

23/07/2025

Archbishop Nikitas Celebrates Feast of Prophet Elias with Reading Parish



On Sunday, 20th July 2025, the Parish of Prophet Elias in Reading joyfully welcomed His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain for the celebration of its patronal feast.

Concelebrating in the Divine Liturgy were the V. Revd Archimandrite Chrysostomos Tympas, the Revd Protopresbyter Dr Andreas Andreopoulos, and the Revd Archdeacon George Tsourous.

Following the service, Parish President Theodora Demakopoulou expressed heartfelt thanks to His Eminence for his spiritual leadership and pastoral care. She welcomed the appointment of the Revd Protopresbyter Constantinos Garibaldinos, Vicar General as the new parish priest and honoured the long-standing service of the Revd Protopresbyter Ian Graham.

“We are all volunteers,” she noted, “working to preserve our Orthodox heritage and promote Hellenic culture in this vibrant and diverse corner of England.” She commended the Greek School, parish committee, trustees, and wider community for their dedication, and appealed for continued support as the parish seeks a

permanent home.

In her address, the Mayor of Reading, Councillor Dr Alice Mpofu-Coles who also attended, praised the parish's contribution to the town and urged all communities to join efforts in tackling inequality and fostering unity. Revd Jo, representing the town's Christian communities was also present.

Responding, His Eminence offered his paternal blessings and encouragement. He spoke of the Church's enduring role in nurturing faith, language, and identity, and reaffirmed his support for the community's vision for the future.

The celebration concluded with joyful hospitality, as parishioners and guests gathered in thanksgiving and fellowship.

















vema.com.au