



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

September 9, 2024

To the Very Revered and Reverend Clergy,  
The Archons of the Order of St. Andrew of the Ecumenical Patriarchate,  
Esteemed Members of the Metropolis Council and Metropolis Philoptochos,  
Devoted Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils and Parish Philoptochos Chapters,  
beloved youth and all faithful Orthodox Christians of the  
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey,

My beloved in the Lord,

I hope and pray this letter finds all of you well, enjoying all of God's Heavenly blessings as we begin the New Ecclesiastical Year.


It is with tremendous joy and much excitement that after much prayer and thought, I write to announce to you that the new Patron Saint of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of New Jersey is St. Iakovos (Tsalikis) of Evia. Blessed St. Iakovos of Evia is a modern-day saint who reposed in the Lord in 1991, was canonized by our Ecumenical Patriarchate in 2017, and whose Feastday is celebrated on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Attached with this announcement, please find a short biography of this beloved Saint, who we now proudly proclaim as the Patron Saint of our sacred Metropolis.

I also have the great pleasure to announce that the first celebrations for St. Iakovos of Evia as the new Patron Saint of our Metropolis will take place with Great Hierarchical Vespers on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 6:00pm and the Orthros and Hierarchical Divine Liturgy on November 22, 2024, at 9:00am. The Divine Services will be held in the Chapel of our Metropolis Headquarters in Westfield, New Jersey.

Please share this announcement and biography of St. Iakovos of Evia with all of your beloved parishioners, so that together as one family we may rejoice and celebrate in this blessed news of our new Patron Saint.

Praying that our loving Lord, through the intercessions of St. Iakovos of Evia, continues to bless all of you and all the devoted parishioners of our Metropolis with every good and perfect gift from above, I remain,

With paternal love and blessings,

  
† APOSTOLOS  
Metropolitan of New Jersey