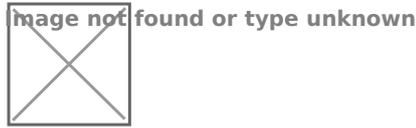


The Second Stanza of the Salutations at the Parish of Panagia Soumela in East Keilor, in the Holy Diocese of Chora



With deep reverence, the Service of the Second Stanza of the Salutations to the Most Holy Theotokos was celebrated on the evening of Friday, 6 March, at the Church of Panagia Soumela in East Keilor, within the Holy Diocese of Chora.

The sacred service was presided over by His Grace Bishop Evmenios of Chora.

During the service, His Grace conveyed to the congregation the blessings of His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia and his paternal wishes for a blessed and spiritually fruitful period of Holy and Great Lent.

In his brief sermon, His Grace referred to the deep theological message of the Salutations to the Theotokos, emphasising that the repeated "Rejoice" in the hymns of the Church reminds us that repentance and the spiritual struggle of Great Lent ultimately lead to the joy of the presence of God in the life of the human person.

At the same time, he underlined that it is not accidental that the Church places the Most Holy Theotokos at the centre of the spiritual journey of Great Lent, since the Panagia always leads humanity toward her Son and becomes a support and refuge for every believer who struggles spiritually.

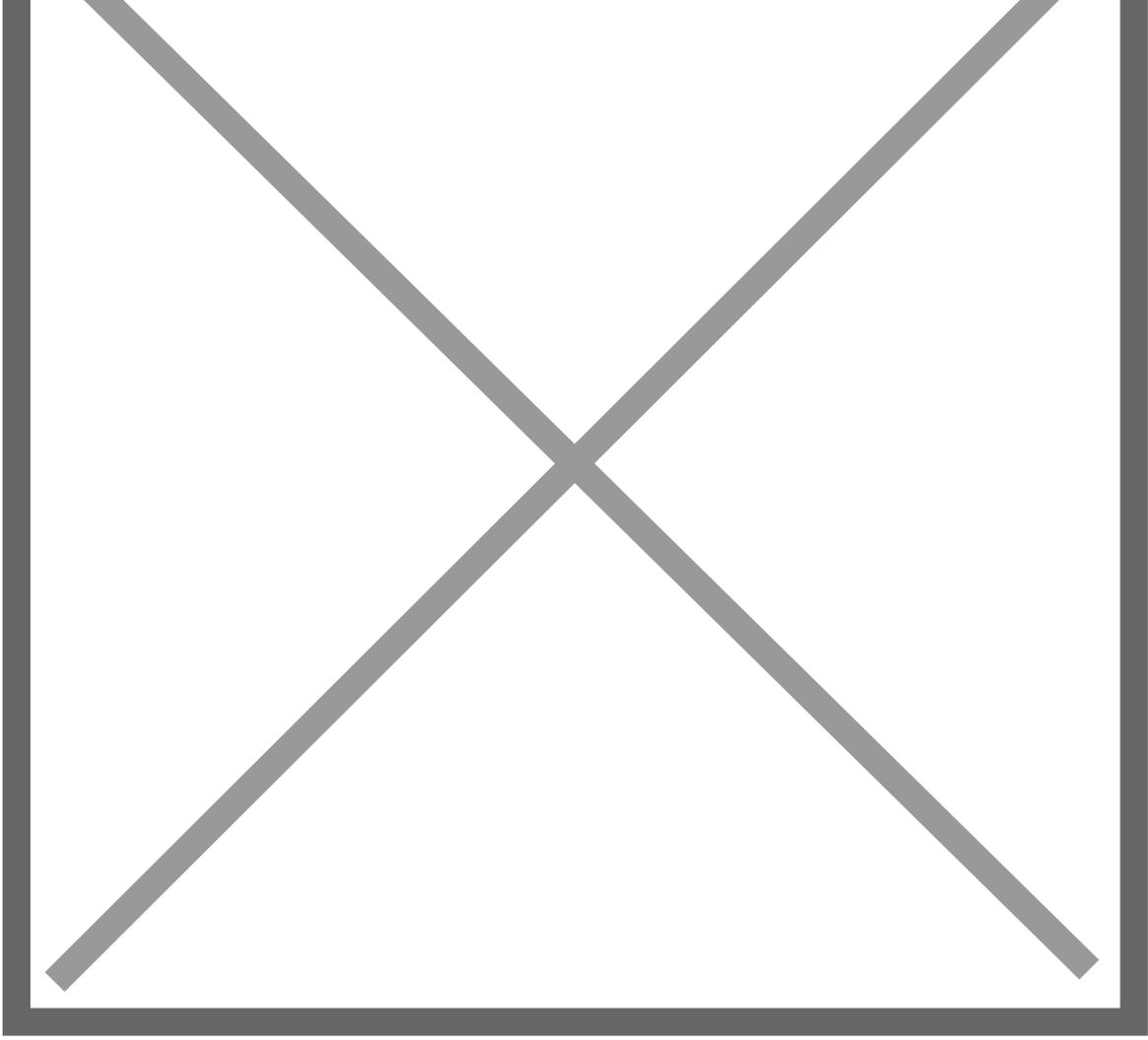
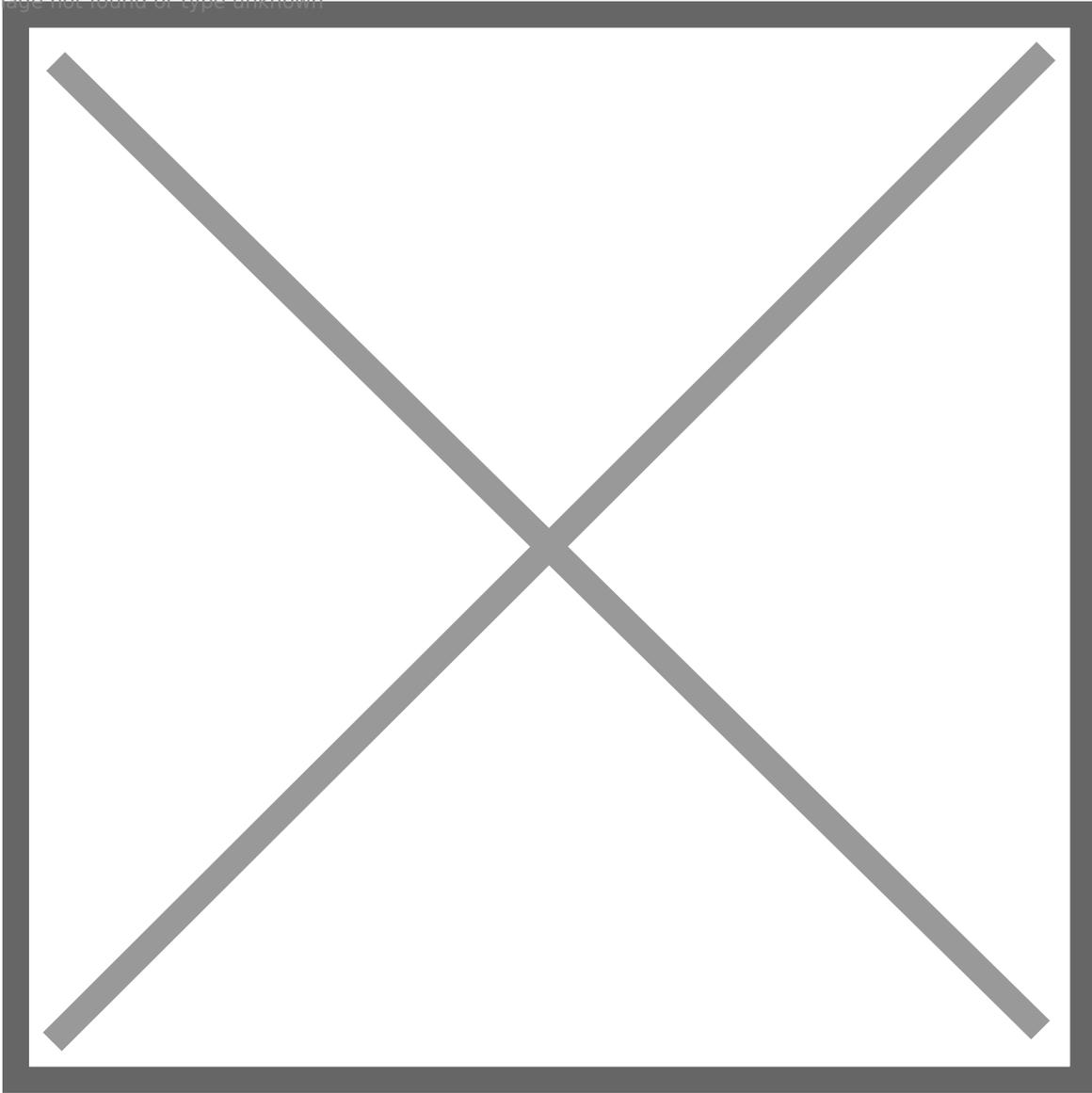


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