

Archbishop Nikitas visits the Church of St Nektarios in Battersea



On Forgiveness Sunday, 17th March 2024, His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Church of St Nektarios in Battersea, London. Also serving were the Revd Protopresbyter Christodoulos Christodoulou, Priest-in-charge of the community; the Revd Presbyter Stefan Strekopytov; the Revd Presbyter Stephen Morys Ireland; and the Revd Archdeacon Dr George Tsourous.

In his sermon, His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas spoke about the essence of forgiveness and offered insights on the true spirit of fasting. He emphasised that our Lord's call to forgive one another is not only for the sake of showing grace to others, but is also a precondition for receiving God's mercy ourselves. His Eminence underscored the importance of sincerity in our ascetic practices, particularly in fasting, reiterating the caution expressed by our Lord in the Sunday Gospel reading against performative piety. The hallmark of true fasting is humility, not accolades from others. God rewards the genuine heart that makes sacrifices in

secret.

Furthermore, His Eminence urged the faithful to seek peace in eternal treasures, highlighting that true wealth does not lie in earthly possessions, but in our relationship with God. This, he concluded, is where our hearts find true and lasting joy.

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, His Eminence tonsured Mr Joseph Craveiro as a member of the Holy Synod. The ceremony was followed by a reception with their families.











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