



TEMENOS OIKIDIOS

WELCOME HOME

Rituals & Ceremonies

Panathenaia

CELEBRATING
ATHENA'S
BIRTHDAY

Note: All prayers included were created by members of Temenos Oikidios unless otherwise noted.

Gathering Prayer and Procession

1. We come together from the corners of the world to kindle a sacred fire.
2. We come to kindle a sacred fire of *nomos* to uphold our sacred traditions.
3. We come to kindle a sacred fire of *eusebeia* to praise the Theoi & Theai.
4. We come to kindle a sacred fire of *kharis* to give thanks for our blessings.
5. We come to kindle a sacred fire of *arete* to acknowledge our potential.
6. We come to kindle a sacred fire of *xenia* to celebrate friendship & family.
7. We come together at the turning of the month to light a sacred fire to honor and worship our Gods and Goddesses.

Purification: Priest's Prayer

- **Purification Leader:** *We call upon the bronze sounding Kouretes, The Guardian Koryvanta, Ocean-Dwelling Poseidon, And the purifying Apollon to stand by us in the cleansing.*

Prayer to the Kouretes

- **Participant 1:** *Bronze sounding Kouretes, heavenly, earthly and of the waters, much blessed, life giving spirits, glorious saviors of the world. You who remove the dangers from people's lives:*

Oh Kouretes, noble and powerful Youths of Zeus, eternal spirits, soul nurturers, gracious saviors. We call upon you to come with good intentions, shield bearing guardians of the sacred. Bring harmony, perfect order and peace.

- **Purification leader rings a bell 12 x**

Adapted from

Prayer to Korybas

- **Participant 2:** *We call upon the Greatest King of Eternal Earth, Blessed Korybas, warlike, of forbidding countenance, Nocturnal Koures, who saves from dreadful fear. Korybas, you assist the imagination and wander in deserted places. Blessed one, hear our voices, banish harsh anger, and free from fantasies a soul stunned by necessity.*
- **Purification leader libates red wine to Korybas.**

Adapted from the Orphic Hymn to Korybas,
translated by A. Athanassakis

Prayer to Poseidon

- **Participant 3:** *Hearken, dark-maned Poseidon, holder of the earth, equestrian, carved in bronze is the trident in your hand, and you dwell in the foundations of the full-bosomed sea. Deep-roaring ruler of the sea and shaker of the earth. Ocean Dweller, dispel through the salt of the sea the pains of our travels and any darkness in our souls.*
- **Purification leader sprinkles salt in front of Poseidon's image.**

Adapted from "Orphic Hymns"
Translated by A. Athanassakis

Prayer to Apollon Hekataios

- **Participant 4:** We sing of Apollon Hecataios, from years past, it is sacred custom to call upon you. Evil-averting Paian, far-seeing ruler of the world. Great archer who established purifications with yourself as example. Assist us, oh golden lyred, far shooting Apollon that we may resist the onslaught of deceitful and deceptive spectres, release us from infectious ignorance and darkness. le Paian, le Paian, le Paian, le Katharsios.
- **Purification leader offers bay leaves in front of Apollon's statue.**

Adapted from Labrys:
Household Worship

Purification Priest's Closing Prayer

- **Purification Leader:**
- “Μακριά, το μόνο που είναι κακό.”

(“Makria, to mono pou einai kako.”)

“Away, all that is wicked!”

Opening Prayer to Hestia

- **Priest:** *Timo tin Hestia, ti thea tis flogas*
(We honor Hestia, the Goddess of the Flame)
- **Participant:** *Hestia, you who tend the sacred dwelling of Gods and mortals through your eternal flame. From your golden hair does flowing oil ever drip. Come to this house! Come in gentle Goddess, help us kindle our fire and be present in our rite!*
- **Each participant lights their candle.**
- **Priest:** *Kalos Orisate Hestia, Welcome Hestia.*

Prayers to the Household Gods

- **Leader:** *We call to the sacred Gods and Goddesses of our Oikos to be present as we honor the sacred rites and rituals of our ancestors.*
- **Each wreathed and named participant calls to their Patron/Matron Gods and Goddesses.**

For those Not Present:

- We call upon Zeus, Apollon, and Pan, Fathers of Timotheos;
- We call upon Hera, Hermes and Dionysos, parents of Peregrine;
- We call upon Hestia, Pan and Artemis, parents of Methieremia;
- We call upon Apollon and Pan, Fathers of Dancing Firefly;
- We call upon Poseidon, Demeter and Dionysos, Parents of Phaedra;
- We call upon Zeus, Hermes, Hephaestos, Athena, and Apollon, Fathers of Drakkonis Pyrozale;
- We call upon Aphrodite, Athena, and Pan, Mothers and father of Scarlet Rose;
- We call upon Poseidon, father of Terentios;
- We call upon Zeus and Hephestus, fathers of Josef.
- We call upon the childless Ares, Haides, Persephone and Hekate.
- We thank you for your blessings as we celebrate these festivities!

Welcoming the Gods of the Year and Month

- **Priest:** May we now honor the Gods and Goddesses of the Year and the sacred month.
- Aphrodite and Herakles, may you grant us love, happiness and strength.
- Wondrous Aphrodite of the sea-foam, with your power, grant us a month of love and beauty.

Prayer to Hermes the Messenger

- Hermes, technologicos, Hermes sesyndesi, Hermes of Technology, Hermes Online, although we cannot meet in person your gifts unites our prayers and keeps our family and community together. We thank you for enabling us to join together regardless of distance. Through your grace may our signals be strong and without lag. Yammias.

Prayer to Apollon at a Time of Plague

- Fair Apollon, son of thundering Zeus, Golden God who parcels health and illness to all as is fit, who holds the door against disease or lets it in. Apollon, we thank you for health, the gifts of modern medicine, and the gifts of traditional cures. We thank you for a world in which plague and pandemic are uncommon. Yet what is rare still exists, o Paean, and is as deadly as ever it was. Great Apollon, kind-hearted God, we pray to You. Keep from our gates infirmity and affliction, turn away the epidemic and the blight. Apollon, mighty one, we pray for Your favor.

Adapted from Hearthstone's: "Devotion: Prayers to the Gods of the Greeks."

Prayers of Supplication

- Gracious and Wise Athena, Goddess Who Protects the City and Democracy. Goddess be with us and remind us that while we strive for freedom that we should remain kind and diplomatic.
- Glorious Artemis of the Silver bow, Goddess who fiercely guards independence. Be with us and grant us strength to protect our rights through this challenging pandemic.

Athena



Orphic Hymn to Athena

1. Revered Pallas, you alone great Zeus bore by himself, noble and blessed goddess, brave in the din of war.
2. Renowned and cave-haunting, you may and may not be spoken of. Your domain is on wind-swept hilltops and shaded mountains, and dells charm your heart.
3. Arms please you, and you strike men's souls with frenzy, O maiden vigorous and horrid-tempered.
4. Slayer of Gorgo, blessed mother of the arts, you shun the bed of love and, O impetuous one, you bring madness to the wicked and prudence to the virtuous.
5. Male and female, begetter of war, counselor, she-dragon of many shapes, frenzy-loving, illustrious, destroyer of the Phlegraian Giants, driver of horses, Tritogeneia, you free us of suffering, O victorious goddess.
6. Day and night– ever into the small hours– hear my prayer and give us a full measure of peace, of riches, and of health accompanied by happy seasons, O gray-eyed and inventive queen to whom many pray.

The Sacrifice

- **Priest:** *me afti tin perikopi, xekiname ti thisia – with this cut we begin the sacrifice.*
- **Participants type any prayers or requests into the chat box and these things are wrapped in a paper or cloth bag. A musical selection is played or a chant is sung. Once all requests have been made, the priest cuts the sacrificial bread and casts the requests into a cauldron to be burned for the Gods.**
- **Priest:** *Idou oh kyklos tis zois timatai!*
“Behold the Cycle of Life is Honored.”

Manteia

- ***“May Apollon bless these bones so that they speak only truth, May Hermes keep their messages clear, and our ears and hearts open to hearing what the Gods tell us.”***
- **"Μαῖου Απόλλων ευλογῆσει αὐτὰ τὰ οστὰ, ἔτσι ὥστε νὰ μιλοῦν μόνο τὴν ἀλήθεια, τὸν Μάιο τοῦ Ἑρμῆ κρατήσῃ τὰ μηνύματά τοὺς σαφεῖς, καὶ τὰ αὐτιά καὶ τὶς καρδιές μας ἀνοιχτά γιὰ νὰ ἀκούσω τί οἱ Θεοὶ μας πει."**
- The divination priest casts the bones and relays a message to the group. This message is then confirmed by the drawing of cards which state a Delphic maxim. This can be used for further discussion during the feast.

Festival Events



The Ancient Festival of the Panathenaia took place annually, but every four years the great Panathenaia was honored. The Great Panathenaia included musical contests, Gymnastics Contests, Equestrian events, dances, an all-night vigil, the presentation of a peplos to Athena's statue, and a boat race. While we cannot in our modern ritual acknowledged all these things, we call a sacred silence and perform sacred actions.

- Reading of the Homeric Hymn
- Lighting a sacred candle
- Listen to inspirational music



Spondai

- **Priest:** Athena, Goddess of Wisdom and War! Blessed Birthday!
- Athena Polias, Goddess of the City, thank you for your blessings of protection.
- Artemis of Independence, thank you for your blessings of strength.
- Hermes Sesyndesi, Hermes Online, thank you for keeping our signals strong.
- Apollon, Hygeia, and Asklepios, thank you for keeping the plague and pandemic at bay.
- Aphrodite & Herakles, Goddess and God of the Year, thank you for your blessings.
- Theoi Oikiakoi, Gods and Goddesses of the House, thank you for your blessings.
- **Priest:** Gods and Goddesses, hear our prayers and thanks, accept our offerings and may your blessings be felt in our lives.

To the Daimon

- **Participant:** *Blessed protector spirit of our temple, we honor you and your blessings to us. We thank you for keeping us safe and keeping safe this place of worship. Receive your just portion of the sacrifice now, as we prepare to depart until the next time we meet.*

To Hestia

- **Participant:** Goddess of the fire, of the Sacred Hearth. Hestia of the yellow hair flowing with oil. Keeper of the sacred tradition of Xeinia and Guardian of the family. Though we now depart and extinguish our flames, let us always remember that we are family through ritual and that this fire is ever burning within our hearts and souls. Receive our final offering to You, Goddess who is first and last.