it is never extinguished and is renewed through repentance, especially in the Sacrament of Confession, often called the “baptism of tears.” Today, as at the Jordan, God calls us to repentance and renewal. In a world marked by apathy and self-interest, we are called to live in communion with God and one another. My friends, as it is customary to make a new year's resolution, let us make 2026 the year we renewed our **Baptismal rebirth** by reconciling ourselves and reuniting ourselves with Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen