

# † Basildon Orthodox Community Bulletin

No. 7 ~ PASCHA 2014

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**ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**North Benfleet Hall Road**  
**Basildon,**  
**Essex SS12 9JR**

## **FORTHCOMING DATES: MAY 2014**

**SATURDAY 3rd MAY : DIVINE LITURGY 10:30; followed by a light lunch.**

**SUNDAY 11th MAY : DIVINE LITURGY 10:30; followed by a light lunch.**

**SUNDAY 25th MAY : DIVINE LITURGY 10:30; followed by a light lunch.**

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## **CHRIST IS RISEN !**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

ALL SAINTS enjoyed a most blessed Easter. Thank you to all who joined us. It was a joy and blessing that so many (especially the children!) stayed until the end; and then talked happily and ate for so long after the holy services had finished .

I should like to express my gratitude to all who helped make it such a happy occasion; to those who prepared such lovely food, to those who gave lifts in their car, to those who sang, who served, who helped make the Holy Temple look so beautiful, who gave hospitality to the priest; and most especially to all who joined us to give glory to God - I thank you all.

In the Risen Lord,

Reader Paul

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## **NEWS :**

Saint Arsenios of Paros, a Greek saint of the 19th century, who reposed in 1877, made an important prediction. He said that,

**"The Church in the British Isles will only begin to grow when She begins to again venerate Her own Saints".**

Toward that end I should like to draw your attention to two recent news items.

The first, is the attempt by Hieromonk Seraphim (Aldea), Ph.D., who, with God's help, is seeking to establish a **new Orthodox womens' monastery in Britain**. We, Orthodox, desperately need more monasteries in the UK.

The Roman Catholics have generously given the Orthodox Church the church of **Saint Ninian & Saint Cuthbert** on the Isle of Mull, in the Hebrides, in Scotland. The plan now is to use the Church as the centre of a permanent monastery. There has been a great deal of support for this from abroad, particularly in the United States.

The new Monastery have the church and they have a priest, Fr Seraphim, and several nuns who are to form the new community; they now need some adjacent land on which they will house the community. They have been offered enough land, at a low price, of £65,000. They have, I believe, raised 40% of this total, but still have a way to go.

Should you like to help, please contact Fr Seraphim via the Monastery website:

**Orthodox Monastery of Saint Ninian & Saint Cuthbert** <http://mullmonastery.com>

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The second news item, is the **Annual Orthodox Pilgrimage to the Saints of Barking**. Now in its fifth year. This is a local Orthodox event of some significance.

This takes place on **Saturday 10th May**. This year, we are delighted to welcome His Eminence **Metropolitan Kallistos** of Diokleia to the pilgrimage, who will speak on "**What is a Saint?**" The pilgrimage will run from 12:30 to 4:30pm at **Barking Abbey, next to St Margaret of Antioch Church, The Broadway, Barking, Essex, IG11 8AS**. The services will be held in the Abbey ruins but will be in the Church if it is wet. Pilgrims should bring their own lunch.

Barking Abbey was founded in the 7th century by **St Erkenwald** for his sister, **St Ethelburga**, and was dedicated to the **Holy Mother of God**. It was a beacon of spirituality and has many Orthodox saints associated with the site. The pilgrimage has become a regular feature of the Orthodox calendar, and we hope that it grows as more people discover the local saints of London and the South East of England.

Barking is well-connected for travel, on the mainline and London Underground networks.

Thank you for your attention,

Reader Paul.

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### **THREE SAYINGS OF SAINT SILOUAN THE ATHONITE :**

The Lord loves all people, but He loves those who seek Him even more. To his chosen ones the Lord gives such great grace that for love they forsake the whole earth, the whole world, and their souls

burn with desire that all people might be saved and see the glory of the Lord.

*(Writings, IX. 8)*

Many rich and powerful men would pay dearly to see the Lord or His Most Pure Mother, but God does not appear in riches, but in the humble heart . . . Every one of the poorest men can be humbled and come to know God. It requires neither money nor reputation to come to know God, but only humility. *(Ibid., I.11, 21)*

No matter how much we may study, it is not possible to come to know God unless we live according to His commandments, for God is not known by science, but by the Holy Spirit. Many philosophers and learned men came to the belief that God exists, but they did not know God. It is one thing to believe that God exists and another to know Him. If someone has come to know God by the Holy Spirit, his soul will burn with love for God day and night, and his soul cannot be bound to any earthly thing. *(Ibid., VIII. 3)*

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## **YOUR HELP IS ALWAYS REQUIRED**

**It is a great blessing to be able to help in the Temple of God. Many jobs need doing : cleaning, preparation before the holy services, baking the bread for the Holy Eucharist, decorating, preparing lunch, collecting the priest and giving him hospitality . . . there is always so much to do and so few people to share the burden.**

**Should you like to help, please speak with Rdr. Paul, or with George.**

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**+ GLORY TO GOD FOR ALL THINGS +**