

## **The Feast Day of the Church of Saint Nicholas of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Athens**



With full splendour, the Feast of the Church of Saint Nicholas of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Athens (at Vasilissis Sofias & Ploutarchou 1) was celebrated.

On Friday, 5 December, at the Great Hierarchical Vespers, His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of Thavmakos presided, concelebrated by His Eminence Metropolitan Theodoritos of Laodicea, with the participation of clergy of the Holy Archdiocese of Athens. In his homily, Metropolitan Iakovos spoke of Saint Nicholas as a model of spiritual life. Present at the Vespers were the President of the Athens Nursing Home, Mr Spyridon Chamakiotis, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and a large number of faithful.

On Saturday, 6 December, Matins, a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, and the Artoklasia were celebrated, presided over by His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph of Proikonnisos together with Metropolitan Theodoritos of Laodicea. In his sermon, Metropolitan Joseph spoke about the personality of Saint Nicholas and his contribution to safeguarding the Orthodox faith at the First Ecumenical Council, as well as his association with the protection of sailors.



The Minister of National Defence, Mr Nikolaos Dendias, who was celebrating his name day, visited the church to venerate before attending the Navy Day celebrations. Present at the Divine Liturgy were the Mayor of Athens, Mr Haris Doukas, Archons of the Great Church of Constantinople, shipowner Mr Nikolaos Patéras, Professor Nikolaos Xexakis, and a multitude of faithful.

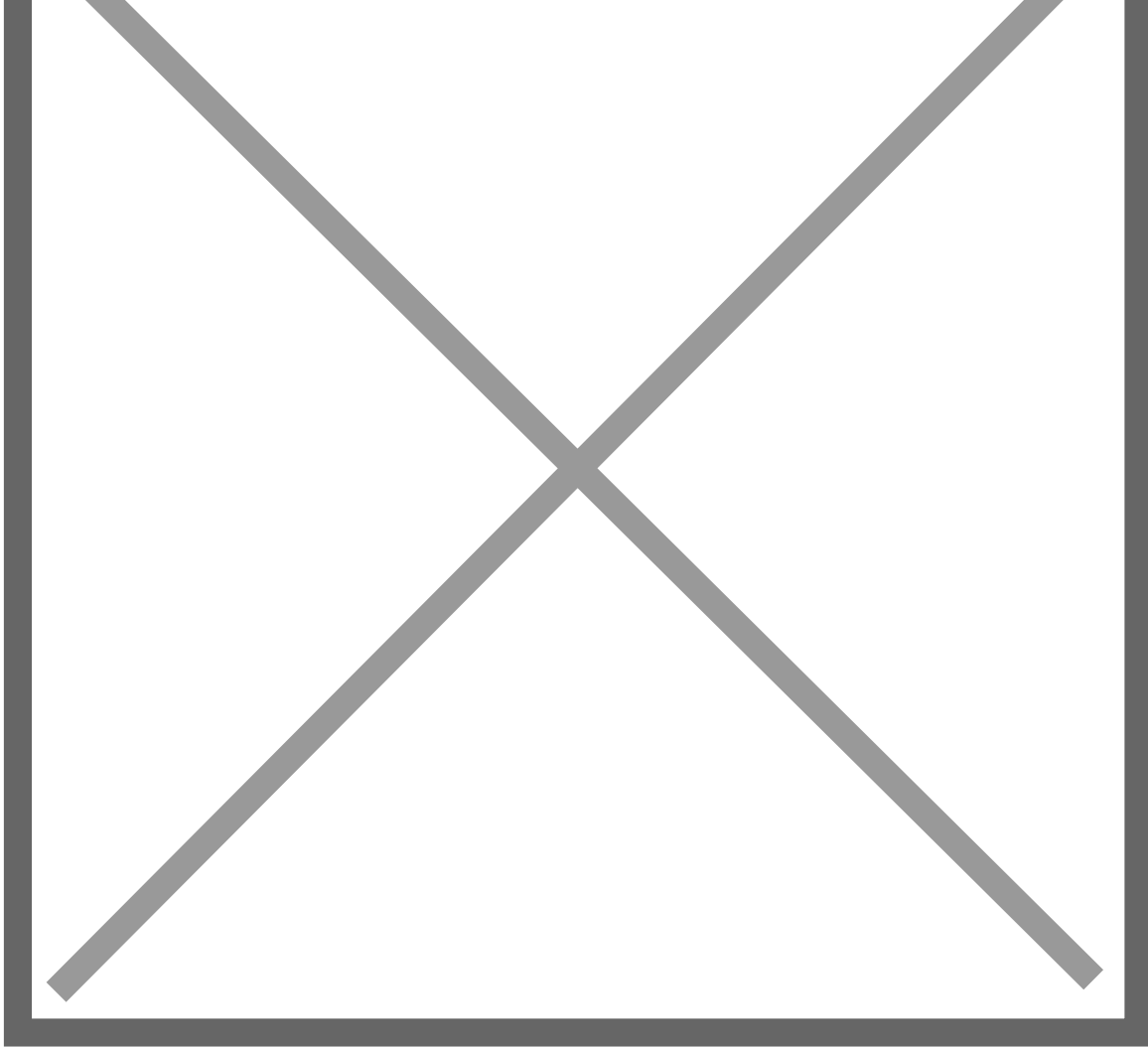
At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, Metropolitan Theodoritos conveyed to all—especially to the Mayor, as the first citizen of Athens—the paternal wishes of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

The celebrations concluded with the after-feast day Vespers later the same afternoon.









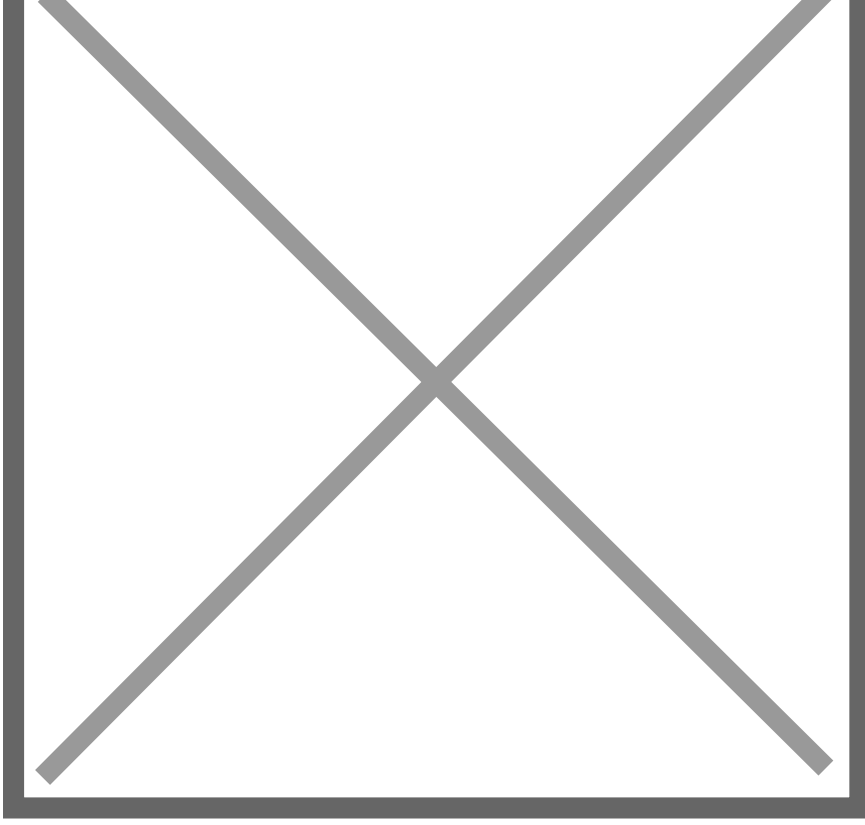
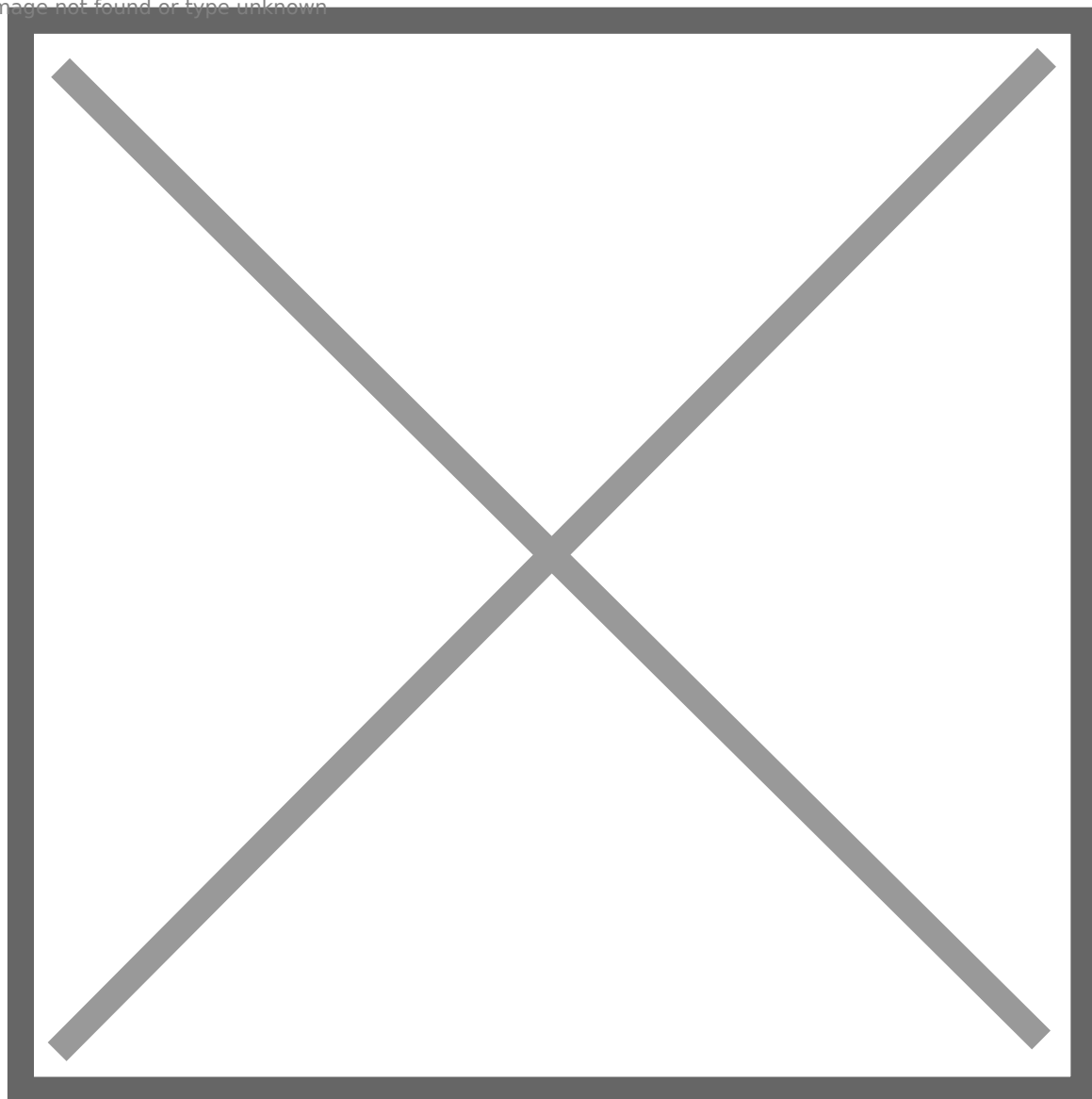


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