



Main Church *Iconography*

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

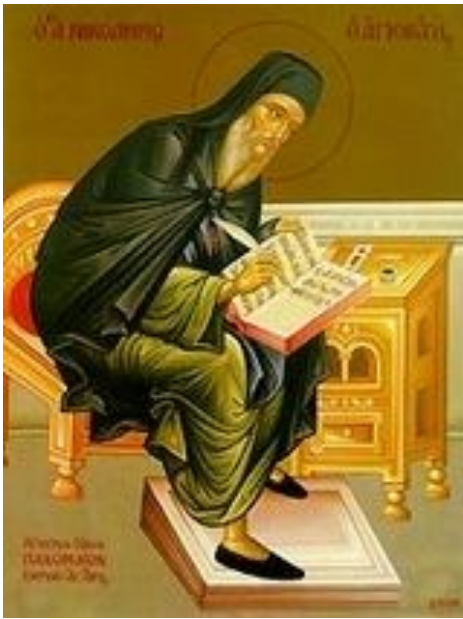
TOGETHER, LET US ADORN OUR PARISH

Sponsor an Icon today!



Saint Nikodemus Hagiorite

July 14



Our venerable and God-bearing Father Nikodemus of the Holy Mountain, also known as Nikodemus the Hagiorite and Nikodemus the Athonite, was a theologian and teacher of the Orthodox Church, reviver of hesychasm, canonist, hagiologist, and writer of liturgical poetry.

St. Nikodemus was born Nicholas Kallivourtzis in Naxos, Greece. He passed from the tutelage of his parish priest to that of Archimandrite Chrysanthos, brother of St. Cosmas Aitolos. From there he made his way to Smyrna, where he studied theology at the Evangelical School. Persecution from the Turks cut his schooling short, and he returned to Naxos. In 1775, he became a monk of Dionysiou on Mount Athos, and his name was changed to Nikodemus. He was initiated into the practice of hesychia, a method of prayer involving inner stillness, controlled breathing, and

repetition of the "Jesus Prayer." Nikodemus, along with the monks known as Kollyvades, sought a revival of traditional Orthodox practices and patristic literature. He would spend the remainder of his life at work translating and publishing those works. He also composed many original books of his own. St. Nikodemus reposed in the Lord on July 14, 1809, and was glorified by the Orthodox Church on May 31, 1955. He is a local saint of the Metropolis of Paronaxia and the Holy Mountain.

Apolytikion: Thou hast been shown to be a godly clarion of holy oracles, teaching us righteousness. Thou wast adorned with wisdom's grace, O Father, Saint Nikodemus For thou didst present to all thy pure life as a paradigm, pouring forth enlightenment by the wealth of thy godly words. Thy teachings of salvation illumined as light the whole world, O righteous Father.