

The Municipality of Paralimni - Deryneia, in collaboration with the Cultural Academy Agios Epiphаний, presents the first Traditional Culture Festival titled **"Voices and Memories"**, a unique initiative dedicated to the history, traditions, and customs of Paralimni.



The festival is a journey through the footsteps of Paralimni's history and cultural heritage, aiming to preserve and showcase local customs and traditions.

Two distinctive elements of Paralimni's cultural identity, "The Voice of Paralimni" and "The Festival of Saint George", which are listed in the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO, are at the heart

of this year's first edition.

Through exhibitions, activities, folklore events, and revivals of traditional customs, the festival offers the public a chance to discover and experience the unique traditions of Paralimni - with a focus on the Church of Saint George, its feast day, and Easter customs that are still observed in the area.

The festival aspires to become a key fixture in Cyprus' cultural calendar, bringing to light the region's rich cultural heritage and strengthening the bond between the younger generation and its roots.



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

*And the girl cries out and tells her father,  
Saint George hadn't told her so - she'd made it up herself.  
Only there, where the miracle of the saint had taken place,  
a little chapel must be built for Saint George,  
and his feast day shall be celebrated on April 23rd.*

*The Song of Saint George*

Under the auspices:



ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΟΥ  
DEPUTY MINISTRY OF CULTURE

Organizers:



PARALIMNI  
DERYNEIA  
MUNICIPALITY



ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΗ ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΙΟΥ  
2022

Supporter:



**FREE ENTRANCE  
to all events**

[culture@pdm.org.cy](mailto:culture@pdm.org.cy)

**April 2025**



Festival of Traditional Culture  
**Voices and  
Memories**

a journey through the  
footsteps of Paralimni's  
history & tradition

**PROGRAMME**

Organizers:



PARALIMNI  
DERYNEIA  
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Supporter:



International Council of Organizations of  
Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts



Wednesday, April 9, 202519:30

VENUE | Old Church of Saint George / Museum of Saint Anna

Opening Ceremony

Welcome addresses  
Artistic program by the cultural group “Rizes tis Kyprou”.  
Participants: Kyriakos Hadjiandreou (vocals and guitar), Andreas Siantanis (laouto), Panagiotis Koumasis (vocals), and Stefanos Hadjiandreou (violin).

Opening of the exhibition

“Voices and Memories: Of Saint George and Easter”  
The opening ceremony will be officiated by the Deputy Minister of Culture.  
The exhibition will remain open until November 30, 2025.

Friday, April 11, 202519:30

VENUE | Event Hall, Paralimni-Deryneia Town Hall

Theatrical Reading

“For the Days of Easter”  
Presented by the Romiosyni Cultural Association

Lazarus Saturday, April 12, 202511:00-13:00

VENUE | Traditional House of Paralimni

“Lazarus Saturday at the Paralimni Traditional House”

A traditional celebration of music, flavours, and old-time crafts for both children and adults. Children will have the chance to prepare, bake, and taste traditional flaounes (Easter cheese pastries) made by the Saint Christopher Center of Offering and Love (KEPA). They'll also get to test their pottery skills with ceramicist Christos Askotis, weave baskets at the Basketry Workshop, learn about the distillation of givania from traditional craftsman Athinodoros Georgiou, and explore the Paralimni Traditional House. The event will feature a performance by the youth ensemble Romiosini Ensemble of the Romiosyni Cultural Association, presenting Lazarus carols from mainland Greece and traditional music. It will also include participation from the 21st Paralimni Sea Scout Unit, the 112th Deryneia Sea Scout Unit, and the 291st Paralimni Air Scout Unit with traditional games.

Palm Sunday, April 13, 202516:00

VENUE | Xenion Amphitheatre

Medieval Fairy Tales of Cyprus

“...about dragons in Cyprus and nothing else!”  
by Marina Katsari and Vaggelis Yettos  
The storyteller Marina Katsari and musician Vaggelis Yettos take on the spirits, kings, and ironclad knights of medieval Cyprus, singing of their trials and triumphs. The legends and fairy tales are delivered in their natural tongue - the Cypriot dialect - which reached its peak in the late medieval period. The musical selections follow the paths of medieval harmonies that creatively influenced Cypriot traditional music.

Holy Saturday, April 19, 202511:00-13:00

VENUE | Streets and neighborhoods of Paralimni

“To Koullouri”

Members of the 291st Air Scout Group and the 21st Sea Scout Group of Paralimni sing “To Koullouri” in the central streets and neighborhoods of Paralimni.

Holy Saturday, April 19, 202512:00

VENUE | Event Hall, Paralimni-Deryneia Town Hall

"Saint George’s duel with the Dragon"

by the music ensemble Kazandibi.  
Experiential Workshop of Cypriot Traditional Music for children aged 5-9, with the music ensemble Kazandibi.  
Participants: Kyriakos Markoullis and Elena Papageorgiou.

Easter Sunday, April 20, 202520:00

VENUE | Saint George - Metropolis Square

Traditional Music Concert

“Anthology of Folk Song”  
Participants: The eight-member music ensemble of Michalis Chatzimichail.  
Singers: Andri Karantoni, Dimitra Chatzimichael and Michalis Chatzimichael.

Easter Monday, April 21, 202516:00

VENUE | Saint George - Metropolis Square

Traditional Games and Easter "Kalyfes"

Easter Monday, April 21, 202519:00

VENUE | Saint George - Metropolis Square

The Festival of Saint George

A patinada (traditional procession) , a music and dance performance with Greek and Cypriot traditional dances and the presentation of the event "Oi Traoullarides". Musical program by the traditional group "Nomades".  
Artistic Program Curation: Cultural Workshop "Para ti Limni".  
Participants: Ensembles of the Metropolitan Church of Saint George, Youth Council of Paralimni, and Volleyball Academies of the Enosis Neon Paralimniou.  
Exhibition of Traditional Professions featuring Basket Weaving, Traditional Chair Binding, Wood Caruing, Pottery, Weaving, and Reed Weaving (baskets).  
“The Festival of Saint George” is listed in the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage of UNESCO.

Saturday, April 26, 202510:00-13:00

VENUE | Saint George - Metropolis Square

“Living Voices and Memories”

The older generation remembers, and the younger generation learns in an interactive experience that connects the past with the present. Residents of Paralimni, bearers of local traditions, share stories and transform them into a valuable part of collective memory. Interactive artistic activities and a special guided tour for children and families at the exhibition "Voices and Memories: St George and Easter" by curator Dr Christina Kakkoura.  
"Flour & Dough: Memories and Tradition"  
A hands-on sensory workshop for the whole family by the Arts and Visual Therapy Center "Nefeles" in collaboration with the Hatzigiorkis Mills Museum (11:00-12:00).  
Festival of Love and Giving  
Organized by the Metropolitan Church of Saint George, featuring games and activities for children, along with a food market. The festival is organized by the Catechetical Schools, the Christian Women's Association, and the "Anemoesa" Choir of the Metropolitan Church of Saint George.

Thomas Sunday, April 27, 202511:00

VENUE | Paralimni Central Streets  
STARTING POINT | Saint George - Metropolis Square

"...Let’s go to the races"

A patinada (traditional procession) along the central streets of Paralimni.  
Participants: The event features performances by the Famagusta Traditional Music Orchestra, the "Para ti Limni" Cultural Workshop of Paralimni, the "Drymio" Dance Group of Deryneia, the Dance Ensemble of the Frenaros Cultural Association, the Dance Ensemble of the Agios Georgios Acheritou - Vrysoullon Cultural Association, as well as the traditional flag-wavers "Sbandieratori Delle Sette Contrade Di Orte" from Italy.

Monday, April 28, 202519:30

VENUE | Event Hall of the Paralimni - Deryneia Town Hall

Lecture: “Paralimni and Saint George”

Speakers: Mr. Kostis Kokkinofas, Center for Studies of the Holy Monastery of Kykkos: “Saint George in the Folk Tradition of Cyprus and Paralimni”  
Dr. Christodoulos Chatzichristodoulou, Byzantinist: “Bring me my spear, for Saint George rides above.” Saint George in Paralimni.  
Moderator: Former Ambassador of Cyprus to Greece, Professor of Modern Greek History, Giorgos Georgis.

Wednesday, April 30, 202520:00

VENUE | Saint George - Metropolis Square

Closing Ceremony of the Festival

“...On Saint George’s Stone Bench”  
Concert by the Traditional Music Orchestra of Famagusta  
Participant: The Cultural Workshop “Para ti Limni”.