

# Και πάσης Ωκεανίας, μέρος γ'

Ινισφέιλ, Τάουσβιλ, Κερνς

Μια παρουσίαση του έργου της Αρχιεπισκοπής Αυστραλίας μέσα από το ίδρυμα St John's Community Care από το βορειότερο άκρο του Cape York μέχρι το Μπρίσμπεν και μια σύντομη ιστορία των Ελλήνων της Βόρειας Κουινσλάνδης

**Κείμενο-Φωτογραφίες: Γιάννης Δραμιτινός**

Τον Απρίλιο του 1934, η ελληνική παροικία του Ινισφέιλ γιορτάζει τα «σεπτά Πάθη του Κυρίου» και την Ανάσταση «εν θροσκευτικώ συναγερμώ». Όλες οι ακολουθίες της Μεγάλης Εβδομάδας γίνονται στην Αγγλικανική Εκκλησία με ιερέα τον πατέρα Ηλία Κωτιάδη και ιεροψάλτες τον Ιούδη Σιδερή και τον Βασίλη Μιχαλίδη. Οι Έλληνες που καταφτάνουν από τις γύρω περιοχές θα ακολουθήσουν τον «φιλοκάλλως διεκοσμημένον δι' ωραίων ανθέων Επιτάφιο», που είναι περιστοιχιόμενος από νεαρές Ελληνίδες «λευκοφορούσες με ταινίες πένθους». Τα εγκώμια εψάλπουν υπό ομίλου κυριών «προεξαρχούσης της καλλιφόνου κας Μαρίας Βακαλάκη». Οι έλληνες άλοι οι Αυστραλοί μη ελληνικής καταγωγής, που παραβρέθηκαν για πρώτη φορά σε παρόμοιο θέαμα, εξέφρασαν τον θαυμασμό τους, αναφέρει δημοσίευμα της ελληνόφωνης εφημερίδας Εθνικόν Βήμα λίγες μέρες αργότερα.

Ήταν ο πρώτος εορτασμός του Πάσχα από τους Έλληνες του βόρειου Κουινσλάνδη. Στην ομιλία του, ο γραμματέας του νεοσύστατου συμβουλίου της κοινότητας, Πέτρος Βακαλάκης, ευχήθηκε «όπως κατά το προσεχές, εορτάσωμεν την Ανάσταση του Σωτήρος στον ιδιόκτητο ναό μας».

Ενάμισι περίπου χρόνο αργότερα (όπως είδαμε στο πρώτο μέρος του αφιερώματος), την Κυριακή 10 Νοεμβρίου 1935, 300 περίπου Έλληνες από το Ινισφέιλ και τις γύρω περιοχές θα παραβρεθούν στα εγκαίνια της της Κοιμησης της Θεοτόκου, της δεύτερης ελληνικής εκκλησίας που κτίστηκε στην Αυστραλία, στην Τάουσβιλ.

Δεκαπέντε χρόνια αργότερα, τον Ιούλιο του 1950, εκατοντάδες Έλληνες θα συγκεντρωθούν στο Τάουσβιλ για τα εγκαίνια και την Καθιέρωση της τρίτης ελληνικής εκκλησίας του Κουινσλάνδη, του ναού των Αγίων Θεοδώρων, που είχε ξεκινήσει από το 1947 σε σχέδια του J.G. Rooney. Η λειτουργία εκείνης της ημέρας έγινε σε τέσσερις γλώσσες, ελληνικά, αγγλικά, ρωσικά και αραβικά.

Εκτός από τους κατοίκους του Τάουσβιλ, του Ροκχάμπτον (Rockhampton) και του Ίνγκαμ, στην εκκλησία ήταν και «νέοι Αυστραλοί», όπως τους έλεγαν τότε, Έλληνες μετανάστες από το κοντινό κέντρο μεταναστών του Στούαρτ (Stuart). Κατασκευασμένη από κόκκινο τούβλο και με τους τρούλους βαμμένους λευκούς, περιέγραφε με τον καλύτερο τρόπο τον συνδυασμό θέλησης και διακριτικής των Ελλήνων στην προπολεμική Αυστραλία και μίκραινε την απόσταση στη σύνθετη ελληνική κουλτούρα (ελλαδική, μικρασιατική, βαλκανική, αιγανπτιακή) και την κυρίαρχη αγγλο-αυστραλιανή. Την ίδια στιγμή, το απαράλλακτο για αιώνες εσωτερικό του ναού ετοιμάζοταν να υποδεχεται τον Επίσκοπο της Νοτιοανατολικής Επισκοπής, ο Άγιος Ιωάννης Κέιθ Χάρις & Co. Ltd.

**EΘΝΙΚΟΝ ΒΗΜΑ**  
Εθνομαία Πολιτική και Κοινωνική Έφημερος

**national tribune** [ official organ ]

**ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΑ ΟΝΟΜΑΤΗΡΙΑ**

**Ο ΤΙΜΗ ΤΗΣ ΧΡΥΣΗΣ ΑΡΑΣ ΚΑΤΑΛΟΓΟΣ ΕΙΣ ΤΑΣ 2000 ΔΡΑΧΜΑΣ**

**ΟΠΟΙΟ ΦΕΙΛΕΤΑΙ Η ΡΑΓΔΑΙΑ ΥΠΟΤΙΜΗΣΗΣ**

**ΟΙ "ΤΑΤΜΕΣ", ΕΠΑΝΑΛΑΜΒΑΝΟΝ ΟΤΙ ΕΙΝΑ ΑΚΑΙΡΟ Η ΑΝΑΚΑΙΝΙΣΗΣ ΤΟΥ ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΟΥ**

**Greek Church Consecrated**  
Impressive Ritual In Ceremony

**Relics of Martyr Saints In Townsville**

**THE GREEK COMMUNITY**

**ΜΙΑ ΣΥΜΒΟΛΗ ΔΙΑ ΤΟΥΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΑΣ**

**ΟΠΟΥ Ο ΕΛΛΗΝΗ ΣΥΝΑΝΤΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΑ**

η εκκλησία μιας μικρής κοινότητας Ελλήνων στην Αυστραλία θα συγκεντρωθούν στην Τάουσβιλ για τις εγκαίνια και τις γύρω περιοχές θα παραβρεθούν στα εγκαίνια της Κοιμησης της Θεοτόκου, πρεσβυτές της Επισκοπής της Νότιας Αυστραλίας (Αρχιεπαρχία της Νότιας Κουινσλάνδης) τον Επίσκοπο της Επισκοπής της Νότιας Αυστραλίας, ο Άγιος Ιωάννης Κέιθ Χάρις & Co. Ltd.

**"GOLD BADGE"**  
Highly Concentrated Essences  
and Brilliant Colours  
"PUNCHEN" LEMON, ORANGE,  
GRAPEFRUIT, LIME.  
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18-36 REGENT ST. SYDNEY, N.S.W.  
P. O. BOX 386, BRISBANE.  
Υποστημένη από Πρεσβετερία της Ελλάς της Αυστραλίας.

Several hundred people attended the consecration on Sunday of Townsville's new Greek Orthodox Church, Saint Theodore, by His Grace Archbishop Theodore. The service was conducted by the Rev. Father George Mavragas, English, Russian and Syrian-Armenian were used in the services.

The newly-consecrated church was rich in impressive atmosphere, being built by the joint contract of celebrated contractors, Mr. and Mrs. George Mavragas.

The opening service, conducted by the Rev. Father George Mavragas, was held in the presence of His Grace, the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Southern Queensland, the Rev. Bishop of Brisbane, and the Rev. Canon of Townsville.

Members of the parish of which His Theodore is now the centre of interest, came from all parts of Australia, from the south as Rockhampton, and north as Townsville, and the Orthodox congregation was further strengthened by a large number of friends and relatives of the Most Reverend Metropolitan. Representatives of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria, Egypt, were present, and the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Southern Queensland, the Rev. Bishop of Brisbane, attended the ceremony.

After making the triple sign of the Cross, His Grace placed a small golden cross on the altar, and with it sealed them in a reliquary, and cried loudly "Amen".

External to the memory of the first church, the new building is a credit to the town.

After prayers and psalms, a litany was recited, and the service concluded with the singing of the Magnificat Cantus. Representatives of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria, Egypt, were present, and the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Southern Queensland, the Rev. Bishop of Brisbane, attended the ceremony.

The Lord Mayor in lead and the Rev. Canon of Townsville, Mr. George Mavragas, were present, and the service concluded with the singing of the Magnificat Cantus.

The Lord Mayor and night, while a priest offered incense, the Most Reverend Metropolitan of Southern Queensland, the Rev. Bishop of Brisbane, and the Rev. Canon of Townsville, Mr. George Mavragas, were present, and the service concluded with the singing of the Magnificat Cantus.

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