

GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

1st Floor, 262 Franklin Street Adelaide SA 5000 T: (08) 8231 4307 F: (08) 8118 2043

Email: gocsa@gocsa.org.au Web: www.gocsa.org.au ABN: 919 2754 9135



GREEK ORTHODOX
CATHEDRAL OF ARCHANGELS
MICHAEL & GABRIEL

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF KOIMISIS THEOTOKOU

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF Ss. CONSTANTINE & HELEN

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
OF SAINT NICHOLAS

RIDLEYTON GREEK HOME
FOR THE AGED

COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

GREEK LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

OLYMPIC DANCE SCHOOL

RELIGIOUS & COMMUNITY RADIO

ELDERLY COMMUNITY CENTRE

GREEK WOMEN'S CENTRE

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIPS

GREEK COMMUNITY
PUBLISHING HOUSE

GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY
CHOIR

HELLENIC CULTURAL FESTIVAL
"ODYSSEY"

17 April 2023

MEDIA RELEASE

GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Following the 40-day Lent, hundreds of Community members across Adelaide celebrated Greek Orthodox Easter in what constitutes the most significant religious day in the Greek Orthodox Calendar.

'*Christ is Risen*' is echoed at every Community church during the Easter Saturday Midnight Mass, with the Holy Light spreading among the crowd as a symbol of spiritual purity and heralding the Resurrection of Jesus.

The Holy Week commenced on Sunday 9 April with the service of Palm Sunday, marking the beginning of the Passion of Christ.

All Community churches reached full capacity in the days leading to Easter Saturday as members made their way to pray for peace, prosperity and good health.

Following the tradition, women of all ages gathered at each of our churches on Thursday to help decorate the Tomb of Christ 'Epitaphio' as well as prepare the church for the Good Friday services.

Black and purple ribbons ran across the churches' interior reflecting the mourning spirit of the day, while dozens of parishioners attended the morning services on Thursday and Saturday to receive Holy Communion.

On Good Friday, the Tomb of Christ stood out in every church with many attending Good Friday services throughout the day and the procession of the Tomb of Christ around 9 o'clock later in the evening.

The Easter celebrations concluded on Saturday with the traditional midnight Mass and the Service of the Resurrection, which was unfortunately forced inside due to bad weather, and was attended by hundreds of parishioners and official guests.

Amongst them, Ms Olivia Savvas MP Member for Newland, Ms Jayne Stinson MP Member for Badcoe, Ms Nadia Clancy MP Member for Elder, the Mayor of West Torrens Mr Michael Coxon, Councillor Peter Ppiros, representing the Mayor of Charles Sturt Ms Angela Evans, and Councillors Elisabeth Papanikolaou and George Demetriou from the City of West Torrens.

Easter Sunday services concluded with the Great Paschal Vespers of Love at the Cathedral of Archangels Michael & Gabriel on the evening of Easter Sunday.

For the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia

Smaro Skordas
General Secretary