



Main Church Iconography

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

TOGETHER, LET US ADORN OUR PARISH

Sponsor an Icon today!



Saint Kyriaki and her parents

July 7



Kyriaki was born in Nicomedia to Greek parents who were devout Christians. Since she was born on Sunday, she was given the name Kyriaki, the Greek word for the Lord's Day. She was a beautiful young woman and many asked for her hand in marriage but she had dedicated herself to Jesus Christ. A magistrate wished to betroth her to his son, but when she rejected him, he denounced Kyriaki and her parents as Christians to Emperor Diocletian. Diocletian ordered the family to be arrested and Dorotheus, the father, beaten. Since torment had no effect, Diocletian exiled Dorotheus and Eusebia to Melitene. Kyriaki was sent to Nicomedia to be interrogated by his co-ruler, Maximian, who promised her wealth if she worshiped pagan gods. When Kyriaki refused, she was whipped. Maximian sent her on to others to further torture her. Kyriaki was suspended by her hair for several hours, while soldiers burned her, then threw her into a cell. During the night, Jesus appeared to her and healed her wounds. The next day, Hilarion announced that the gods had healed her of pity and urged her to go to the temple and give thanks to them. When at the pagan temple, Kyriaki prayed that God would destroy the idols, and a sudden earthquake shattered them. Hilarion blasphemed God and was struck by lightning and died. Kyriaki was then thrown into a fire, but the flames were extinguished, and when sent to wild beasts, they became tame and gentle. Apollonius then sentenced her to death by the sword. She asked God to receive her soul and remember those who honored her martyrdom. After her prayer, she rendered her soul to God before the sword was lowered. Pious Christians took her relics and buried them. She was 21 years old.

Apolytikion: O Lord Jesus, unto Thee Thy lamb doth cry with a great voice: O my Bridegroom, Thee I love; and seeking Thee, I now contest, and with Thy baptism am crucified and buried. I suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee; for Thy sake I die, that I may live in Thee: accept me offered out of longing to Thee as a spotless sacrifice. Lord, save our souls through her intercessions, since Thou art great in mercy.