



St. Innocent Orthodox Church

✙ 50th Anniversary: 1967-2017 ✙ Moscow Patriarchal Parishes ✙
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St. Innocent Monastic Community: 9452 Hazelton, Redford, MI 48239 † 313-535-9080
PASTOR: Rt. Rev. Mitered Archbishop ROMAN STAR † Cell: 313-319-0590
Dean, Central States Deanery, Patriarchal Parishes

MAY 7, 2017

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Rev. DANEIL SHIRAK † 313-295-3073

DEACONS: Rev. Dn. Dr. Joshua Genig

Rev. Dn. Michael Comerford, Attached

EPISTLE: Acts of the Apostles 9:32 - 42 (#23)

GOSPEL: St. John 5:1 - 15 (#14)

TO NE: 3

ATTACHED: Sister Ioanna

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Elizabeth Star Hatfield

READER: George Hanoian

✙ SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC ✙ the 4th Sunday of Pascha ✙

† 9:15AM — HOURS & AKATHIST FOR THE RESURRECTION; CONFESSIONS †

† 10am — DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM †

COMMEMORATED TODAY: **Repose of St. Alexis Toth**, Confessor and Defender of Orthodoxy in America (1909). **Sunday of the Paralytic**. Commemoration of the Appearance of the Sign of the Precious Cross over Jerusalem in 351 AD. Martyr Acacius the Centurion at Byzantium (303). Repose of Ven. Nilus, Abbot of Sora (1508). St. John of Zaden in Georgia, and 12 disciples: (6th c.).

FOR THE REPOSE OF: Estelle & Joseph Star; Anna & John Witkowski; Michael Sr. & Margaret Rusko; Mary, Andrew, Daniel, Michael & Lottie Yakuber; Ross & Margaret Falsetti; Helen, John & Carole Andrayko; Peter & Theresa Harvilla; Betty Martell; Frances, Todd & John Smoly; Peter Glover; Irene Adams; Ethel Elizabeth & Wayne Joshua de Vyver, David Horka; Michael Rusko; Anna Lichagina, Yelena & Zinaida Korniyevskaya; Joseph Nossal; Michelle Tucker; Todd Comerford, John Manier, Jr.

MEMORY Ellen (Olena) Liss (newly departed, 3/31; **40th-Day, Tuesday, 5/9**), *Mother of COCC President, Olga Liss (Pokrov Ukr. Ch.)*

ETERNAL! Child, Kenneth Nossal, whose anniversary of his repose is Tomorrow, Monday, 8 May, *by Mother, Rose Nossal*
Paul Yupco, Jr., whose anniversary of his repose is Tuesday, 9 May, *by Nephew, Fr. Roman*

FOR THE HEALTH OF: Archimandrite Seraphim; Priest Daneil, Mat. Debra & Corrina Shirak; Deacon Michael, Mat. Mary Ellen & Julius Comerford; Deacon Joshua, Mat. Abigail, Emma, Clare, Rose & Anna Genig; Matushka Mary Donahue; Reader Robert Latsko, Reader George & Betty Hanoian, Rose Nossal, Mary Glover, Nancy Cupp, Vasiliki Stamoulis, Gerald Martell, Azbehat, Donald Yakuber, Carl deVyver, Jo Anne Nicholas, Joan Rusko, Daria, Joseph Nossal, Ed Manier, Pat Harbut, John Sedor, Olga Liss, Anna Smerechnak

ALSO FOR: Agatha Danylov, who celebrates her birthday on Thursday, 11 May
Patricia Harbut, who celebrates her birthday on Friday, 12 May

*** MAY GOD GRANT THEM MANY YEARS! ***

SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK (Regular Wednesday & Friday fasting)

Saturday	5/13	4pm	GREAT VESPERS & CONFESSIONS
Sunday	5/14		Sunday of the Samaritan Woman (5 th Sunday of Pascha)
		9:15am	Hours & Akathist for the Resurrection
		10am	DIVINE LITURGY, Followed by Mothers' Day, Church Breakfast

Feastdays this week: *Monday, May 8th*: St. John the Apostle, Evangelist & Theologian. *Thursday, May 11*: Ss. Cyril & Methodius

PROSPHORA FOR TODAY IS OFFERED BY: Vasiliki Stamoulis

In Memory Eternal of: Panagiota (5/28); Theodore (6/11); Demetrios (8/6); Filomila (5/5); Demetrios (2/15); and all other departed family, friends & loved ones; and **for the Health of:** daughter Panagiota & son-in-law Stamati, their son Konstantinos (Namesday 5/21 & B-day 6/27/10), & daughter, Maria (7/31/14); Vasiliki; Vasilios; Maria; George & family; Maritiza & family; Panagiota & son; Christos, Konstanina & son Andrew; Aunt Anna, Panagioti, Vasiliki, Pauline & George; & all other family & friends; all mothers, grandmothers & expectant mothers; all aborted babies; the sick & suffering...and for the least of these... our Armed Forces; & for peace in the Ukraine, the Middle-East, Africa, & throughout the world.

✙ CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN! ✙ ХРИСТОС ВОСКРЕСЕ! ВОИСТИНУ ВОСКРЕСЕ! ✙
✙ KHRISTOS ANESTI! ALITHOS ANESTI! ✙ HRISTOS A ÎNVIAT! ADEVĂRAT A ÎNVIAT! ✙

CANDLES FOR LAST SUNDAY, 30 APRIL

YEARLY CHURCH VIGIL LAMPS:

Royal Doors Lamp: In Memory of Husband, Joseph; Son, Kenneth; parents, Michael & Margaret Rusko, & John & Martha Nossal, *by Rose Nossal*

Altar Candelabra: In Memory of Parents, Nicholas and Susan Yakuber, *by son, Donald Yakuber*

Altar Candles (2): In Memory of Irene Adams, *by Goddaughter, Rose Ann Everhardt*

Iconostasis Lamps: In Memory of departed family & friends; & Health of family & friends, *by Fr. Protodeacon Daniel & Mat. Irene Sudol*

Candles on the Solea: In Memory of Peter & Theresa Harvilla, Norman & Monica Holst, & Ricky Ellis, *by Jason & Debra Truskowski*

Table of Oblation Lamp: In Memory of Parents, Helen & John Andrayko, Sr. & sister, Carole Andrayko, *by John Andrayko, Jr.*

Reliquary-Icon Lamps: Sts. Innocent, Tikhon & Herman: Health of Joseph/Sue; Robert/Diane; Pat/John; Joseph B., Jared, Jay; Rachelle/Aaron, Gabriel; Tricia, Lindsey; & In Memory of sisters, Anna, Margaret, Theresa & Irene; & brothers, John, Edwin & Michael *by Rose Nossal*

Reliquary-Icon Lamps: Sts. Elizabeth & Raphael: Health of the Genig and the Just Families, *by Fr. Deacon Joshua & Abigail Genig*

Reliquary-Icon Lamps: St. Seraphim & St. Alexis: In Memory of Ross & Margaret Falsetti, *by daughters, Rose Ann Everhardt & Margie Martell*

Reliquary-Icon Lamps: St. Nestor & St. Gerontius: In Memory of Rusko Family: Grandparents, Anna, Alexandra, Mike, Margaret, John, Mary, George, Pauline, Pete, Irene, Andrew, Anna, Grandparents Nickolas & Anna Schulik, *by Rose Nossal*

Reliquary-Icon Lamps: St. Hilarion & Sts. Alexandra & Martha: In Memory of Parents, Ethel Elizabeth & Wayne Joshua; Robert David H; //
IN MEMORY OF (MEMORY ETERNAL!) //& Health of brother, Carl, by Sister Ioanna

Joseph & Estelle Star, *by son Father Roman and family*

Paul & Alexandra Yupco, Basil & Ellen Starinshak, *by grandson, Father Roman and family*

John & Anna Witkowski, *by daughter, Matushka Rose Marie and family*

Samuel & Mary Kupec, *by granddaughter, Matushka Rose Marie and family*

Parents, Helen & John Andrayko, and sister, Carole Andrayko, *by John Andrayko + + + My husband, Michael Rusko, by Joan Rusko*

My husband, Joe; my sisters, Margaret & Ross Falsetti, Anna & Mike Elascat, Theresa & Pete Harvilla, Irene, & brothers, Michael, John &

Edwin Rusko; niece, Rose Mary & Dean Hough; Joe's brothers, Raymond & Walter Nossal, & sisters, Theresa, Florence & Helen Nossal, *by Rose Nossal + + + Pete & Theresa Harvilla, by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay Truskowski + + + Jaimie Truskowski, by daughter Kay T.*

Parents, Ethel Elizabeth & Wayne Joshua; David H; Nina I; Marion P; Fr. Photius; Mo. Benedicta; Archm. Roman; Ellen Liss, *by Sister Ioanna*
Child Lana, Shirley, Betty, Marsha, Paul, *by Becky Jurczynszyn*

FOR THE HEALTH OF: (MANY YEARS!)

Elizabeth & Lawrence, Caitlin & Zachary, *by parents & grandparents, Father Roman & Matushka Rose Marie*

Gregory & Tamiko Star, *by parents, Father Roman & Matushka Rose Marie*

Children, Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren; Monk Fr. Sdn. Tikhon (Dade); *by Rose Nossal*

Father Roman & Matushka & family; Sister Ioanna; John Andrayko; Nancy; Mary G; Jo Anne N; Grandson Joey (*in the Navy Reserves*) & all people in the Armed Forces; & all St. Innocent Church parishioners, *by Rose Nossal + + + Family & Friends, by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay*

Brother, Greg & Donna; nephew, Gregory & Liz; & nephew, Alex, *by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay + + + Ed Manier, by Mary Ann Harvilla & Kay*
Archimandrites Nafanail, Gregory & Seraphim; Fr. Roman & Mat. Rose Marie; Fr. Lawrence & fam; Fr. Laurence & fam; Fr. Daneil & fam;

Fr. Dcn. Michael & fam; Fr. Dcn. Joshua & fam; Mat. Mary D; Carl; Monk Fr. Tikhon; Sdn Andrew; Rdr Robert; Robert M; David Samuel /Sky & Avi; JoAnne/Nick; Athanasius; John A; Ed/Tiffany & fam; Kim/Mark & fam; Vasiliki; Rose; Emil; Billy/Fonda; John S; Olga Liss, *by Sr Ioanna + + + Rose Nossal, by John Andrayko + + + John Andrayko (May God watch over him), by Rose Nossal*

Leia, Mike, Reece & Wyatt Wilson; Bob/Joan Jurczynszyn; Toni /Richard Bussen; Pete, Krista, Jacob, Clair, Matt & Paul Stelmaszek; Damon Trestain, Levi Troyer, Briana Saylor, *by Becky Jurczynszyn + + + Fr. Deacon Joshua, by Genig Family*

Anastasia, *by Mother, Frances Roy + + + Alice & Autumn, by Grandmother, Frances Roy*

Jason, Marianna, Amilia, Liliana, Andrew, *by Wess family + + + Galina & Oleg Chernuhin, by Wess family*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) MOTHERS' DAY BREAKFAST, NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 14th: Please plan to celebrate Mothers' Day next Sunday by participating in a **Mothers' Day Breakfast** here at St. Innocent. Instead of going out to a restaurant or cooking at home, share a special breakfast with your mothers, grandmothers, godmothers at St. Innocent (and help us raise funds for our 50th Anniv. at the same time). Adults are only \$5 and children are \$2.

(2) CONGRATULATIONS TO CLARE GENIG, WHO HAD HER FIRST CONFESSION LAST SUNDAY, APRIL 30th. MANY YEARS!

(3) CONGRATULATIONS TO DEACON JOSHUA, WHO HAS BEEN ACCEPTED ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR REDFORD INTERFAITH RELIEF. (Fr. Roman also serves on this Board. 20 of Redford's churches run this important charitable program.)

(4) THE REDFORD INTER-FAITH RELIEF NEEDS SPRING/SUMMER CLOTHING, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN, plus personal toiletries and household paper & cleaning supplies.

(5) PLEASE DONATE AN AD FOR OUR 50th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE BOOK. See/print PDF form with info on our website, on our Home Page (<http://stinnocentchurch.com/>) or on the 50th Anniversary page (http://stinnocentchurch.com/50th_anniversary.html).

(6) 3rd CLASS OF 12-WEEK CATECHUMEN INSTRUCTION for Frances & Ken Roy, on **Tuesday, 5/9**, at 7pm, with Sister Ioanna

(7) "ST. INNOCENT ORTHODOX STUDY GROUP," with Fr. Deacon Joshua, meets weekly on **Wednesdays**, 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

(8) NEEDED: PHOTOS OF LIFE AT ST. INNOCENT, 2008 – 2014. To use in 50th Anniversary Commemorative booklet. See Elizabeth.

(9) SEE NEW PHOTO SLIDE-SHOW ON OUR CHURCH WEBSITE: 15 photos of Pascha. http://stinnocentchurch.com/pascha_2017.html

(10) READ NEWS & SEE PHOTOS ABOUT OUR PATRIARCHAL PARISHES IN ENGLISH AT: <http://mospatusa.com/> See 6 of our Pascha photos on the website at: http://mospatusa.com/news_170417_2.html



SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

By Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh

A Sermon delivered on May 21, 2000

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

How tragic today's story of the life of Christ is. A man had been paralyzed for years. He had lain at a short distance from healing, but he himself had no strength to merge into the waters of ablution. And no one — no one in the course of all these years — had had compassion on him.

The ones rushed to be the first in order to be healed. Others who were attached to them by love, by friendship, helped them to be healed. But no one cast a glance at this man, who for years had longed for healing and was not in himself able to find strength to become whole.

If only one person had been there, if only one heart had responded with compassion, this man might have been whole years and years earlier. As no one, not one person, had compassion on him, all that was left to him — and I say *all that was left to him* with a sense of horror — was the direct intervention of God.

We are surrounded by people who are in need. It is not only people who are physically paralyzed who need help. There are so many people who are paralyzed in themselves, and need to meet someone who would help them. Paralyzed in themselves are those who are terrified of life, because life has been an object of terror for them since they were born: insensitive parents, heartless, brutal surroundings. How many are those who hoped, when they were still small, that there would be something for them in life. But no. There wasn't. There was no compassion. There was no friendliness. There was *nothing*. And when they tried to receive comfort and support, they did not receive it. Whenever they thought they could do something they were told, 'Don't try. Don't you understand that you are incapable of this?' And they felt lower and lower.

How many were unable to fulfill their lives because they were physically ill, and not sufficiently strong... But did they find someone to give them a supporting hand? Did they find anyone who felt so deeply for them and about them that they went out of their way to help? And how many of those who are terrified of life, lived in circumstances of fear, of violence, of brutality... But all this could not have taken them if there had been someone who would have stood by them and not abandoned them.

So we are surrounded, all of us, by people who are in the situation of this paralytic man. If we think of ourselves we will see that many of us *are* paralyzed, incapable of fulfilling all their aspirations; incapable of being what they longed for, incapable of serving others the way their heart speaks; incapable of doing anything they longed for because fear, brokenness has come into them.

And all of us, *all of us* were responsible for each of them. We are responsible, mutually, for one another; because when we look right and left at the people who stand by us, what do we know about them? Do we know how broken they are? How much pain there is in their hearts? How much agony there has been in their lives? How many broken hopes, how much fear and rejection and contempt that has made them contemptuous of themselves and unable even to respect themselves — not to speak of having the courage of making a move towards wholeness, that wholeness of which the Gospel speaks in this passage and in so many other places?

Let us reflect on this. Let us look at each other and ask ourselves, 'How much frailty is there in him or her? How much pain has accumulated in his or her heart? How much fear of life — but life expressed by my neighbor, the people whom I should be able to count for life — has come in to my existence?'

Let us look at one another with understanding, with attention. Christ is there. He can heal; yes. But we will be answerable for each other, because there are so many ways in which we should be the eyes of Christ who sees the needs, the ears of Christ who hears the cry, the hands of Christ who supports and heals or makes it possible for the person to be healed.

Let us look at this parable of the paralytic with new eyes; not thinking of this poor man two thousand years ago who was so lucky that Christ happened to be near him and in the end did what every neighbor should have done. Let us look at each other and have compassion, active compassion; insight; love if we can. And then this parable will not have been spoken or this event will not have been related to us in vain. Amen.

CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY HE IS RISEN!

PASCHAL ORATION

By St. Gregory the Theologian



*Yesterday I was crucified with Him;
today I am glorified with Him.*

*Yesterday I died with Him;
today I am made alive with Him.*

*Yesterday I was buried with Him;
today I am raised up with Him.*

*Let us offer to Him Who suffered and
rose again for us ... ourselves,
the possession most precious to God and most proper.*



*Let us become like Christ,
since Christ became like us.*

*Let us become Divine for His sake,
since for us He became Man.*

*He assumed the worse
that He might give us the better.
He became poor that by His poverty
we might become rich.*

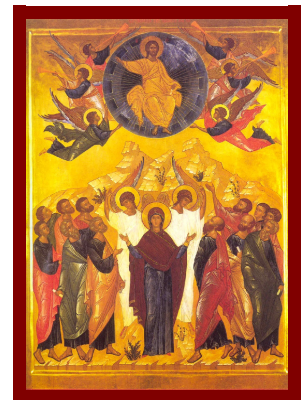
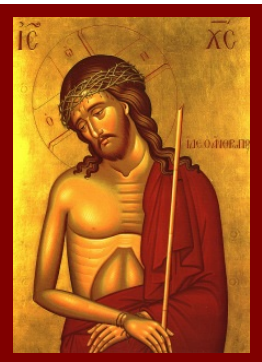
*He accepted the form of a servant
that we might win back our freedom.*

*He came down that we might be lifted up.
He was tempted that through Him we might conquer.*

He was dishonored that He might glorify us.

He died that He might save us.

*He ascended that He might draw to Himself us,
who were thrown down through the fall of sin.*



Let us give all, offer all, to Him

Who gave Himself a Ransom and Reconciliation for us.

We needed an incarnate God, a God put to death, that we might live.

We were put to death together with Him that we might be cleansed.

We rose again with Him because we were put to death with Him.

We were glorified with Him because we rose again with Him.

A few drops of Blood recreate the whole of creation!

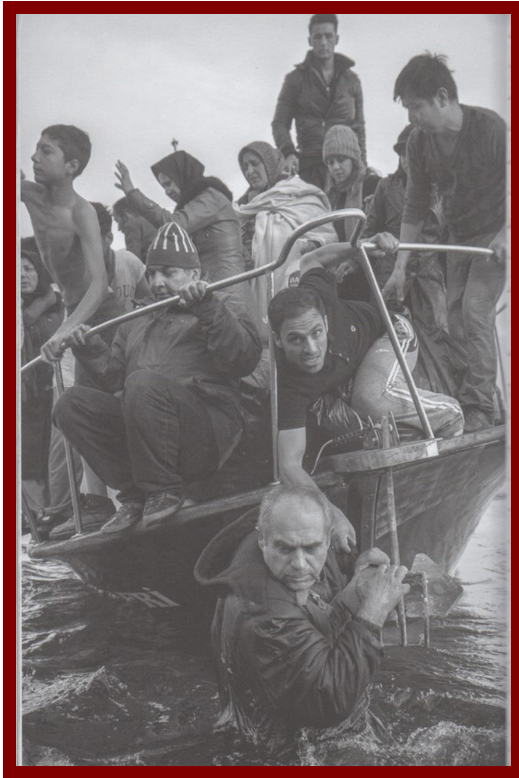


“TO HELP THEM SAFELY FROM THE SEA....”

The Heroism of Lesvos’ Greek Villages

From: Road to Emmaus, Vol. XVIII, No 1-2; Winter/Spring 2017 (#08-09)

(Part 1 of 2)



Syrian refugees land on Lesvos.

Just four miles from the Turkish coast, Lesvos is Greece’s third largest island, and the frontline of Europe’s refugee crisis. At the height of the refugee influx of 2014-2016, villagers hosted over 800,000 Syrians and other exiles fleeing the war-torn Middle East: ten times the island’s native population.

Despite Greece’s disastrous economy, further impoverished by EU-imposed austerity measures that have left many jobless, Lesvos’ islanders have been internationally praised for their compassionate generosity in aiding hundreds of thousands of frantic arrivals. Several residents were singled out as nominees for the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize, representing the heroism of the entire island.

The exiles streamed into Turkey from war-torn Syria, but also from Afghanistan, Iraq, and other parts of the Middle East, often on foot, and then by sea to Lesvos. Without visas and with little more than the clothes on their backs, the refugees were transported by Turkish smugglers eager to make an easy profit of \$1,500 per head. Men, women and children were crammed into inflatable rubber dinghies that often collapsed into the sea under the weight of three times as many people as they were designed to hold. Thousands drowned.

As the closest island to Turkey, most of the refugees who survived the crossing washed ashore on a 7.5 stretch between the tiny fishing village of Skala Sikaminias and the vacation port of Molyvos.

In mid-2015, one resident commented, “As early as 1997, there were 200 refugees a year, but now it’s 2,000 daily in Skala Sykaminias alone. During the summer there were 9,500 people in one day. We counted 150 boats. The population of a whole country is passing through a village of 100 residents.”

Christ’s words, “I will make you fishers of men,” took on a grim meaning along this seacoast as local fishermen stopped their fishing runs, some for years, to help rescue hundreds of thousands at the peak of the refugee crisis. Stratos Valaminos, one of the Nobel nominees, recalls one of his early rescues in October of 2009. It was before dawn when a cold north wind and high waves beat a boat carrying refugees against the hard rocks of the coastline. Stratos, together with his father-in-law, Yorgos and his neighbor, Dimitrios, were the only ones around to help: “When you are fishing, and a boat is sinking next to you, and they’re screaming for help, you can’t pretend not to hear them.... The rocks surrounding the lighthouse are the worst place to land on the whole island. The refugees didn’t have life-jackets, and half of them were already unconscious.” Stratos jumped into the water, carrying child after child to Yorgos and Dimitrios. Then they got the mothers to safety, and finally, the fathers. Ten were saved from the water; ten died. In another massive shipwreck, local fishermen pulled out over 240 refugees from a sea of dead bodies: “It was like a war zone; babies just died in our arms....I have been so worried for the people taking the journey over the sea, that I have been out with the boat all night long, every night. Just in case....”

WELCOMING THE DESPERATE

The arrivals of soaking, frightened survivors, shivering in the cold night wind, signaled a village turnout. They were first taken to a local café, whose owners had opened its doors to the incoming refugees, eventually turning the café into an impromptu medical station and storehouse for warm clothes. As word spread of the landing, women, young and old, would appear from local houses with food and warm, dry clothes to comfort survivors, some of whom had lost children, parents or spouses in the merciless sea.

Once Germany announced that they would accept refugees, Valamios told reporters, “People are now coming in much bigger numbers and we don’t know what to do. There are too many for us to handle by ourselves, and people need to sleep....The only solution is to stop the war, but people keep coming, and for me, that means to help them safely from the sea.” He adds softly, “No one wants to leave their home, to take a suitcase and five babies, to walk for five months and then get into a plastic boat. These people have started a journey to a better life. I will not let the sea stop them....”

The islanders soon set up a rescue system. Lighthouse volunteers operated a night watch in the nearby village of Korakas, no matter how bad the weather. If someone on the shore saw a migrant boat in trouble, they would alert the fishermen to head out. Residents gathered to meet incoming boats and help survivors, who at one point numbered around 5,000 a day.

Local fishermen are not the only heroes. As the refugees came ashore, women, led by village grandmothers, took the new comers to a small house, where they dressed them in donated clothes, and gave them hot food and drink, allowing them to rest before they began a forty kilometer hike to the refugee camp. (Greek law did not allow transport of illegal aliens.)

One of the women, another Nobel Peace Prize nominee, is Aimilia Kamvisi, a 86-year-old grandmother, who flashed into fame when she and two friends, Konstantina Mpalli, and Marista Mavrapici, aged 89 and 85, were photographed bottle-feeding a Syrian baby at the port. When she was told of the nomination, she replied, “What did I do? I didn’t do anything.” Later she admitted: “In this old age, I will die with a clear conscience.”

Aimilia later added, “We knew we gave the refugees courage. And the refugees understood that. We hugged and kissed them. I feel like I have helped a brother or sister. Here, her friend, Marist chimed in”We all wanted to help. It’s natural to want to help. Having babies safe in my arms is a blessing.”



86-year-old Aimilia Kamvisi feeds Syrian refugee baby

The Greek government, facing economic meltdown with a third of the population out of work, and teetering on the edge of withdrawal from the European Union, was unable to step in. But when the worsening war in Syria turn the stream of refugees into a flood, island administrators finally opened a refugee camp in Moria, a former military base outside the port of Mytilene. A local activist group formed a second camp known as PIKPA, which now takes the most vulnerable refugees. Local communities and individuals helped by distributing water, food and clothing, often under the radar of the international press.

(To be concluded next week)