

## **The feast of Saint Spyridon Bishop of Trimythous the Wonderworker at the Patriarchate**



On Thursday, 12th/25th December 2025, the Patriarchate celebrated the memory of our Father among the Saints Spyridon, Bishop of Trimythous, the Wonderworker, at the Holy Monastery dedicated to his name, situated by the Damascus Gate, within the Old City of Jerusalem.

On this feast, the Church commemorates Saint Spyridon, who was of Cypriot origin, married, the father of one daughter, and by profession a shepherd of sheep. When his daughter and his wife reposed, God called him, and he became also a shepherd of rational sheep, as Bishop of Trimythous in Cyprus.

In this ministry, he was distinguished for his supreme virtue and chastity, and as a member of the First Ecumenical Council, at which he defended the homoousion of the Son with the Father, and thus became an ecumenical teacher of the Orthodox faith. He was also deemed worthy of the gift of wonderworking. His life and miraculous activity are hymned in the Apolytikion of his feast: "A champion of the First Council wast thou shown to be, and a wonderworker, O God-bearing one, Spyridon our Father; wherefore thou didst speak to the dead woman in the tomb,

and didst change the serpent into gold; and whilst thou wast chanting thy holy prayers, thou hadst Angels concelebrating with thee, O most sacred one. Glory to Him Who hath glorified thee, glory to Him Who hath crowned thee, glory to Him Who worketh through thee healings for all.”

His sacred Synaxarion also includes other miracles, such as the ending of drought and the cessation of floods, the transformation of a serpent into gold, the conversation with his departed daughter Irene for the revelation of the place where a deposit entrusted to her had been kept, and, after his departure unto Christ, the deliverance of the island of Corfu on many occasions from plague and invasions, the rescue of those in peril at sea, and the miraculous restoration of the poor. His holy relic, preserved after the fall of the Queen of Cities, remains incorrupt unto this day on the island of Corfu, as a sacred pilgrimage and a holy treasure for the healing of the sick and the protection of the whole island.

In honour of his memory, Vespers was celebrated on the eve and the Divine Liturgy in the morning at the aforementioned Holy Monastery, presided over by His Eminence Metropolitan Joachim of Helenopolis, with Archimandrites Makarios and Amphilochios concelebrating, together with the Priests Nektarios, Nikolaos Koulinski, and Hierodeacon Prodromos, and with many faithful devoutly praying in honour of Saint Spyridon.

During the Divine Liturgy, His Beatitude, our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem, Theophilos, visited the Holy Monastery, together with the Fathers of the Holy Sepulchre Brotherhood.

The Patriarchal and Hierarchical Entourage and the congregation were graciously received by the Hegumen, Archimandrite Philoumenos, who, with great care, maintains the Monastery and has adorned the church with new wall paintings.

From the Chief Secretariat

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