

16/10/2020

## **The Archdiocesan District of Perth Organises a Fun Day for Children**



On Monday 5 October, with the blessing of His Grace Bishop Elpidios of Kyaneon, a Children's School Holiday event was hosted at the Parish of Saint Nektarios in Perth, WA.

The event was organised by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia – Archdiocesan District of Perth, and brought together children of all ages from all of the parishes and monastery of Perth.

The event was well attended by over 60 children with many more parents and grandparents also in attendance.

The day began with an English Divine Liturgy conducted by the Parish Priest of the Church of Saint Nektarios, Fr John Athansiou, together with Fr Terry Gerovasilis,

Parish Priest of the Church of Saints Constantine and Helene. Fr Terry spoke in his sermon to the children about the need to fulfil Christ's commandment to love one another as we love ourselves by sharing our blessings and belongings with all those around us.

The children also learned how to make koliva (memorial wheat) and the importance of praying for our loved ones who have fallen asleep. With the koliva that the children helped prepare, His Grace Bishop Elpidios then conducted a Trisagion Service inside the church and explained to all the meaning of this very special service.

In the afternoon, His Grace, assisted by Father Terry, spoke to the children about the vestments and other church articles used by the priests and bishops in the church. Father John spoke to the children about the life of Saint Nektarios.

The children were also given the opportunity to prepare their own pizza while enjoying each other's company.

Finally, the day concluded with prayer by all the children in the church after which they all received an icon and blessing from His Grace. Prior to leaving for the day all children received a special treat which included ice cream.

Overall, the event was a fantastic success with all the children enjoying physical activities such as soccer, sharing fellowship with one another and learning more about the Church and our orthodox faith.