

## **St. Kosmas Aitolos**

August 24



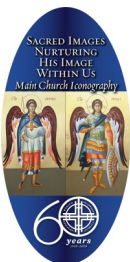
### *Apolytikion:*

*With odes let us acclaim the renowned  
Kosmas, who gloriously  
excelled among the choirs of the mar-  
tyrs, priests and ascetics, and let us  
gather in praise of his memory; for he  
dispenseth healing to them that  
have recourse to him with faith, since, as  
an equal of the Apostles, he hath bold-  
ness before Christ*

The holy, glorious and right-victorious new Hieromartyr and Equal to the Apostles, Father Kosmas Aitolos, was born in 1714 in the Greek village Megalo Dendro (Big Tree) in the region of Aitolia. He studied on Mount Athos, in “Athonias School”, and later became a monk at Philotheou Monastery.

Because of the many years of Turkish oppression, and the lack of education of the population, especially in the remote areas of Greece, Father Kosmas was “forced” to leave Mount Athos and begin missionary tours in the villages, with the aim of baptizing and educating the poor people. In this way he would also be able to help them understand the Scriptures more fully. In a period of six years, he established 250 schools, as well as charities and rural churches. The saint was charged by the Muslims on charges of conspiracy, and sentenced him to death by hanging in August 1779, in Albania.

Saint Kosmas is also well known for the gift of prophecy. He was glorified in 1961.



**For further inquiries contact a member of the  
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