



**ARCHMANDRITE CHRISTOPHER  
ARGYRIDES  
1922-1956  
Pastor Emeritus 1956-1970**

Father Argyrides came to St. George as a young man and guided its spiritual development and growth for many years. He was born in Zodia Morphon on the island of Cyprus and received his early education in the public schools of the island. Upon completion of his studies in Cyprus, Father Argyrides received a scholarship to study at the Theological School of Athens College. He returned to Cyprus in 1901 and was ordained a deacon and he served Churches in Cyprus and Athens in this capacity. During these years he studied at Oxford University in England.

In the year 1922, Father Argyrides was sent to the United States together with other young priests to serve the spiritual needs of the fast-growing Greek communities of the United States. He was ordained into the priesthood in New York City in April of 1922 and assigned as a priest at our Church in May of the same year.

Father Argyrides served the needs of the parishioners of St. George with exceptional zeal and love. In his lifetime, he watched his beloved parish grow from a small parish of faithful and devoted parishioners into one of the largest and most progressive communities in the country. Our late Patriarch Athenagoras and then Archbishop of America bestowed upon him the title of Archmandrite, the highest honor given a single clergyman in the Orthodox Church in 1952.

Father Argyrides' accomplishments were many. He was a pioneer in the establishment of choirs for Orthodox Churches in this country as well as a pioneer in modern Sunday School organization. Above all, during the years that political unrest in Greece divided the Greek communities in America, his leadership and influence kept St. George a single spiritual unity.

Father Argyrides passed away on June 27, 1970. He served the St. George community for 48 years. His funeral took place at St. George and he was mourned not only by his parishioners but also by people throughout the city of Lynn who knew him as the dean of clergymen in Lynn.