



# KANDILI

HOLY MOTHER QUEEN OF ALL  
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## The Horse in Myth, Legend and Religion: by Sarah Tsiang

The horse has been fundamental to the development of world civilizations – as a means

of transportation, a work horse in agriculture and industry, and of service in war. But the horse has also been connected to humans in less practical ways, as a symbol, character, or inspiration. So mystical images of horses were painted on hidden cave walls in France tens of thousands of years ago, and horses are featured in key roles in myths, legends, and religions.

Native American art and stories feature horses, whose earliest ancestors originated in North America. The eight-legged horse Sleipnir carries the Norse god Odin, while the Celtic goddess of horses Epona appears in art riding sidesaddle, or in the company of foals.

Classical mythology incorporates the horse. Pegasus flies and carries the thunderbolts of Zeus. Poseidon, god of the sea, earthquakes, storms, and horses, crosses the water on a chariot pulled by sea horses. Earthquakes and thunder rumble dramatically like the pounding of hooves of horses running past. The amateur driving skills of Phaethon cause the chariot carrying the sun, smoothly transported across the sky daily by his father Helios, to veer off course, creating parched deserts and frozen wastelands on the planet. Troy is finally captured by the Greeks due to the clever ruse of Odysseus to hide soldiers within a wooden horse statue. And centaurs may have been inspired by the impression of oneness of Greeks encountering the skillful riders of Central Asia. (continued on page 6)

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Chauvet Cave, France

*“If you do not feel like praying then force yourself. The Holy Fathers say that prayer with force is higher than prayer unforced. You do not want to but force yourself. The Kingdom of Heaven is taken by force (Matthew 11:12)*

*St. Ambrose of Optima*

Church Calendar



## WELCOME OUR 12 NEWEST MEMBERS



### HOLY BAPTISM

Our parish also welcomed five members into the Orthodox Church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

We congratulate Sebastian Engle, Tracy Morgan, Alyssa Rock, Everly Rock, Dakota Tackett and their families on this beautiful and blessed occasion.

We are also thankful to their sponsors Andres Caban, Tom Delvizi, Sarah Nash and Greg and Nancy Perry.

May God guide and strengthen them as they begin their journey in the Orthodox faith.



### HOLY CHRISMATION

On Sunday, August 30, our parish joyfully welcomed 7 new members into the Orthodox Church through Holy Chrismation.

We congratulate our newly chrismated members: Dylan Engle, Melanie Engle, Jamie Isaacs, Sam Jones, Mikayla Ratliff, Ryan Rock, and Isaiah Stephens.

We also gratefully recognize their sponsors: Brett and Ruth Annetts, Andres Caban, Greg and Nancy Perry, and Joel Scott.

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## PARENTING IN TODAY'S WORLD ISN'T EASY—BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT ALONE.

Orthodox Christian Parenting, hosted by Faithtree Resources Executive Director (and mom of four!) Michelle Moujaes, is a weekly podcast for parents and grandparents navigating the holy struggle of raising kids in the Orthodox Faith.

Each episode offers honesty, encouragement, and practical wisdom from the Church—creating space to exhale, freedom from the pressure to be perfect, and openness to grow as you raise children who are deepening their knowledge and love of Christ.



Listen here: <https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/tendingthegarden/>

For more childrens Christian education resources, visit:

<https://www.ancientfaith.com/topics/Ancient-Faith-Kids/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS TO WATCH FOR

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming church events:

- The Chili Cook-Off will be held in mid-October. Proceeds will benefit the Medical and Serious Illness Program.
- The Mediterranean Dinner is planned for late October or early November.
- The General Assembly will be held on Sunday, November 8.



More details will be announced soon! Please make plans to attend this meeting and learn more about the inner workings of our church.

*Sunday school begins Sunday, September 13 following communion and is open to all children ages 4-18.*  
<https://goclexnews.org/sunday-school-registration/>



## MEET OUR 2026 –2027 PARISH COUNCIL

Our Greek Orthodox Parish Council is a ministry and local governing body, composed of the priest and elected lay members, responsible for supporting the church's spiritual mission, administration, and community needs. They work with the priest to manage parish affairs, including worship support, financial stewardship, property maintenance, and ministry outreach. Members serve two years. They must be Orthodox and stewards. Consider serving on the parish council to help make a difference.

|                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Fr. William Redmon – Priest          | George Arimes – At-Large Member   |
| Delores Minor – President            | Nick Douglas – At-Large Member    |
| Vlad Radulescu – Vice President      | Ken Kiriapoulos – At-Large Member |
| Dennis Karounos – Treasurer          | Alex Maroudis – At-Large Member   |
| Ann Witte – Recording Secretary      | Neely Neely – At-Large Member     |
| Joel Scott – Corresponding Secretary | Peter Sawaya – At-Large Member    |

## CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Preparations for our annual Christmas Bake Sale, sponsored by the Parish Council, will begin in September. As one of our largest fundraisers, the sale continues to grow each year—and its success depends on the support and participation of many volunteers.

We encourage everyone in our community to lend a helping hand. No experience is needed; we will gladly teach you! Watch your email for a calendar link to sign up for available volunteer days and times. Please click on the link below to schedule your volunteer times.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoF4EAAAC2EA1FCC43-65328458-2026>

Preorders will be accepted October 22 through December 2. The bake sale will be held Friday and Saturday, December 11–12.

For more information, contact: Kristin Eliopoulos—[sewkrissylynne@gmail.com](mailto:sewkrissylynne@gmail.com)



## FUNDRAISING EFFORT UNDERWAY FOR CHURCH GENERATOR

Our church community is currently raising funds to purchase a Generac generator to support our bake sales and protect the many hours of work contributed by our volunteers.

The bake sale is one of our most important fundraisers and requires significant food storage. At present, we utilize 14 freezers and 3 refrigerators to store the items our volunteers spend countless hours preparing. Unfortunately, during nearly every sale, we experience power outages due to storms or other unforeseen issues. These interruptions put our entire inventory at risk.

A loss of power could mean losing not only the food itself, but also the time, effort, and expense that go into preparing it—along with the funds we rely on from the sale. To help prevent this, we are working to purchase a generator that will keep our equipment running in the event of an outage.

The total cost of the Generac generator is \$16,000. To date, we have raised \$10,300 toward this goal. We are grateful for the generosity shown so far and ask for your continued support.

If you would like to contribute, please write your name on the clipboard located next to the guest book in the narthex. If you have any questions, please speak with Delores Minor.

## CHOIR

The choir plays a central and meaningful role in the life of the Orthodox Church, serving as far more than a musical addition to worship. It is a vital liturgical ministry that acts as the “voice” of the congregation, helping to lead the faithful in prayer through sacred hymnography and chant.



In keeping with long-standing tradition, Orthodox worship is a cappella, relying solely on the human voice rather than instruments. This practice emphasizes the beauty and purity of vocal harmony, allowing prayers and theological teachings to be expressed in a reverent and unified way. Through each service, the choir helps convey the depth and richness of the faith, enhancing the spiritual experience for all in attendance.

The choir is open to anyone interested in participating in this important ministry. While the ability to read music is preferred, all who are willing to learn and contribute are encouraged to join. There is also a particular need for additional male voices to help balance and strengthen the group.

Those interested in becoming part of the choir or learning more are encouraged to contact **Maria Sawaya** at (859) 312-8016 for additional information.

## YOUTUBE CHURCH SERVICE STREAMING

We are streaming our church services on YouTube at the following channel:

**[www.youtube.com/@goclexlive](http://www.youtube.com/@goclexlive)**

Options to watch the church’s live streams or past services include:

1. **Smart TV** – Open the YouTube app and type in the channel – **@goclexlive**
2. **Computer, Laptop or iPad** – Open this page on your device and click on the link above. It will take you directly to the GOC Lex Live channel.
3. **Phone** – Use your phone camera to click on the QR code to watch the live stream on your phone. It is recommended that you install the YouTube app. on your phone. Find it in the *Google Play Store* for Android or *App Store*



## CANDLE LIGHTING MINISTRY

“You shall command the people of Israel that they bring to you pure beaten olive oil for the light, that a lamp may regularly be set up to burn.”

—Exodus 27:20

Our Candle Lighting Ministry offers a meaningful way to remember and pray for our loved ones, both living and departed.

Parishioners may request that a seven-day candle be lit:

- In memory of a departed loved one
- In honor of a Name Day or birthday
- Before or after a medical procedure
- For someone experiencing illness or hardship
- For any special prayer or intention

Candles may be lit for one week, one month, or the entire year. Those requesting a candle will also receive a photograph of the candle stand and icon to place in their prayer corner at home as a visual reminder of their prayer intention.

The names submitted will be commemorated during the Proskomide, as the priest prepares the prosphora. Fr. William will also offer a special prayer before the candles are lit at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy.

If you would like to request for one or more candles, email the details of your request to **[goclex@gmail.com](mailto:goclex@gmail.com)**. To make a payment for a candle please pay in person or go online. A weekly memorial candle is \$10.00



## The Horse in Myth, Legend, and Religion (continued from page 1)

In Europe, the knight and his fine horse symbolize medieval chivalry and expertise in combat, as romanticized in legends such as *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Adopted into this tradition is Saint George, who wounds the dragon by piercing it with a lance from atop his white steed. Unicorns represent strength, an untamable nature, or purity in heraldry, and communicate stories of virtue and innocence in richly colored tapestries of the time.



Horses play an important role in the major world religions. Mohammed visits heaven during his famous Night Journey astride the winged horse Al Burak, delivered by the archangel Gabriel. The Horse Sacrifice was practiced in India in ancient times. This elaborate sacrifice of a young, beautiful, fast stallion was the climax of a year-long tour across royal lands with an entourage of geldings and nobles. A famous and beautiful explication of Hindu core values and beliefs is found in the *Bhagavadgītā*, which presents a battlefield dialog

between Prince Arjuna and his charioteer Lord Krishna as they contemplate the war ahead. As a prince, Buddha rides his favorite horse Kanthaka from the royal palace to the starting point of his wandering journey toward enlightenment. Left behind as well in the Great Renunciation, Kanthaka dies of a broken heart, but the beautiful stallion is reborn in heaven.

The horse is also featured in Judaism and Christianity as horses, first domesticated on the steppe, became part of the lifestyles and settings of Bible lands. Superior horses were used for pageantry and in the military – so the Israelites were pursued by the horses and chariots of Pharaoh in the Exodus. While ordinary horses were used for transport and farm work. It is Balaam's ass – one of the few animals in the Bible given a voice – who first sees and defers to the Angel of the Lord blocking the riding path, highlighting the lack of understanding of Balaam, who needs God to open his eyes.

On the first Palm Sunday, Jesus rides through Jerusalem on a donkey, a modest presentation enthusiastically received by cheering crowds who honor Him as a king, as foretold: "Rejoice

greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and victorious, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9). In contrast the glorious four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are mounted on fine steeds, each with a different coat of remarkable color. Distinctively colored horses are also of significance in the prophetic visions of Zechariah.

Finally, the horse is offered as a magnificent example of God's creation. According to Bedouin legend, Allah took a handful of southerly wind, blew His breath over it, and from it created the horse, saying, "I have made thee as no other. All the treasures of the earth lie between thy eyes. Thou shalt carry my friends upon thy back. Thy saddle shall be the seat of prayers to me. And thou shalt fly without wings, and conquer without sword; oh horse."

Entry into Jerusalem



## The Horse in Myth, Legend, and Religion (continued from page 6)

God overwhelms Job – who should not dare imagine he can understand God’s power and wisdom – with descriptions of the awesome wonders of His creation, including the war horse.

- <sup>19</sup> “Have you given the horse strength? Have you clothed his neck with thunder?  
<sup>20</sup> Can you frighten him like a locust? His majestic snorting strikes terror.  
<sup>21</sup> He paws in the valley, and rejoices in *his* strength; He gallops into the clash of arms.  
<sup>22</sup> He mocks at fear, and is not frightened; Nor does he turn back from the sword.  
<sup>23</sup> The quiver rattles against him, The glittering spear and javelin.  
<sup>24</sup> He devours the distance with fierceness and rage;



The Akhal-Teke

Nor does he come to a halt because the trumpet *has* sounded.

<sup>25</sup> At *the blast of* the trumpet he says, ‘Aha!’  
He smells the battle from afar,  
The thunder of captains and shouting. (Job 39)

The working horse is no longer part of everyday life in many parts of the world. Chariot warfare and even the cavalry are obsolete, though horses on parade continue to impress. But humans remain closely connected to this exceptional animal that has

served mankind in so many ways over millennia. The horse is an outstanding example of God’s creation – a being God overwhelms Job – who should not dare imagine he can understand God’s power and wisdom – with descriptions of the awesome wonders of His creation, including the war horse.

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## THE LADIES OF LEXINGTON POET SOCIETY

The Ladies of Lexington Poet Society is offering a unique space for women in the community to connect through literature. The women-only book club is open to all, not just parishioners, and focuses exclusively on works written by female authors across a wide range of genres.

Meeting on select Saturdays every couple of months, the group provides an opportunity for thoughtful discussion, fellowship, and a shared appreciation of women’s voices in literature. This group is perfect for both longtime readers and those looking to rekindle a love of books.



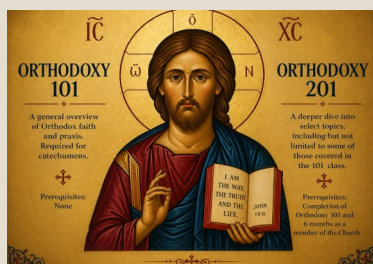
Those interested in joining or learning more about the Ladies of Lexington Poet Society can receive additional details by contacting Maria Sawaya at (859) 312-8016.

## VOLUNTEERING THROUGH TIME & TALENT

Volunteering is an opportunity to actively participate in the life and mission of the Church by sharing your God-given gifts, abilities, and time. Whether serving in worship, education, outreach, hospitality, youth ministries, events, or community service, every act of service strengthens the parish family and helps build the Body of Christ. Stewards are encouraged to prayerfully consider the ministries and activities where they feel called to serve and to select the areas in which they would like to participate. To learn more about areas of service, visit our website <https://goclexnews.org/stewardship>. For more information, speak with Father William.

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## ORTHODOXY 101 FALL SESSION



**Orthodoxy 101** offers a general overview of the Orthodox faith and practice and is required for catechumens. There are no prerequisites. The class will meet on **Wednesdays after 6:00 PM Vespers, beginning in Mid-September** (Official start day will be announced soon). For more information, speak with Father William.

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# PLAY MAHJONG

Every 1st & 3rd Thursday  
12:30–2:30 PM  
Church Social Hall

➤ *No experience needed!* ➤  
*We are excited for you to join us!*

## KANDILI SUPPORT

Kandili is brought to you by the committees of our parish and is put together by Becky Wimsatt, George Arimes, and Delores Minor. If you would like to make a suggestion or contribute content for a future issue, please contact:

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