

Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

- *In our world of opportunities, people have got a wide choice of how to spend their free time. Different people choose different hobbies – reading, traveling, quests for ancient items, visiting museums, collecting rare coins, gardening, collecting different kinds of things. People are so different from each other and unique, so it is hardly ever possible to list all their hobby.*
- *Philately, or stamp collecting, has a long history of its development, and Maximum Cards are part of postal history, and therefore, an important source of study for philatelists.*
The Maximum Card consists of a stamp affixed to the illustrated side of a postcard, which must have the closest possible resemblance to the image of the stamp. In addition, the stamp must be stamped on the card and at the post office of the place, which has a direct relationship with the depicted subject.
- *It is today the largest and most important monastic state of the Orthodox East with a long tradition. Crib and cradle of Orthodoxy. Here beats the heart of Orthodoxy for the entire Ecumenical.*
- *In the Athonian State, a wonderful cultural treasure has been cultivated and preserved for centuries, which includes: church building, painting (portable icons, murals, mosaics), illustrated manuscripts, embroidery, small crafts, sculpture, woodcarving. This treasure does not refer to a museum of the past, but to a living present of Orthodox monasticism, which is a luminous testimony of the renovation of man and the world in Christ. Athos, Mount Athos, the Orchard of Panagia – the epitome of aesthetics and culture.*
- *Its status and way of functioning are defined in detail, in parallel with the Constitution of Greece, by the Charter of Mount Athos of May 10, 1924.*
- *Since 1988, it has been included in the list of World Heritage sites.*
- *An Orthodox spiritual center since 1054, Mount Athos has enjoyed an autonomous statute since Byzantine times. The 'Holy Mountain', which is forbidden to women and children, is also a recognized artistic site. The layout of the monasteries (about 20 of which are presently inhabited by some 1,400 monks) had an influence as far afield as Russia, and its school of painting influenced the history of Orthodox art.*
- *The Athos peninsula is the easternmost and closest of the three individual parallel peninsulas (Kassandra or Pallini, Logos or Sithonia - central, and Athos or Mount Athos) that make up the Khalkidiki peninsula. This peninsula is covered by Mount Athos, 2033 m high, hence its name, and ends at Cape Nymphaeus or Akrotoon. It is connected to Halkidiki by the narrow Isthmus of Xerxes, a low strip of land, 2 km long, historic since the Persian wars in 480 BC. Between the peninsula of Athos and Sithonia or Logos is formed Sigitikos or the bay of Mount Athos.*
- *The first naming and renaming is found in the Lives of the Martyrs of Tiberiopolis by Theophilactos Ahridos. According to what is believed to be the first Standard Charter ratified by Emperor Ioannis Tsimiskis, Athos is simply called "The Mountain".*

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<i>Summary of the Exhibition</i>	<i>17/00</i>
<i>01 - The historical beginning of Mount Athos</i>	<i>17/01 a 02</i>
<i>02 - Monasteries' in Mount Athos</i>	<i>17/03 a 13</i>
<i>03 - Daily life in the monastery</i>	<i>17/14 a 23</i>
<i>04 – Flora and Fauna</i>	<i>17/23 a 32</i>
<i>05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos</i>	<i>17/33 a 43</i>
<i>06 - Calligraphy</i>	<i>17/43 a 55</i>
<i>07 - Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts</i>	<i>17/55 a 65</i>
<i>08 - Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings</i>	<i>17/66 a 76</i>
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- *Mount Athos is a unique artistic creation that combines the natural beauty of the country with the expanded forms of architectural creation, and the exhibition shows history, geography, life, and nature.*
- *Mount Athos encompasses an entire peninsula of 33,042 ha, an area of sufficient size to maintain a rich flora and fauna that has been well conserved by careful management of the forests and traditional agricultural practices.*

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

01 - The historical beginning of Mount Athos

According to tradition, the Virgin Mary sailed with Saint John the Evangelist from Jaffa (Joppa) to Cyprus to visit Lazarus.

When the ship began to take on water in the Athos peninsula, it was forced to anchor near the present-day monastery of Iberon. The Virgin walked on land and was overwhelmed by the wonderful and wild natural beauty of the mountain, blessed her and asked her Son to be her garden.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E
Issued on: 16/05/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Λεπτομέρεια από τη ΧΑΡΤΑ του ΡΗΓΑ - Detail of the Rigas Feraios Charta
Publisher: 1/2008 by Hellenic Post



01 - The historical beginning of Mount Athos

A voice was heard saying: "Let this place be your inheritance and your garden, a paradise and refuge of salvation for those who want to be saved." From that moment the mountain was dedicated to Panagia or the mother of God (Garden of Panagia) and entry was forbidden for all other women.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 4,00 E
Issued on: 16/05/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Αργυρή ΛΑΒΗ της εβένινης ράβδου του Πρωτεπιστάτη – The staff of Protepistates.
Publisher: 1/2008 by Hellenic Post

Rigas Feraios is very zealous with Mount Athos, which he describes on his Map, probably because of his old service there. In addition to the complete registration of the holy monasteries and other toponyms of the peninsula, he continues with an extraordinary symbolic representation of the mountainous mass of Mount Athos at the bottom the peninsula with a "double symbol of a mountain peak".

This symbol has a clear reference to the patterns of the "two-cornered" descriptions of the sacred mountains (Sinai, Mount Athos), which are found in the respective shrines, which Rigas knew.

The protos is a monastic office at the Eastern Orthodox monastic community of Mount Athos in Greece.

01 - The historical beginning of Mount Athos - Emperor Nikiforos II Phocas

Nikiforos II Phocas (912 - 11 December 969) was a Byzantine emperor from 963 to 969, originally from the House of Phocas Asia Minor. His brilliant military achievements contributed to the strengthening and development of the Byzantine Empire during the 10th century.

Nikiforos II Phocas was one of the most important Byzantine emperors and an ambitious visionary of the empire's global radiation. He helped St. Athanasius Athonite to build the first monastery of Mount Athos.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,40 E
Issued on: 16/05/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Πορτρέτο του αυτοκράτορα Νικηφόρου Φωκά– The emperor's Nikiforos Fokas portrait.
Publisher: 1/2008 by Hellenic Post



01 - The historical beginning of Mount Athos - Emperor Ioannis Tsimiskis

John I Tzimiskes (c. 925 – 10 January 976) was the senior Byzantine Emperor from 11 December 969 to 10 January 976. An intuitive and successful general, he strengthened the Empire and expanded its borders during his short reign. He was the grandson of Nicephorus II Phocas, who appointed him a member of the Eastern Schools.

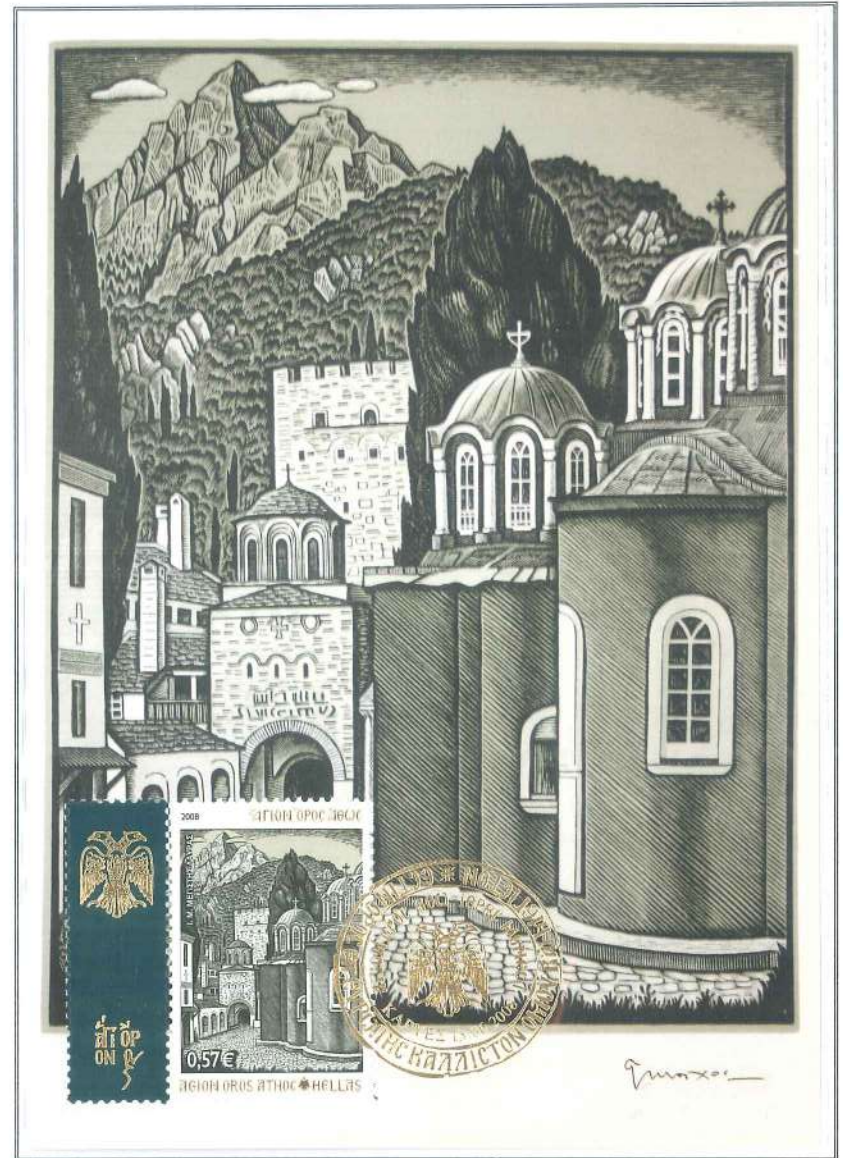
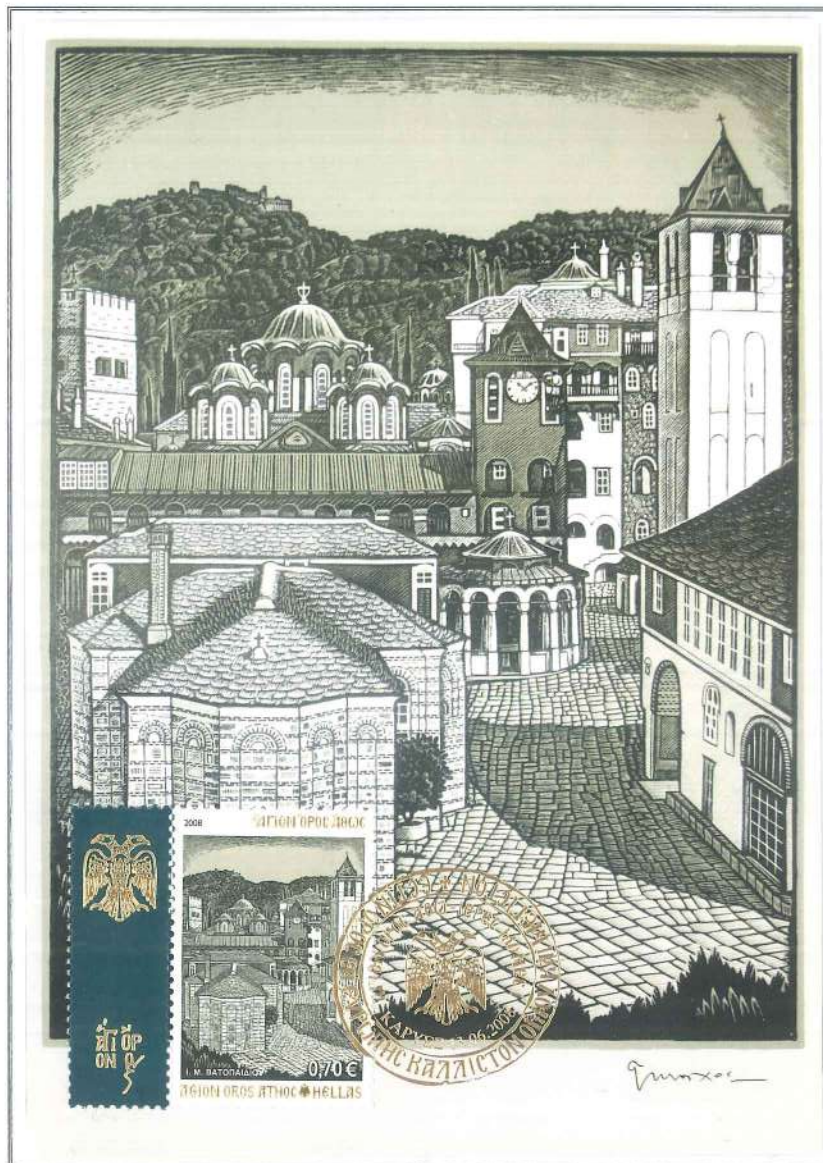
His disputes with Phocas led to a conspiracy with other soldiers, who killed Nicephorus II Phocas on December 11, 969, and John I became emperor.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E
Issued on: 16/05/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Πορτρέτο του αυτοκράτορα Ιωάννη Τσιμισκή – The emperor's Joannis Tsimiskis portrait.
Publisher: 1/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Megisti Lavra

The Holy Monastery of Megisti Lavra holds the first place in the history and hierarchy of the Athos Monasteries. Its founder is Saint Athanasios, Athonitis. Its construction goes back to 963. Of the many and invaluable treasures of the monastery, the most important are: the image of the Koukouzelis Panagia, patriarchal and imperial sacks, holy relics and a rich library. The monastery owns 17 chapels, 19 chapels, several sketches, calluses, ascetic and cells.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E
Issued on: 16/05/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή Μεγίστης
Λαύρας από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου
Μόσχου – Holy Monastery of Megisti
Lavra engraving by Georgios Moschos
Publisher: I/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Vatopedion

The Holy Monastery of Vatopaidios was re-founded around 972 – 985, on the ruins of a smaller Monastery, which recent excavations, as well as tradition, date back to the 4th century. The Athena School, known for its valuable services to the Greek Nation, operated there. Among the relics of the Monastery, the Sacred Belt of Panaia and the famous jasper glass, a gift of Andronikos Palaiologos, are particularly well-known. The Monastery has 16 chapels, 21 chapels, 24 cells and the historical hermitages of Agios Dimitrios and Agios Andreas.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E
Issued on: 13/06/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Μονή Βατοπαίδιου
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Vatopedion
(engraving Georgios Moschos).
Publisher: II/2008 by Hellenic Post

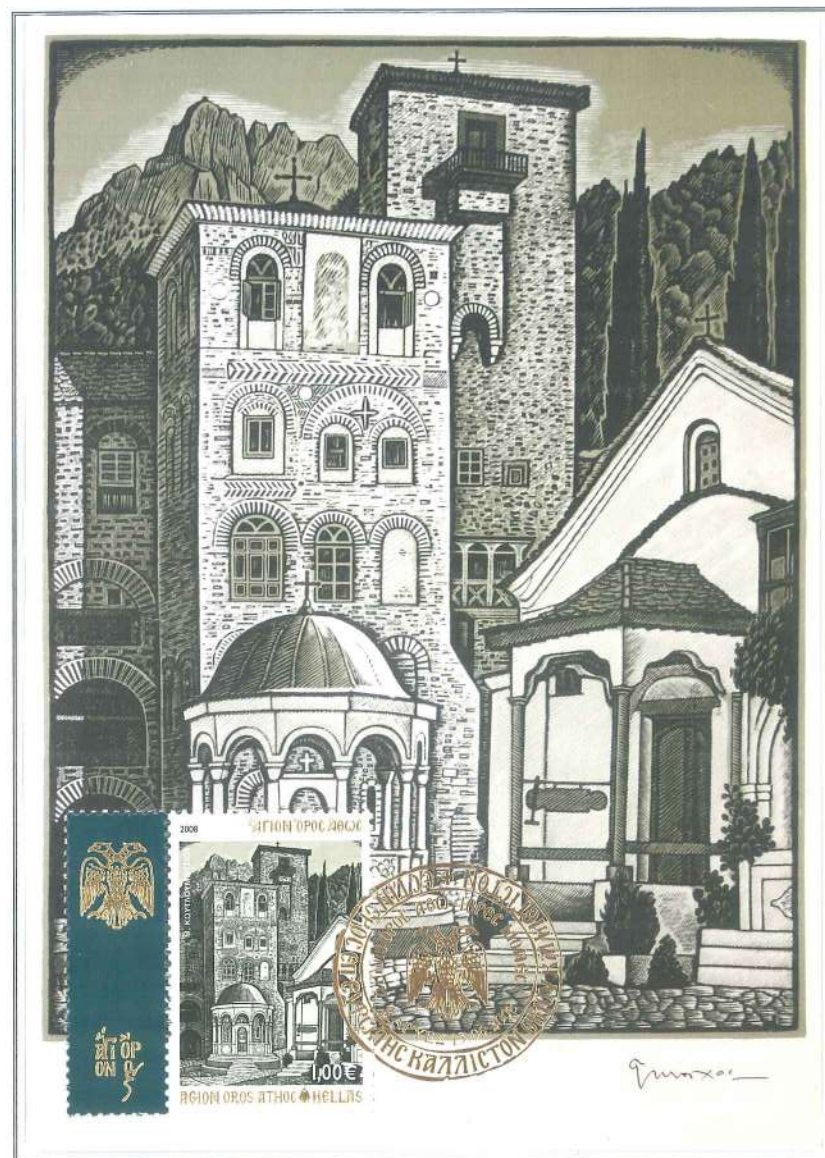
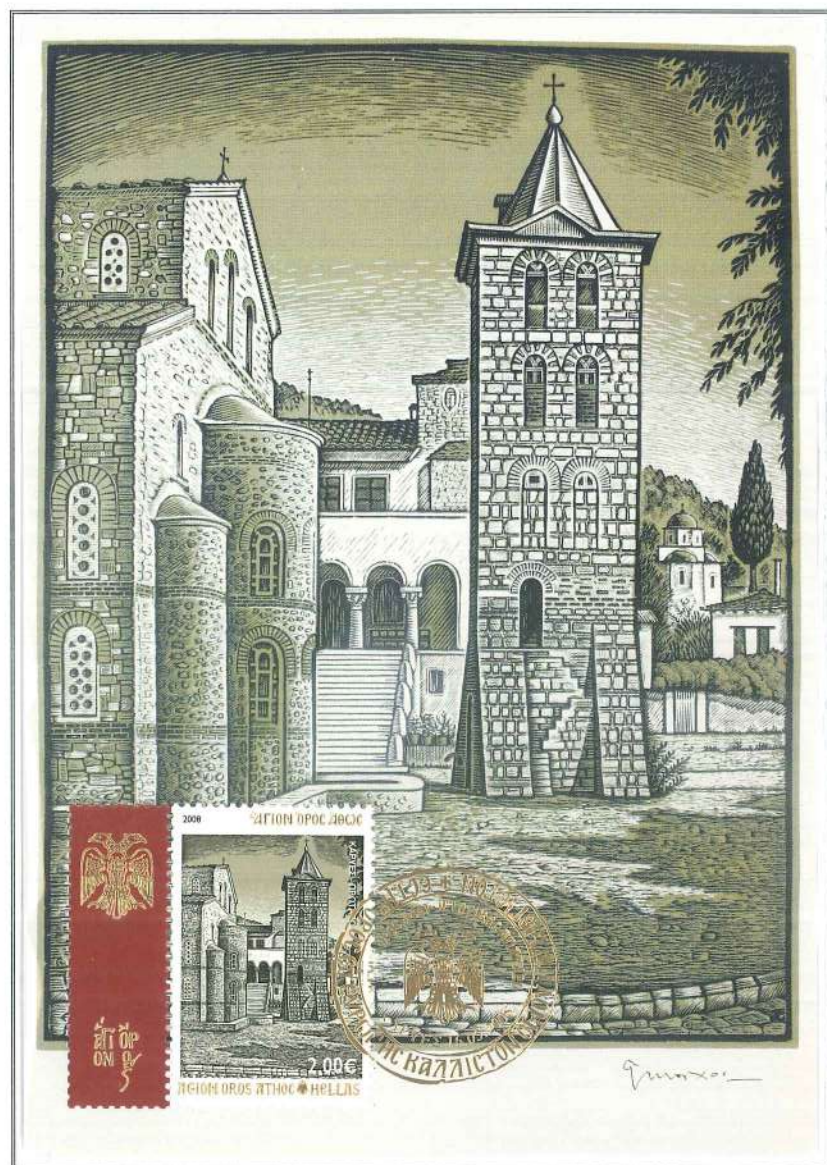
02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Koutloumousiou

The Holy Monastery of Koutloumousiou is built near Karyes.

It was founded in the 11th century, by Saint Koutloumoussi and is dedicated to the Transfiguration of the Savior. Its first benefactor was the emperor Alexios I Komnenos the Great.

In the possession of the Monastery are 25 cells and the Skete of St. Panteleimonos {1790, Kalyves 23}. It occupies the 6th place in the hierarchy of Monasteries and is communal.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 13/06/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή
Κουτλουμουσιου από χαρακτικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Koutloumousiou (engraving by
Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: II/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Protaton

Certainly, it is the most important monument of Byzantine art chronicled by Manuel Panselinos, the well-known representative of the Macedonian school (1290 – 1320). In the 17th century, the Protato was decorated with a beautiful iconostasis, the work of the monk Neophytos Routis (1611), which was removed in 1955, and since then the original marble iconostasis can be seen. Even before the war, Karyes was the most valuable commercial center, with a famous market, which reached great prosperity in the 19th century.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E
Issued on: 13/06/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Μονή ΠΡΩΤΑΤΟΥ
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Protaton
(engraving Georgios Moschos).
Publisher: II/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Iviron

The Holy Iberian Monastery traces its foundation to 979 – 980 by Iberian monks disciples of Agios Athanasios of the Great Lavra, on the site of the pre-existing Monastery of Clement. The icon of Mount Athos, Panagia Portaitissa, is installed there. The Monastery occupies the third place in the hierarchy of Monasteries and since 1990 it has been a community. He raised many saints and learned monks. It has 17 chapels, 10 chapels, 11 Seats and 26 Cells. The Skete of Timios Prodromos also belongs to her.

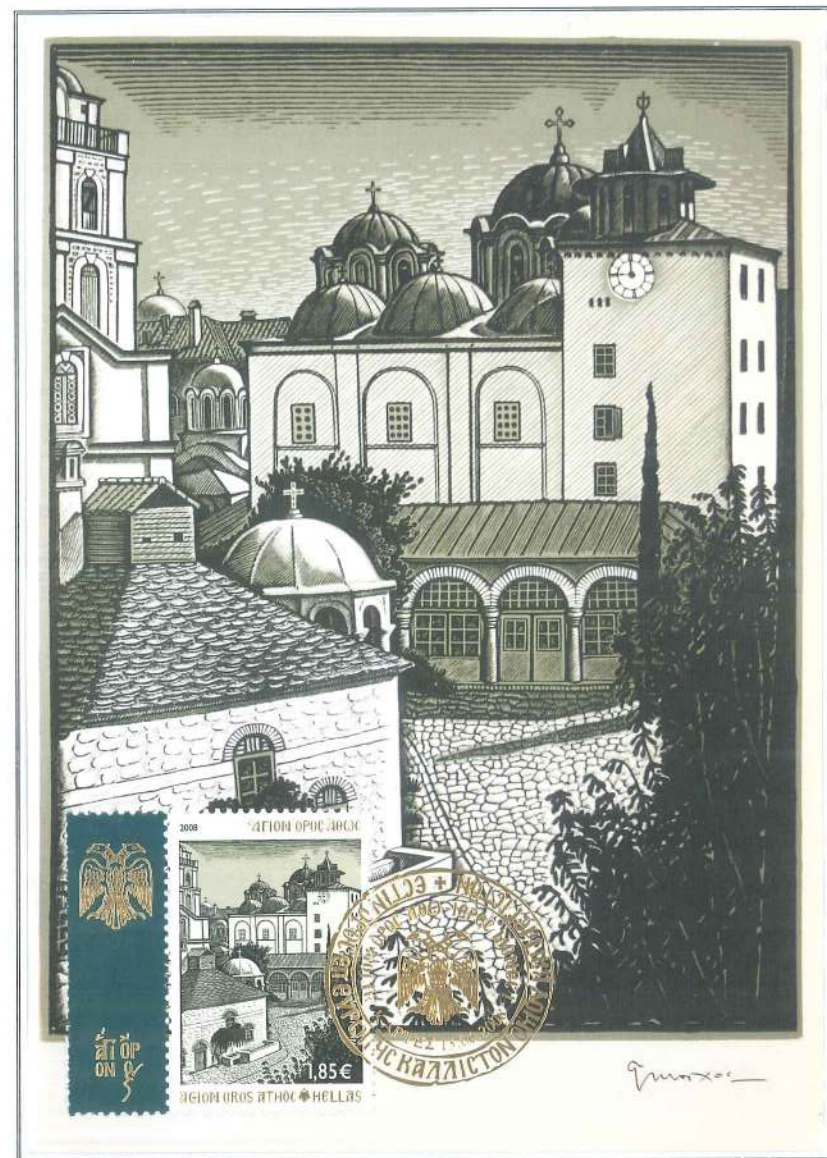
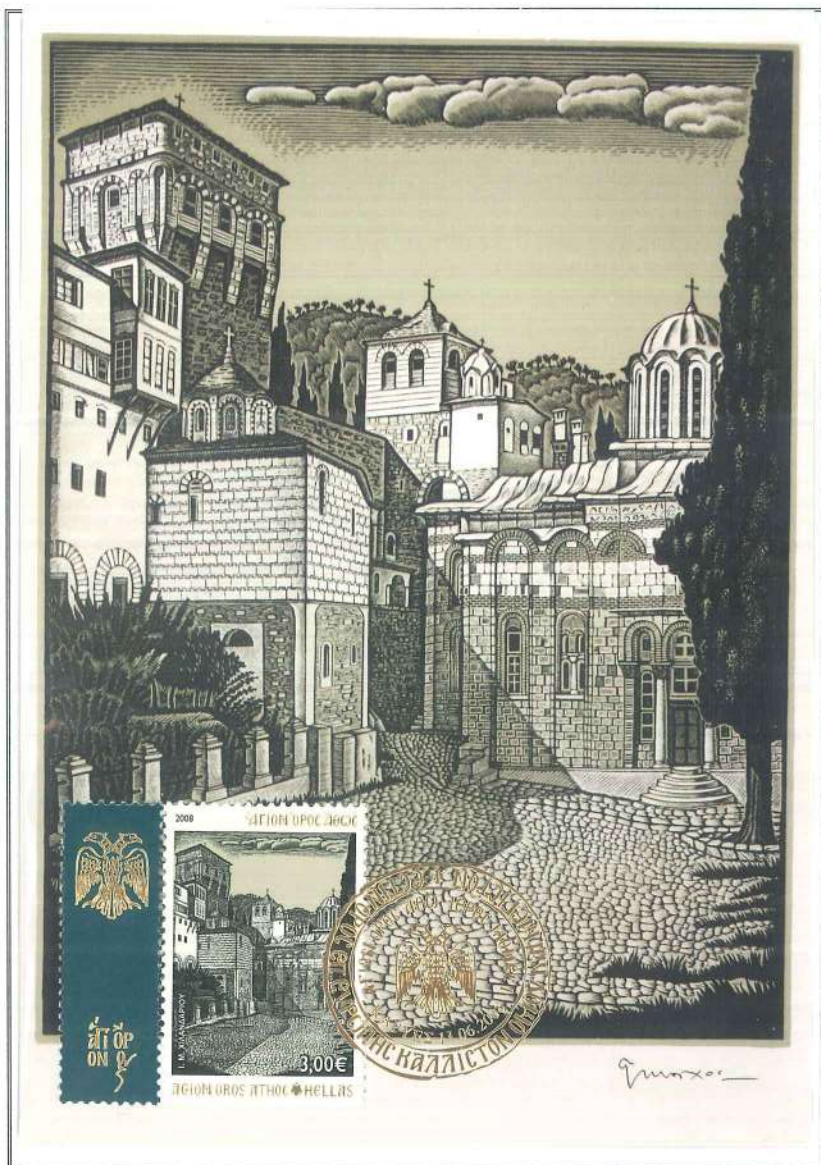
Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,85 E

Issued on: 13/06/2008 – KARYES.

Commemorative: I. Μονή Ίβηρων από
χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου –
Holy Monastery of Iviron (engraving
by Georgios Moschos)

Publisher: 11/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Hilandariou

The Holy Monastery of Hilandari was founded in the 12th century by the ruler of Serbia Stefanos Nemanja and his son Rastko. The monastery actively supported the national struggles of the Greeks in the 14th century and is dedicated to the Entry of the Virgin. The Monastery ranks fourth in the hierarchy of Monasteries and has 11 chapels, 2 chapels and 17 cells.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E

Issued on: 13/06/2008 – KARYES.

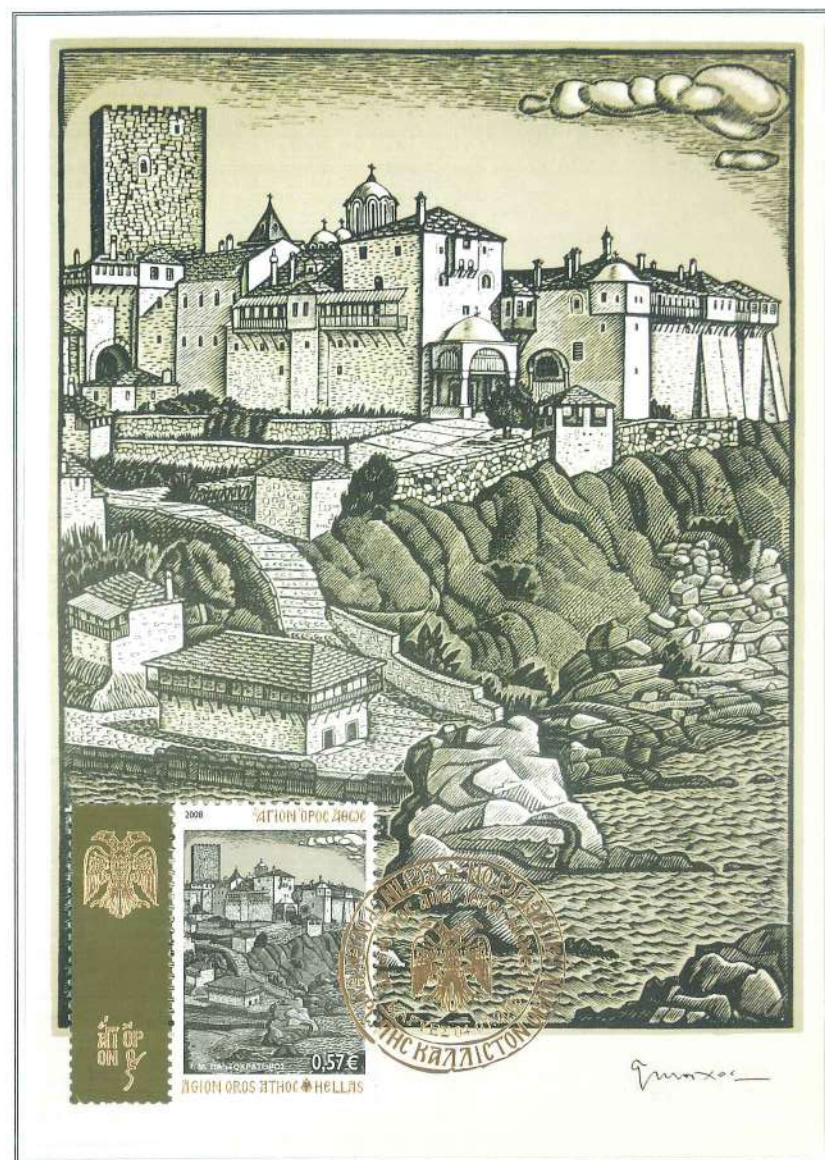
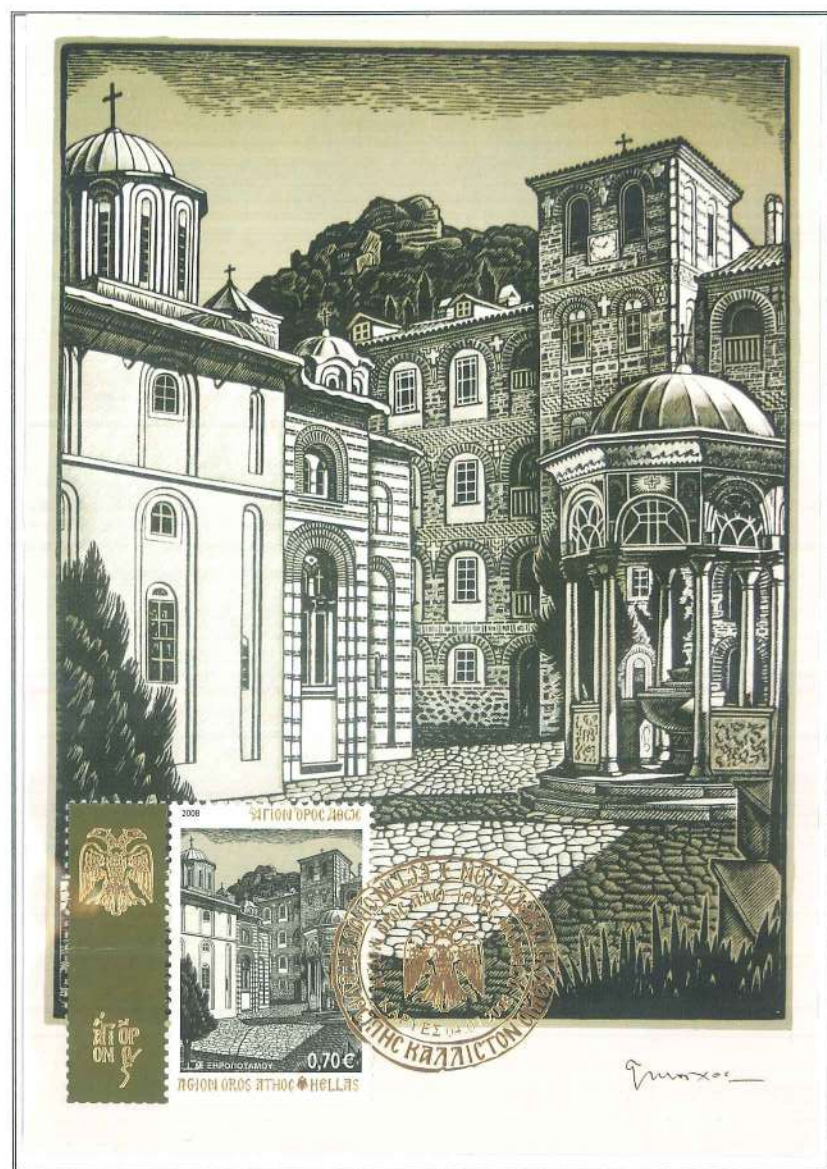
Commemorative: Μονή Χιλανδαριου
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου –
Holy Monastery of Hilandariou
(engraving Georgios Moschos).

Publisher: 11/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Pantokrator

It was founded in 1357 on the eastern side of Mount Athos by two brothers, the general Alexios, and the great prefect Ioannis, with support from the emperor of Byzantium, John V Palaiologos. Spread over 8 chapels. The tombs of the two founders are located inside the Catholic Church, which was painted in the 14th century with frescoes of the Macedonian school. The bank was incorporated in 1741 and registered in 1749.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E
Issued on: 04/07/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή
Παντοκράτορας από χαρακτηριστικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Pantokrator (engraving by
Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: III/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Xeropotamou

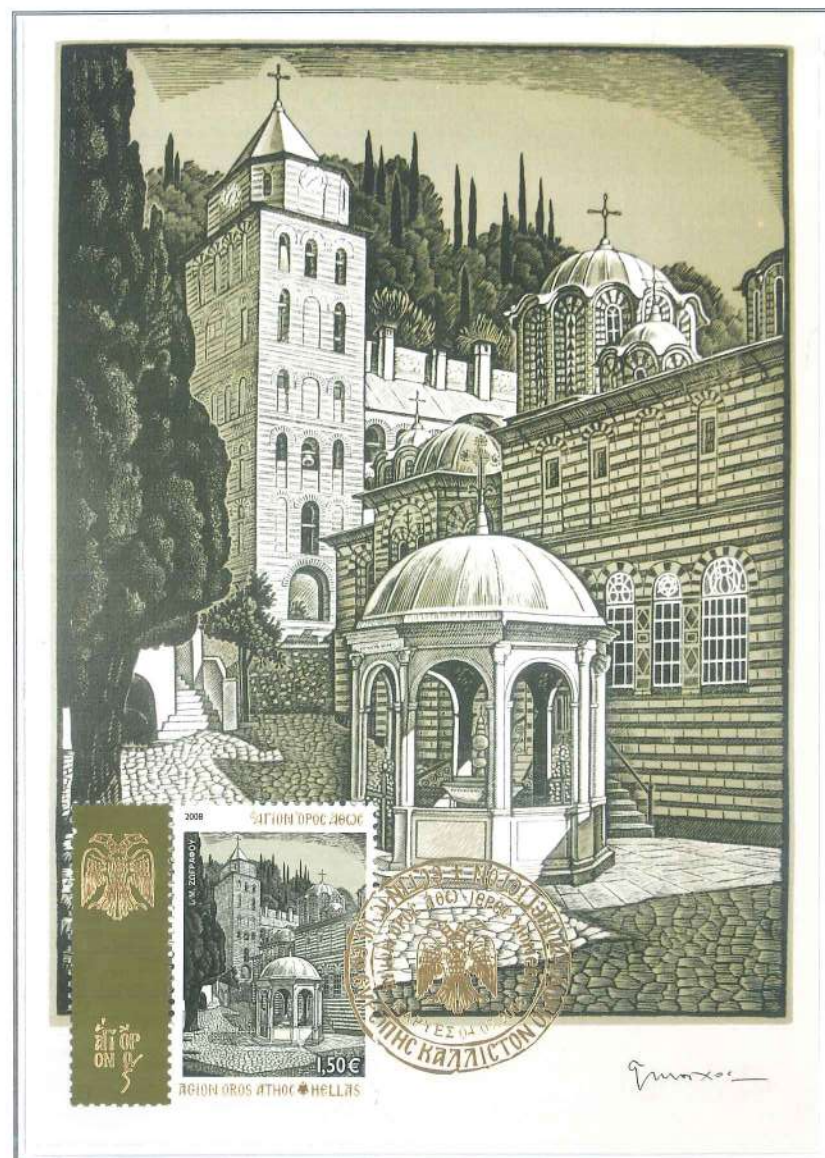
It was founded in 970 on Daphne. The current building was erected in 1761, thanks to the help of the learned monk Caesarikos Daponte. Xeropotamou Monastery has 16 chapels. The frescoes of the bank are from 1859. The Monastery owes its name to its builder Saint Pavlos Xeropotamianos.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E
Issued on: 04/07/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή
Ξηροποταμου από χαρακτηριστικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Xeropotamou (engraving by
Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: III/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Zographou

The Saint George the Zograf Monastery or Zograf Monastery is one of the twenty Eastern Orthodox monasteries in Mount Athos (the "Holy Mountain") in Greece. The monastery was founded in 972 and was strengthened during the Byzantine period by the emperors of the Palaiologou dynasty. It has 16 chapels.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,50 €
Issued on: 04/07/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή Ζωγράφου
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Zographou
(engraving by Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: III/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Zographou

It was founded in the late 9th or early 10th century by three Bulgarians from Ohrid and is regarded as the historical Bulgarian monastery on Mount Athos and is traditionally inhabited by Bulgarian Orthodox monks.

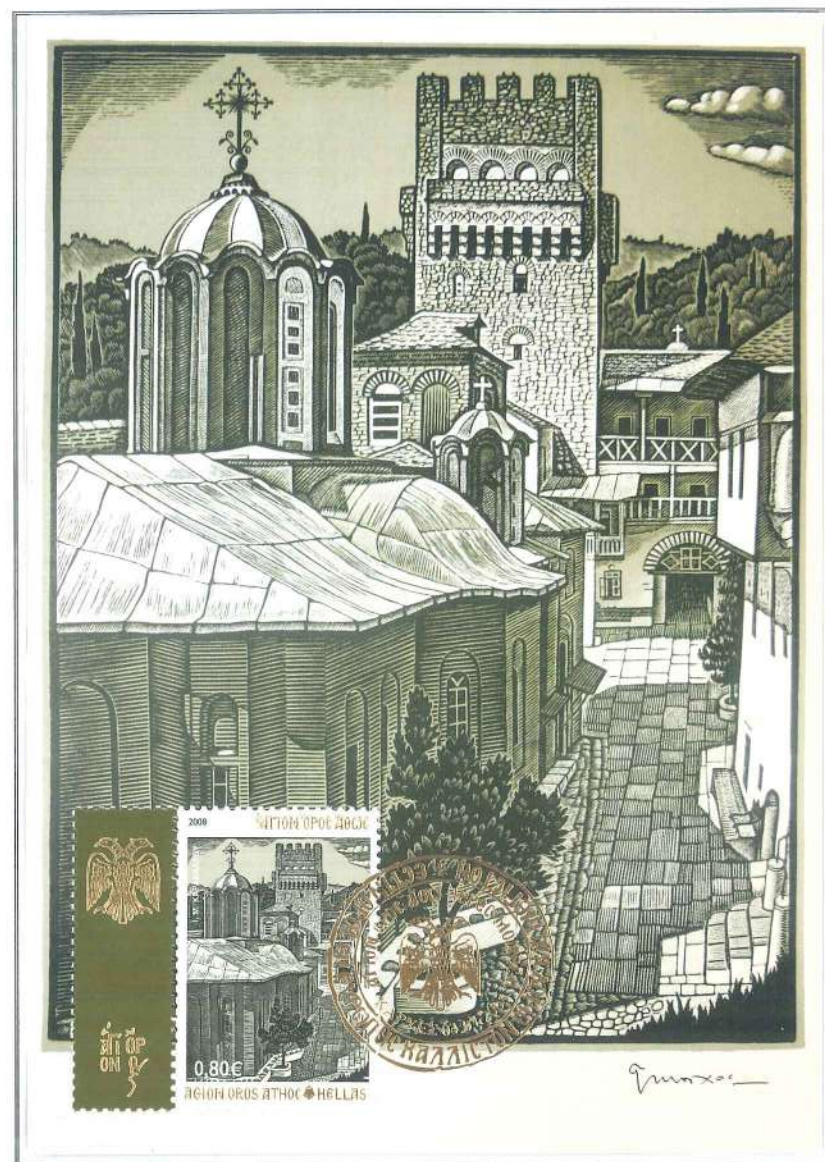
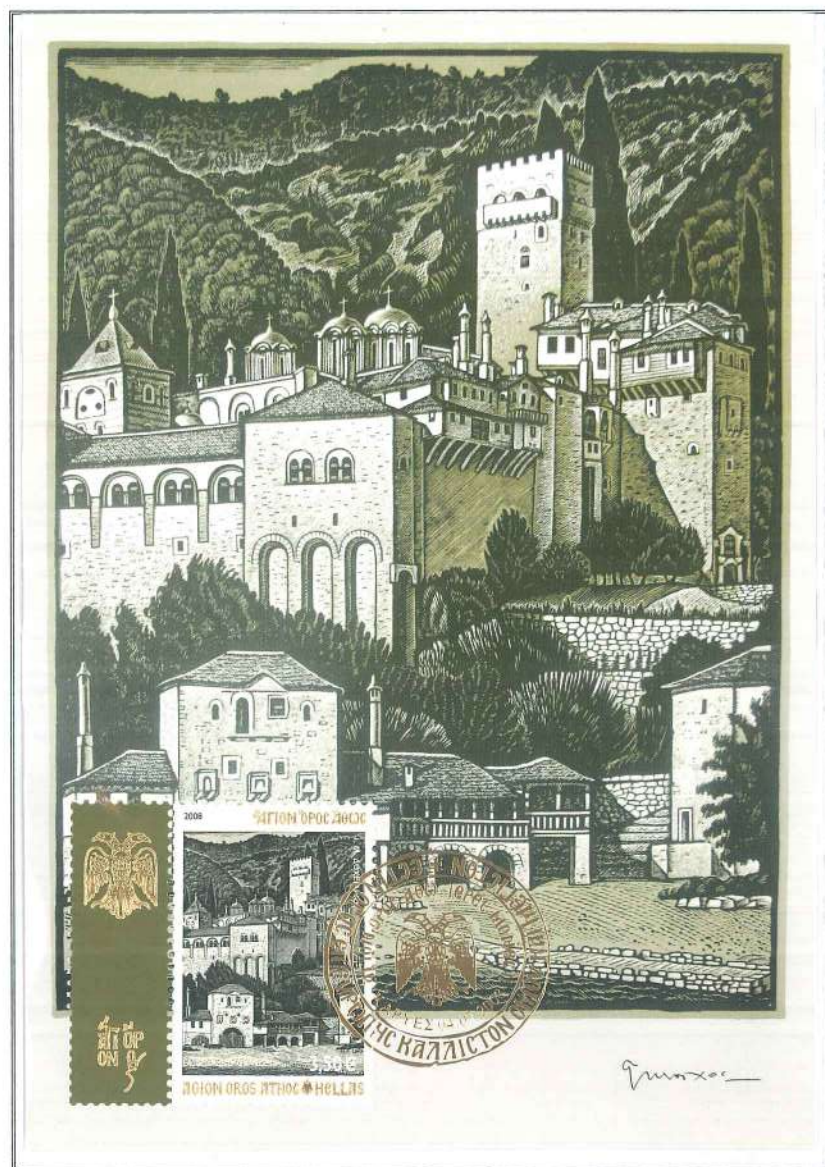
The monastery is named after the 13th or 14th century icon of Saint George, known as Saint George the Zograf. The name of the latter comes from the belief that the icon mysteriously painted itself on the prepared board.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GR – 0,25 LB
Issued on: 27/11/2001 – SOFIA.
Commemorative: ЗОГРАФСКИ
МАНАСТИР СОФИЯ 27.11.2001 – Holy
Monastery of Zographou
Publisher: 2001 by Bulgaria Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Karakallou

It was founded at the beginning of the 11th century on the eastern side of Athos. It was financially strengthened by the Palaiologos dynasty. As for the etymology of the name of the Monastery, one opinion is that it comes from the emperor Karakalla, who lived in the 3rd century, but it is probably not intensified, because it must come from the widespread Byzantine name Karakalla, which was apparently borne by the founder monk of the Monastery.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,80 E
Issued on: 04/07/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή
Καρακάλλου από χαρακτικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Karakallou (engraving by Georgios
Moschos)
Publisher: III/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Docheiariou

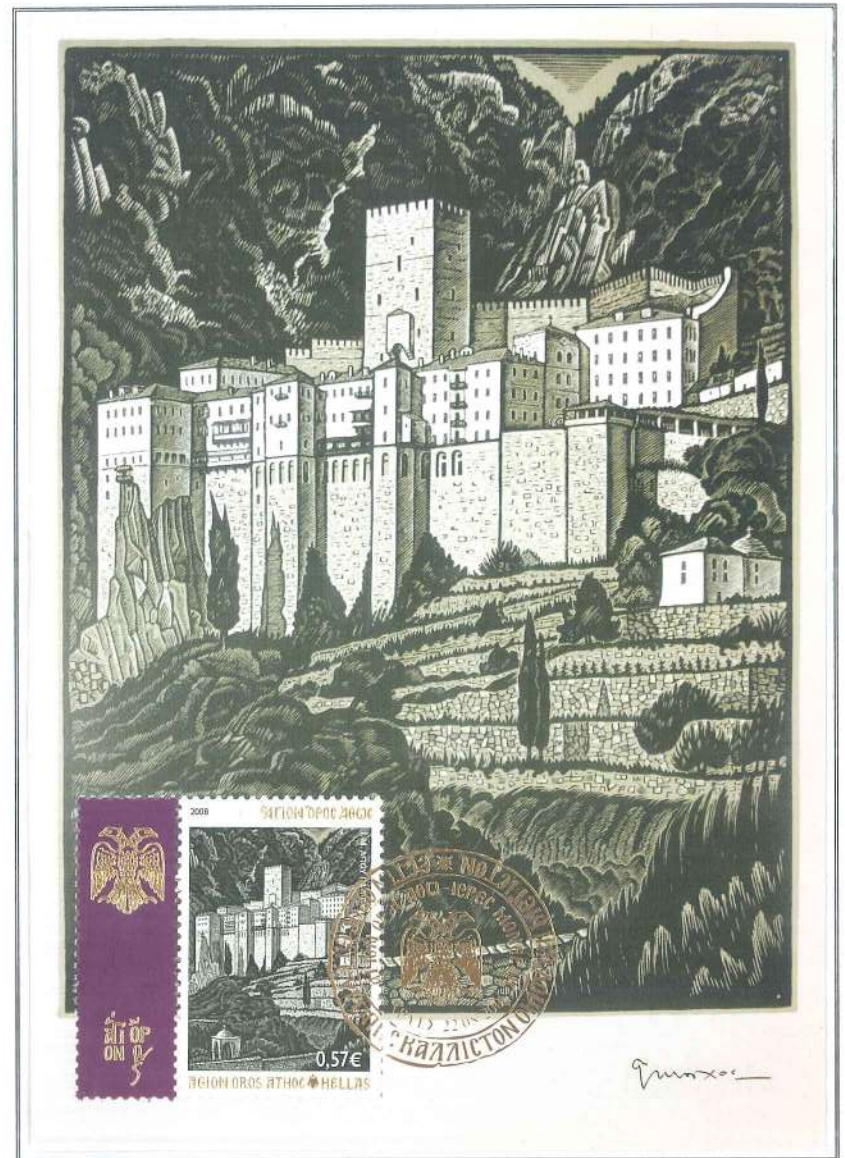
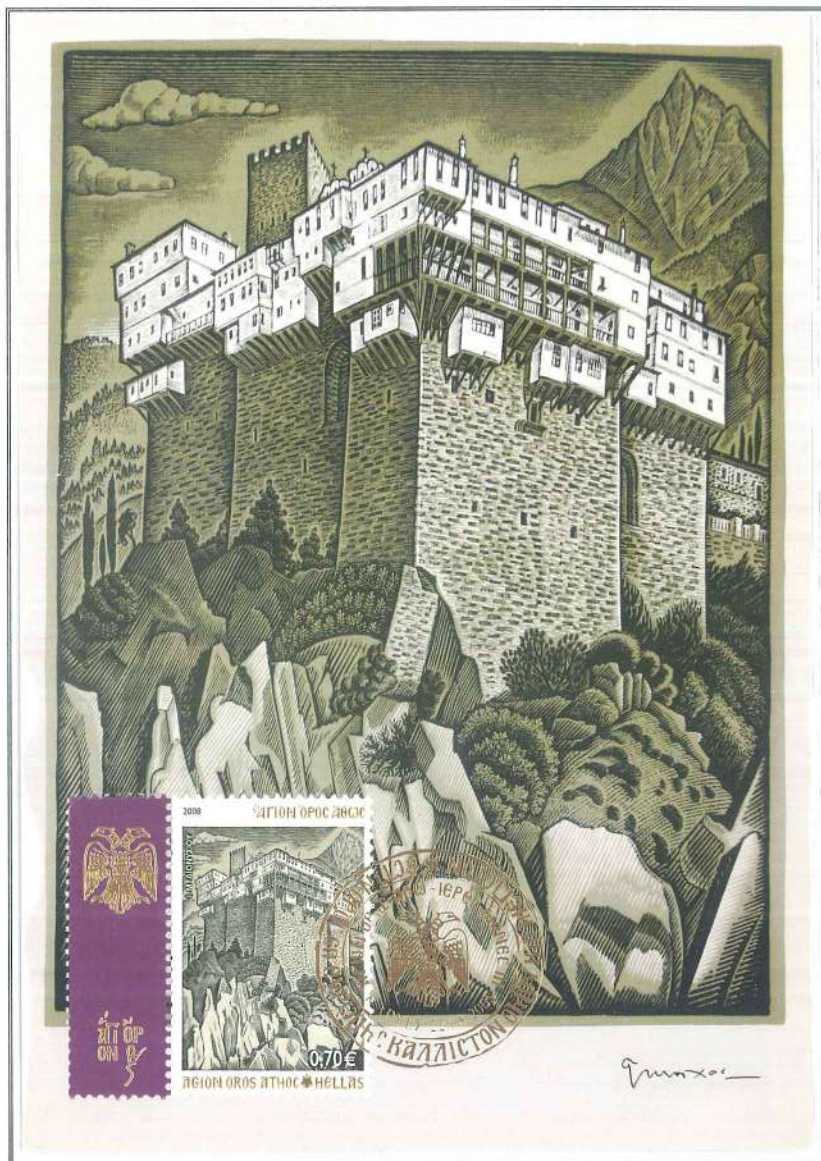
It was founded in 970 on the northwestern side of the Athonian peninsula. He was financially supported by Greek rulers of Moldowallachia. At the same time, his frescoes were also made, possibly also those by his student Theofanis Strelitza-Batha, the well-known iconographer Georges. The amazing icon was made in 1738. The Monastery has 9 chapels.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,50 E
Issued on: 04/07/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή Δοχειαριου
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Docheariou
(engraving by Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: III/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Agiou Pavlou

The Holy Monastery of Saint Paul, whose beginnings go back to the 10th century, was definitively established under this name in 1108. The last catastrophic event the Monastery suffered was the fire of 1902 and the flood of 1911. It has 15 chapels; of which Saint George it is decorated with important frescoes of the Critical School. In the library of the monastery, 564 manuscripts and banners from 19,000 publications have been stored.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E
Issued on: 22/08/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή Αγίου
Παύλου από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου
Μόσχου – Holy Monastery of Agiou
Pavlou (engraving by Georgios
Moschos)
Publisher: IV/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Dionysiou

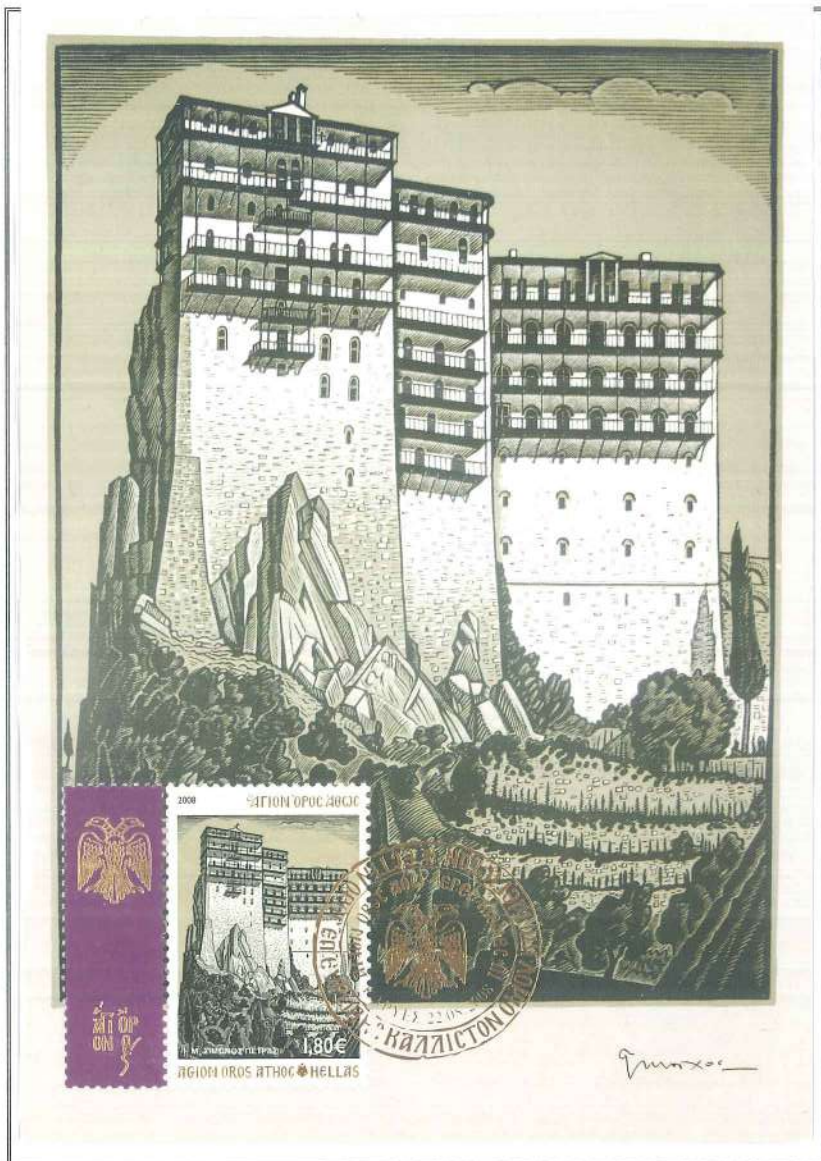
The Holy Monastery of Dionysios is in the SW part of the Agioreitiki peninsula between the Monasteries of Gregory and Saint Paul. The founder of the Monastery is Osios Dionysios from Korissos in Kastoria, who with the brave assistance of the Emperor of Trebizond, Alexios III Comnenus, enlarged the existing buildings. There are 13 chapels in the Monastery. The library has 1,100 manuscripts and 5,000 old standard books.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E
Issued on: 22/08/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή Διονυσίου
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Dionysiou
(engraving by Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: IV/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Stavronikita

Its name as the Holy Monastery of Stavronikita first appears in a document of 1012 of the Holy Monastery of Megistis Lavra. It was later in ruins, but in 1540 – 1546 it was refunded by the Patriarch of Constantinople Jeremiah I, who he wholeheartedly took care of its step-by-step reconstruction and its history with its wonderful frescoes by Theophanos of Crete. The library of the Holy Monastery has about 206 cataloged manuscripts, with prominent ones being the tetravangelo No. 43 (10th century) and the gilded psalter No. 46 (13th century).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,20 E
Issued on: 22/08/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή
Σταυρονικήτα από χαρακτικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Stavronikita (engraving by
Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: IV/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Simonos Petras

The Holy Monastery of Simonos Petra is the most impressive building of Mount Athos, built at a height of approximately three hundred meters. It was founded by Saint Simon the Myroblytis around 1257. In 1368 it was renovated and expanded by King Ioannis Ughlesis.

Three times it was seriously damaged by fire (1580, 1622, 1891). The Monastery has 4 chapels and 11 Cells in the wider area, as well as Metochia in Greece and France.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,80 E
Issued on: 22/08/2008 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. Μονή Σίμωνος
Πέτρας από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου
Μόσχου – Holy Monastery of Simonos
Petras (engraving by Georgios
Moschos)
Publisher: IV/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Philotheou

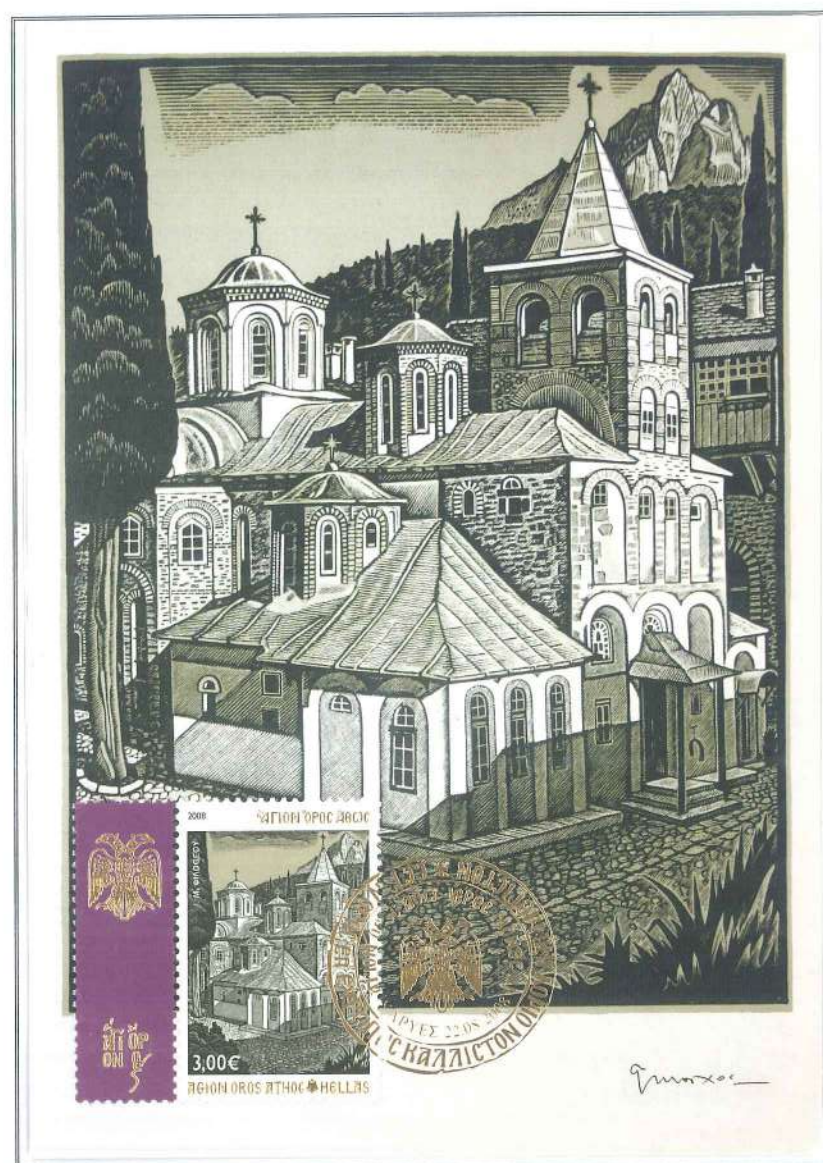
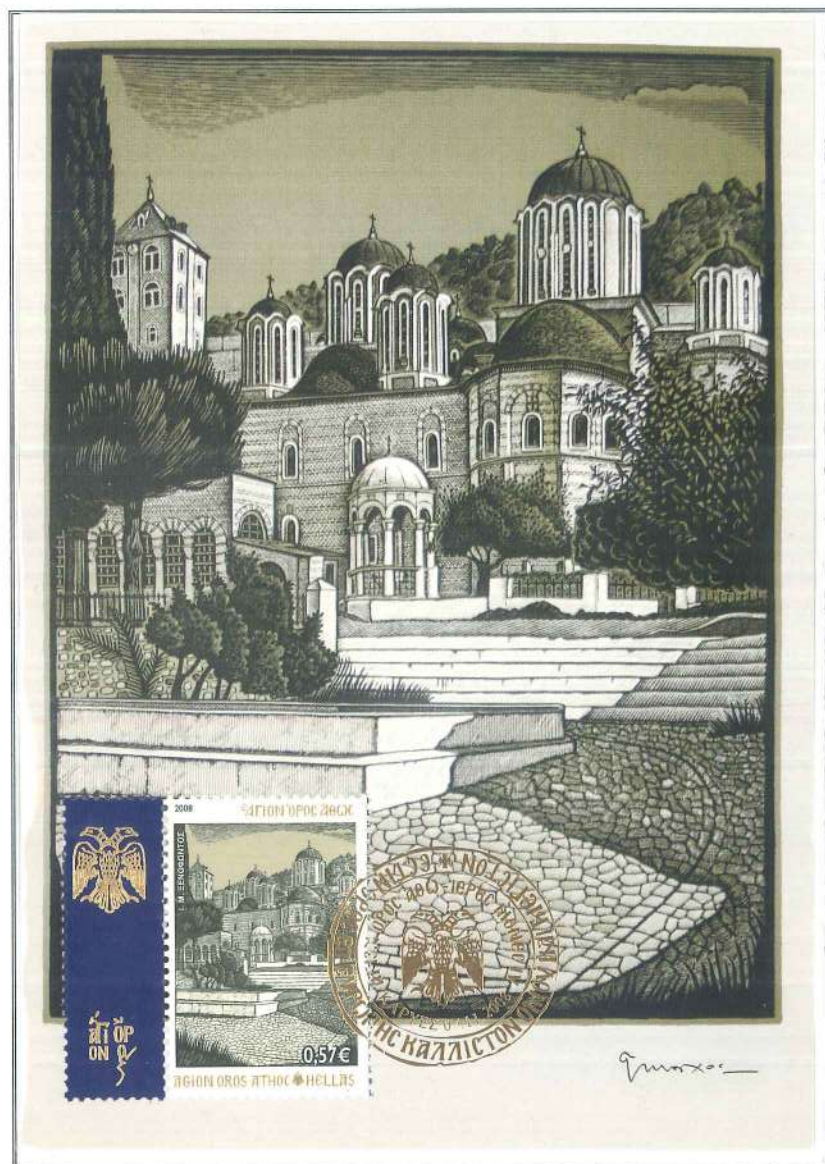
The Holy Monastery of Philotheos was founded by Saint Philotheos at the end of the 10th century. It is honored at the Annunciation of the Theotokos. It is venerated for the miraculous icon of Panagia Glykophilousa and Panaia Eleusa. In the 18th century, the apostle and hieromartyr Agios Kosmas of Aitolos lived in the monastery. The Monastery has 6 chapels and 2 chapels. The library of the Monastery contains over 300 manuscripts, 2 liturgical scrolls and more than 2,500 forms.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E

Issued on: 22/08/2008 – KARYES.

Commemorative: I. Μονή Φιλόθεου
από χαρακτηριστικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Philotheou
(engraving by Georgios Moschos)
Publisher: IV/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Xenofontos

The Holy Monastery of Xenophon is built on the western shore of Mount Athos. Its long history goes back to the 10th century. Saint Xenophon, who served as its abbot, is said to be the founder of the Monastery. It is honored in memory of Saint George. In the hierarchy of the Monasteries of Mount Athos, it occupies the 16th place. It has 11 chapels, chapels, and huts. The library of the Monastery has 600 manuscripts and 7,000 printed materials.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E

Issued on: 07/11/2008 – KARYES.

Commemorative: I. Μονή
Ξενοφώντος από χαρακτηριστικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Xenofontos (engraving by Georgios
Moschos)

Publisher: V/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Grigoriou

The Holy Monastery of Gregory was founded in the 14th century on the west coast of Athos, by the faithful ascetic Gregory. The destructive fury of the pirates as well as the fires of 1500 and 1761, from which its archives were also destroyed, put it in a difficult position. It has 12 chapels, 8 seats and 6 cells. In the library there are about 25,000 printed books, but also about 300 manuscripts, among which is the rare manuscript "Hermas's poem".

Special Pictorial Postmark

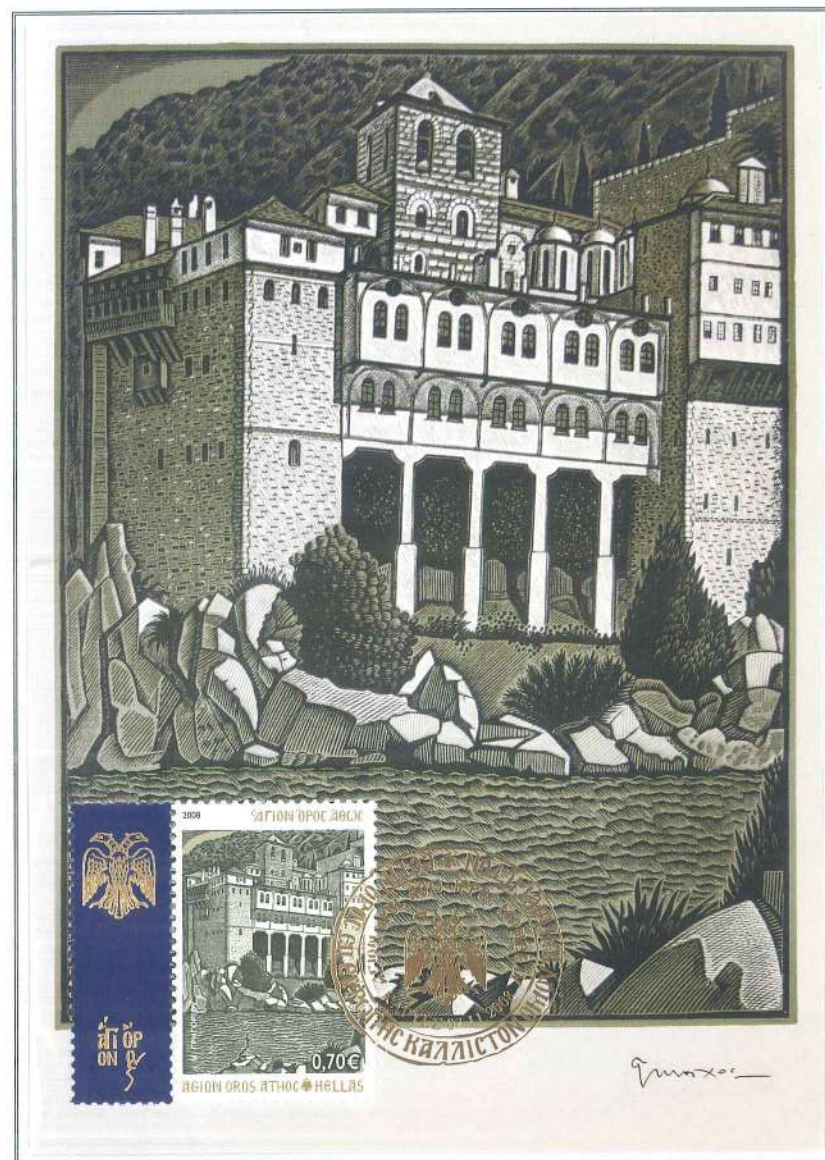
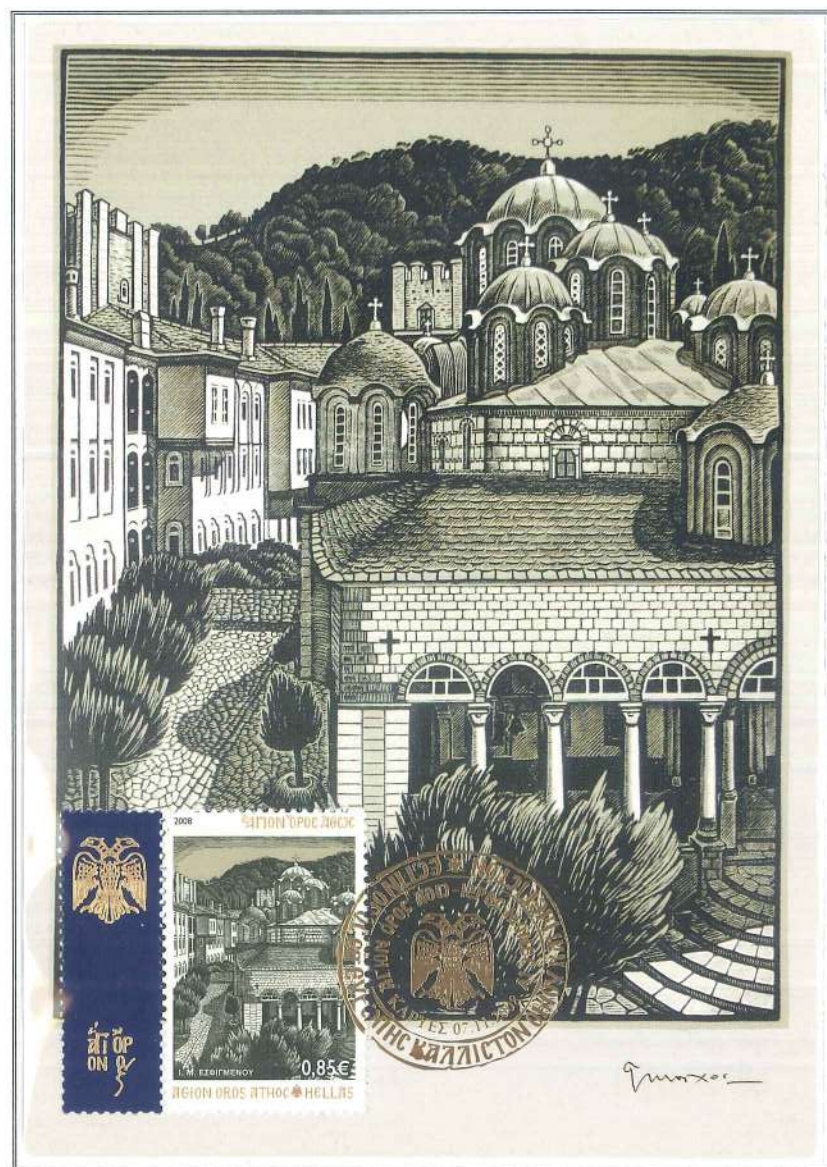
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E

Issued on: 07/11/2008 – KARYES.

Commemorative: I. Μονή Γρηγορίου
από χαρακτικό του Γεωργίου Μόσχου
– Holy Monastery of Grigoriou

(engraving by Georgios Moschos)

Publisher: V/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Esphigmenou

The Holy Monastery of Esphigmenou is located on the north side of Mount Athos. Its foundation dates to the 5th century. It is mentioned as "Slaughtered" from 998 and as "Esfighenos" in 1016. The monastery was hit by pirate raids and disasters from time to time. It has 16 chapels and ranks 18th in the hierarchy of Monasteries.

The library contains 372 manuscripts and banners from 8,000 forms.

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1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E

Issued on: 07/11/2008 – KARYES.

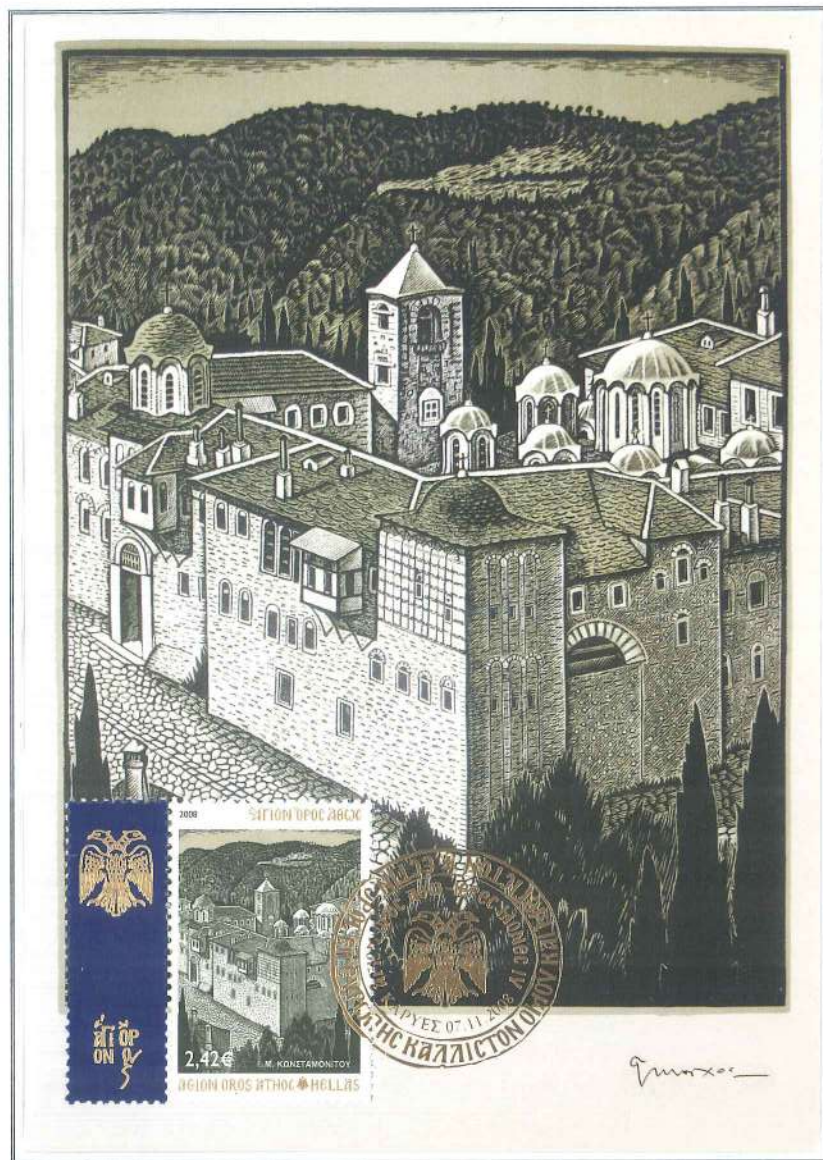
Commemorative: I. Μονή
Ξεσφιγμένου από χαρακτικό του
Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
of Esphigmenou (engraving by
Georgios Moschos)

Publisher: V/2008 by Hellenic Post

02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Konstamonitou

The Holy Monastery of Konstamonitou is built in one of the most picturesque locations of Athos. Its foundation is attributed, according to tradition, to Constantine the Great and his son Constant, from whom it received its name. The Monastery has 4 chapels and the same number of chapels. The relics of Monis include: the miraculous icons of the First Martyr Stephen, the Holy Guide and the Antiphonitria, a piece of Holy Wood, a Byzantine epitaph, vestments, and ecclesiastical paraphernalia. In its library there are 110 manuscripts and about 5,000 printed books. In the hierarchy of the Athonian Monasteries, it occupies the 20th place.

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 1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,42 E
 Issued on: 07/11/2008 – KARYES.
 Commemorative: I. Μονή
 Κωνσταμονίτου από χαρακτηριστικό του
 Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
 of Konstamonitou (engraving by
 Georgios Moschos)
 Publisher: V/2008 by Hellenic Post



02 - Monasteries in Mount Athos – Monastery of Agiou Panteleimonos

The Holy Monastery of Agios Panteleimonos - Rusikos is in the southwest of the Athos peninsula. The history of the monastery dates to the 10th century, in the Monastery of the Most Holy Theotokos of the Carpenter. In the life of the Monastery, both the Greek and the Russian elements coexist harmoniously. Of the well-known bells of the monastery, the heaviest bell of Agios Oros is 13 tons and 2.70 meters in diameter. In its library there are 1,920 manuscripts and banners from 20,000 publications. It has 15 chapels, 20 chapels and 5 cells.

Special Pictorial Postmark
 1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E
 Issued on: 07/11/2008 – KARYES.
 Commemorative: I. Μονή Αγίου
 Παντελεημονος από χαρακτηριστικό του
 Γεωργίου Μόσχου – Holy Monastery
 of Agiou Panteleimonos (engraving by
 Georgios Moschos)
 Publisher: V/2008 by Hellenic Post

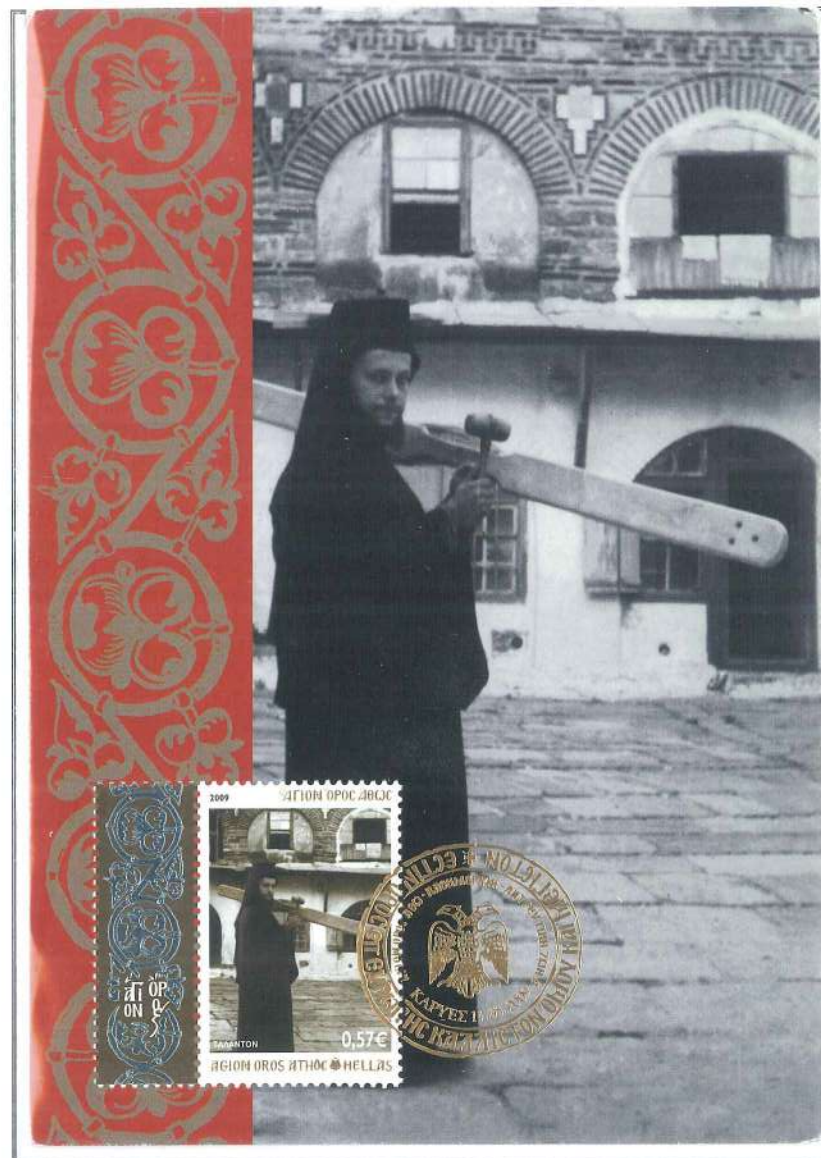
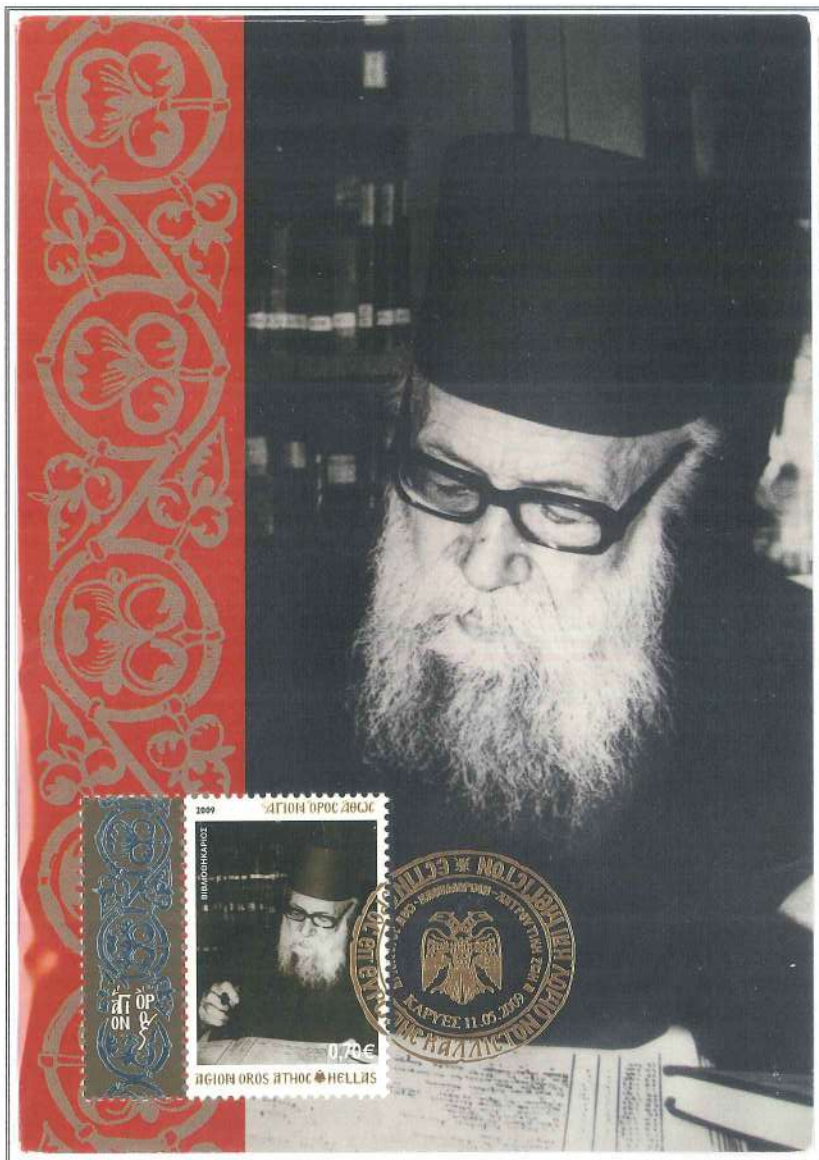
03 - Daily life in the monastery - Talanton

Talanton is a unit of mass used in antiquity by many peoples of Mesopotamia and the Mediterranean. Usually, a talanton was equivalent to the weight of water that fits in a standard amphora. Approximately a Greek ("Attic") talanton was equivalent to 26 kilograms today and was 78 cm long and 58.3 cm wide, an Egyptian with 27, a Babylon with 30.3 and a Roman with 32.3.

The Jews used the Babylonian talent, but later revised it - the heavy talent of the New Testament era would now weigh 58.9 kilograms with a length of 92,4 centimeters and a width of 70.2 centimeters.

Christ gave talent a new meaning with the Parable of the Talents, where he described hard work and the cultivation of abilities as the real property ("talanton) of man.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E
Issued on: 11/05/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Χειροταλαντο —
Φωτογραφικό αρχείο - I. M.
Παντοκράτορας
Publisher: 1/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery - Librarian

During the Middle Ages, some monasteries also functioned as "ark of knowledge" preserving ancient texts in the form of manuscripts. These manuscripts were copied by monks in the dim light of the monastic workshops, in the famous calligraphy.

If today we can enjoy Plato, Aristotle, Homer, or Thucydides, we owe it to a handful of monks. These manuscripts, in addition to their content, were also decorated with calligraphy, which made them real monuments of Byzantine art. Despite the destruction and bloodshed, they suffered, the libraries of the monasteries of Mount Athos hide a real treasure of ancient Greek knowledge and more.

The oldest and most important of all is the famous Botany of Dioskouridos (Ω75), a codex of 1000 years, a personal gift of Nikiforos Fokas to Athanasios Athonitis.

The book, kept in the library of the Great Lavra, is considered ideal for the preparation of herbal medicines.

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1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E
Issued on: 11/05/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Βιβλιοθηκάριος –
Librarian – Φωτογραφικό αρχείο - I.
M. Αγίου Παύλου
Publisher: 1/2009 by Hellenic Post

03 - Daily life in the monastery - Protepistates

According to the Charter of Mount Athos, the First or Protestant is named one of the four members of the Sacred Supervision, which is the body where decisions are made by majority, as the Protestant, among the other three Supervisors, is considered first among equals.

Only the Monasteries of Megisti Lavra, Vatopedi, Iveron, Chilandari and Dionisiy have the right to send every 5 years a monk who takes over as First or Protestant of Mount Athos.

The rest of the monasteries send a monk every 5 years, who takes on the role of Superintendent.

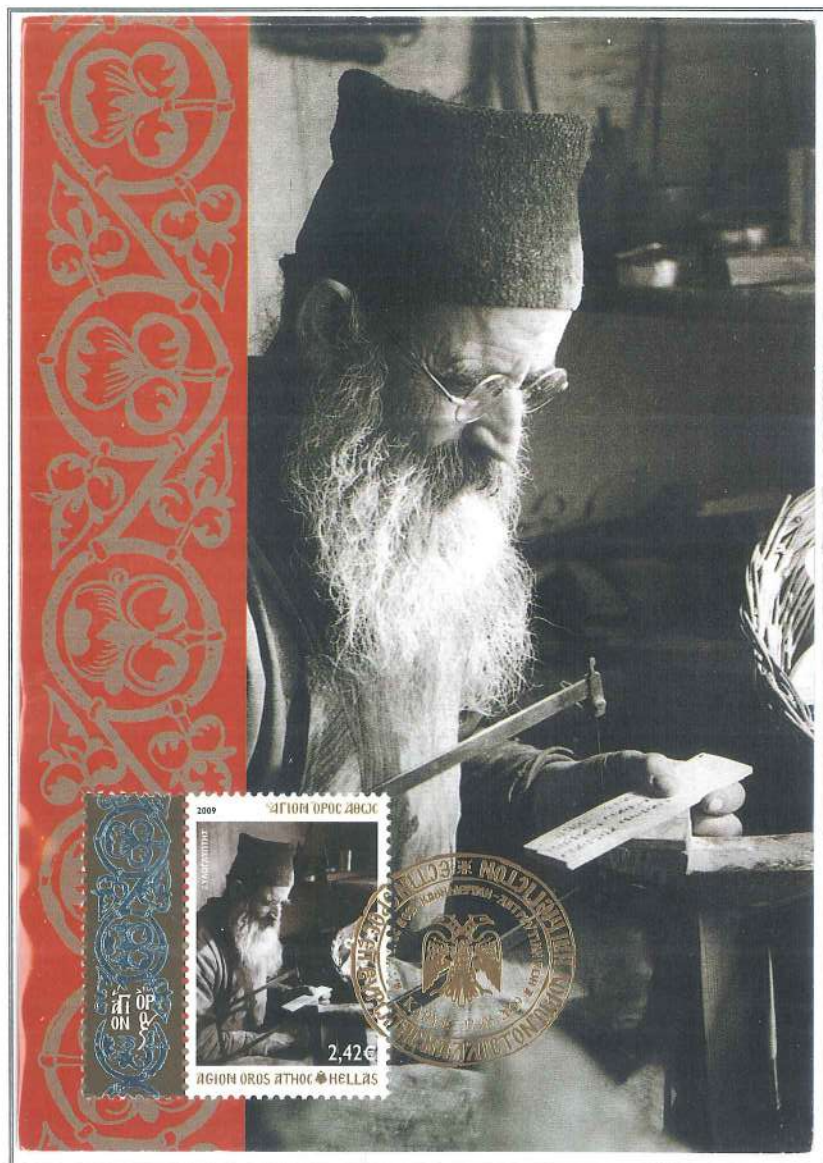
Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E

Issued on: 11/05/2009 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Πρωτεπιστατης –
Protepistates – Φωτογραφικό αρχείο
- I. Μ. Βατοπαιδιου

Publisher: 1/2009 by Hellenic Post



MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

03 - Daily life in the monastery - Wood engraver

Wonderful handmade wood carvings from Mount Athos. Unique designs with Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, the Angels, and the Saints of our church.

Wooden crosses, candles, icons, crosses of blessing and bays. The Mount Athos fathers give us wonderful wood carvings, which reflect their artistic potential, aesthetics, and sensitivity.

The wood carvings from Mount Athos impress with the richness of the composition,

their beauty, the delicacy of their processing and their originality.

In our collection there are characteristic works of Mount Athos wood carving, made of walnut, beech, poplar, birch, boxwood, and cedar.

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1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,42 E

Issued on: 11/05/2009 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ξυλόγλυπτης –
Wood engraver – Φωτογραφικό
αρχείο - I. Μ. Σίμωνος Πέτρας

Publisher: 1/2009 by Hellenic Post

03 - Daily life in the monastery - Pack Animal

According to Greek mythology, Mount Athos is associated with the batt between the giants and the Olympic gods, the leader of the first was Athos.

Athos threw a large rock against Poseidon, but failed and the rock fell into the sea, creating the mountain.

Mount Athos walking along ancient, cobbled paths that lead from one monastery to another. Mules and horses can be hired in Karyes and come with drivers who know the roads in the mountains well.

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1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E

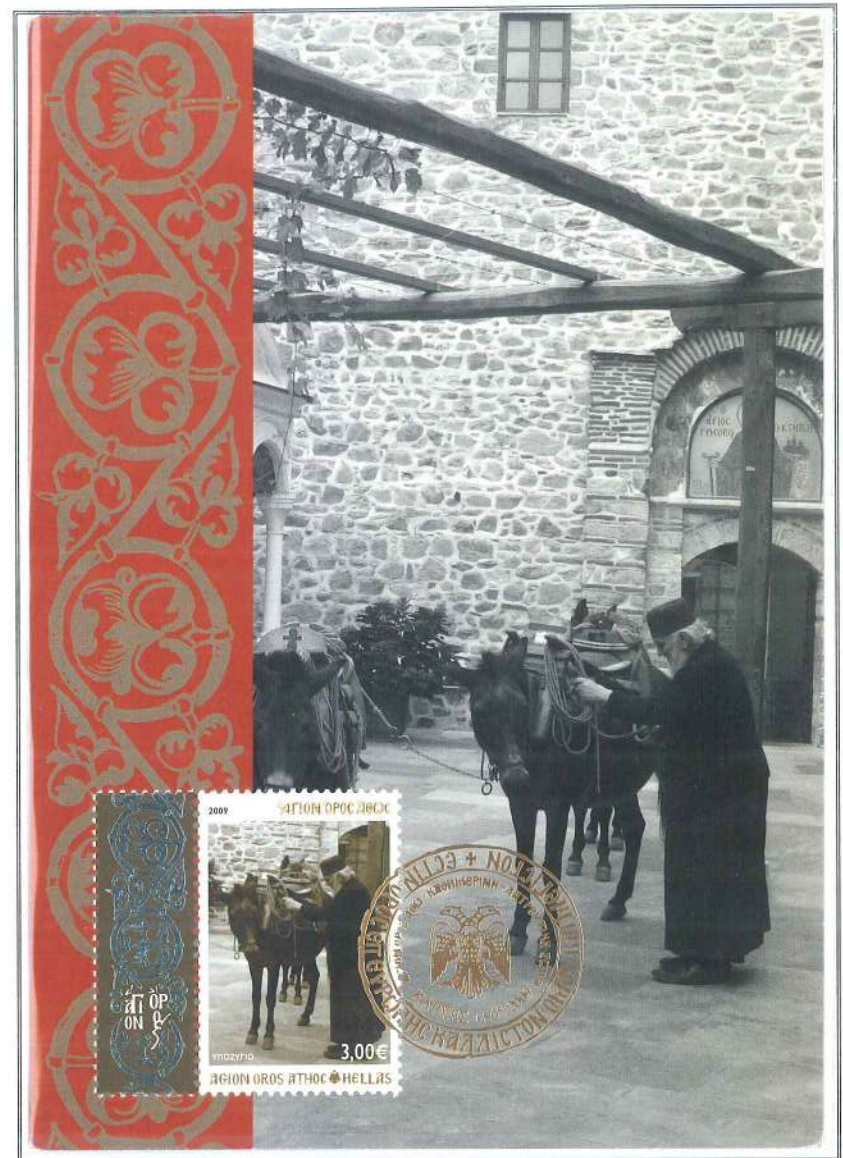
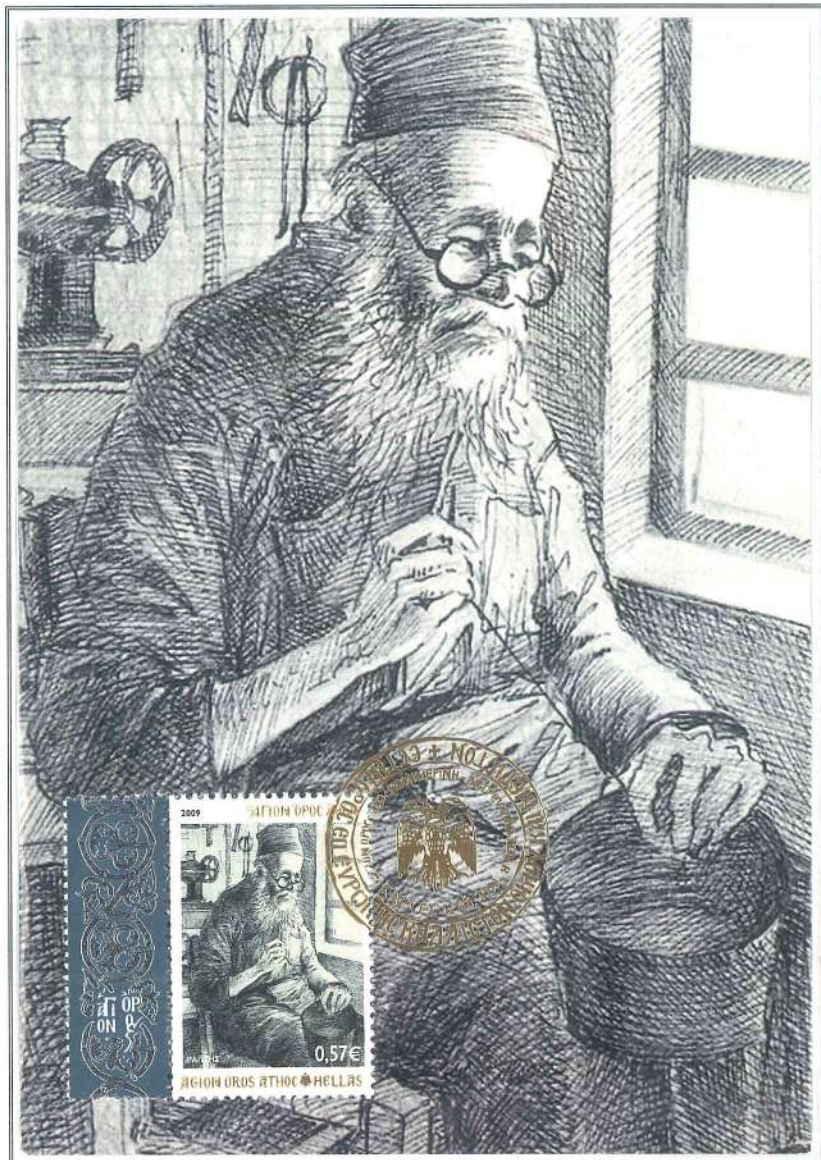
Issued on: 11/05/2009 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Υποζύγιο –

Pack Animal – Φωτογραφικό αρχείο -

I. Μ. Γρηγορίου

Publisher: I/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery - Tailor

The tailor is the Orthodox monk who sews the garments of the brethren, the garments, the woolen, white, knitted vests, who preferred the elders of Mount Athos for winter.

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1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E

Issued on: 12/06/2009 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ράπτης – Tailor –

Καλλιτεχνικό έργο του Δ. Τσιάντα,
από το βιβλίο του Ιερομ. Μάξιμου
Καυσοκαλυβίτου "Άσκητικές Μορφές
και διηγήσεις από τον Άθω"

Publisher: II/2009 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

03 - Daily life in the monastery - Bookbinder

The contribution of Mount Athos manuscripts to the cultural development of Europe is invaluable. As the librarian of the monastery of the Great Lavra, Hieromonk Nicodemus, characteristically puts it, "no one can say for sure exactly where humanity would be today without the ancient knowledge preserved in the manuscripts of the Byzantine monasteries and especially of Mount Athos. The renaissance of the West would probably be delayed for centuries."

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E

Issued on: 12/06/2008 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Βιβλιοδέτης –

Bookbinder – Καλλιτεχνικό σχέδιο Δ.

Τσιάντα, από το βιβλίο του Ιερομ.

Μάξιμου Καυσοκαλυβίτου "Ασκητές

Μορφές και διηγήσεις από το βιβλίο"

Publisher: 11/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery - Cook

The monk-cook must take care of the well-being of the Monastery.

He must taste the food, so that the body can pray to the glory of God.

The sleep of monks is minimal, and they must receive strength to perform their spiritual duties. On Mount Athos, monks rarely eat meat.

Their diet includes mainly fish, seafood, legumes, and vegetables.

Wonderful is their traditional bread while their wine that accompanies every meal is wonderful.

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1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E

Issued on: 12/06/2008 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Μαγειρείο – Cook -

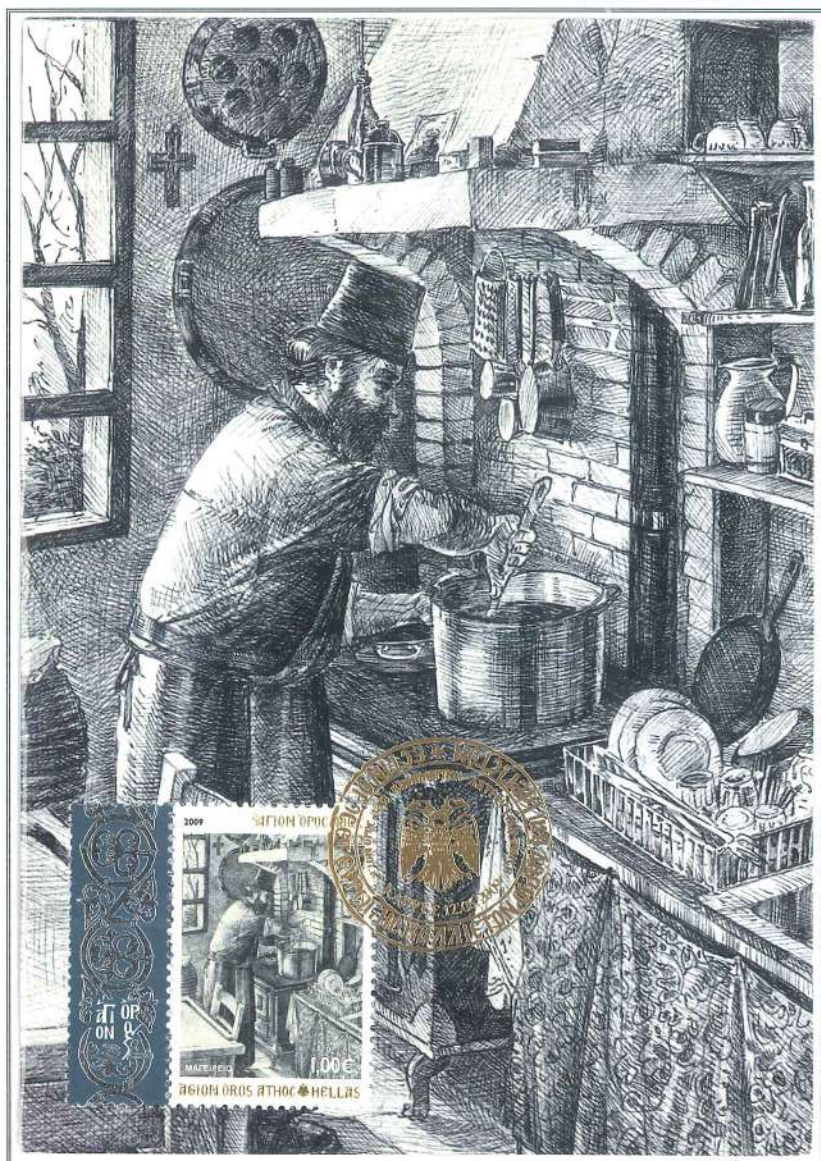
Καλλιτεχνικό σχέδιο Δ. Τσιάντα, από

το βιβλίο του Ιερομ. Μάξιμου

Καυσοκαλυβίτου "Ασκητές Μορφές

και διηγήσεις από το Αθώ"

Publisher: 11/2008 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery – Watering the flowers

In terms of flora, Mount Athos is characterized by dense vegetation. Chestnuts, beech, oak, walnuts, arbuta, etc. are abundant in abundance, as well as an infinite number of plants which from a very early age (1544) aroused the interest of botanists.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,85 E
Issued on: 12/06/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Στο πότισμα
Watering the flowers - Καλλιτεχνικό
σχέδιο Δ. Τσιάντα, από το βιβλίο του
Ιερομ. Μάξιμου Καυσοκαλυβίτου
"Άσκητές Μορφές και διηγήσεις από
το Αθώ"
Publisher: 11/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery – On the march

Walking on Mount Athos is a common thing, it is more beautiful to know it better. Lush vegetation, pristine forests, beautiful trails, streams, small waterfalls, fountains, and many wonderful beauties of the beauty of Mount Athos. The lush vegetation that covers the road surface, or paths often leads to crevices in rocks, streams and rocks that are close to roads and paths.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,30 E
Issued on: 12/06/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ράπτης – Tailor –
Καλλιτεχνικό έργο του Δ. Τσιάντα,
από το βιβλίο του Ιερομ. Μάξιμου
Καυσοκαλυβίτου "Άσκητικές Μορφές
και διηγήσεις από τον Άθω"
Publisher: 11/2009 by Hellenic Post

03 - Daily life in the monastery – The old man-Apostle with his longlines

Fotis Kontoglou: I went to Mount Athos many times. The first time I stayed for more than two months and made the acquaintance of many fathers and lay people, because there are over there also Arvanites, paragi and gemitzis who load kereste (timber) onto the ships.

"The mighty Apostle with his longlines" - Fotis Kontoglou, ink drawing, 1923.

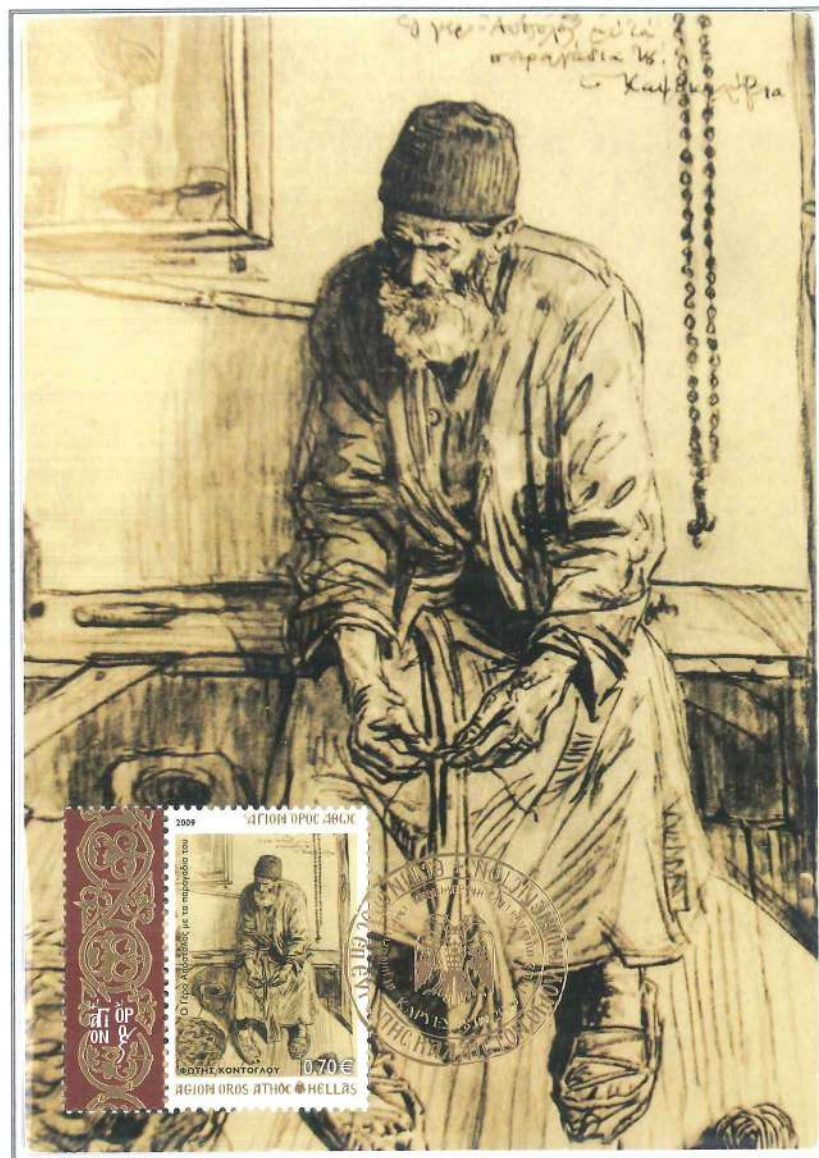
Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E

Issued on: 18/09/2009 – KARYES.

Commemorative: "Ο γερό-Απόστολος με τα παραγάδια του" – Φώτης Κόντογλου, σχέδιο με μελανι, 1923 (ιδιωτική συλλογή)

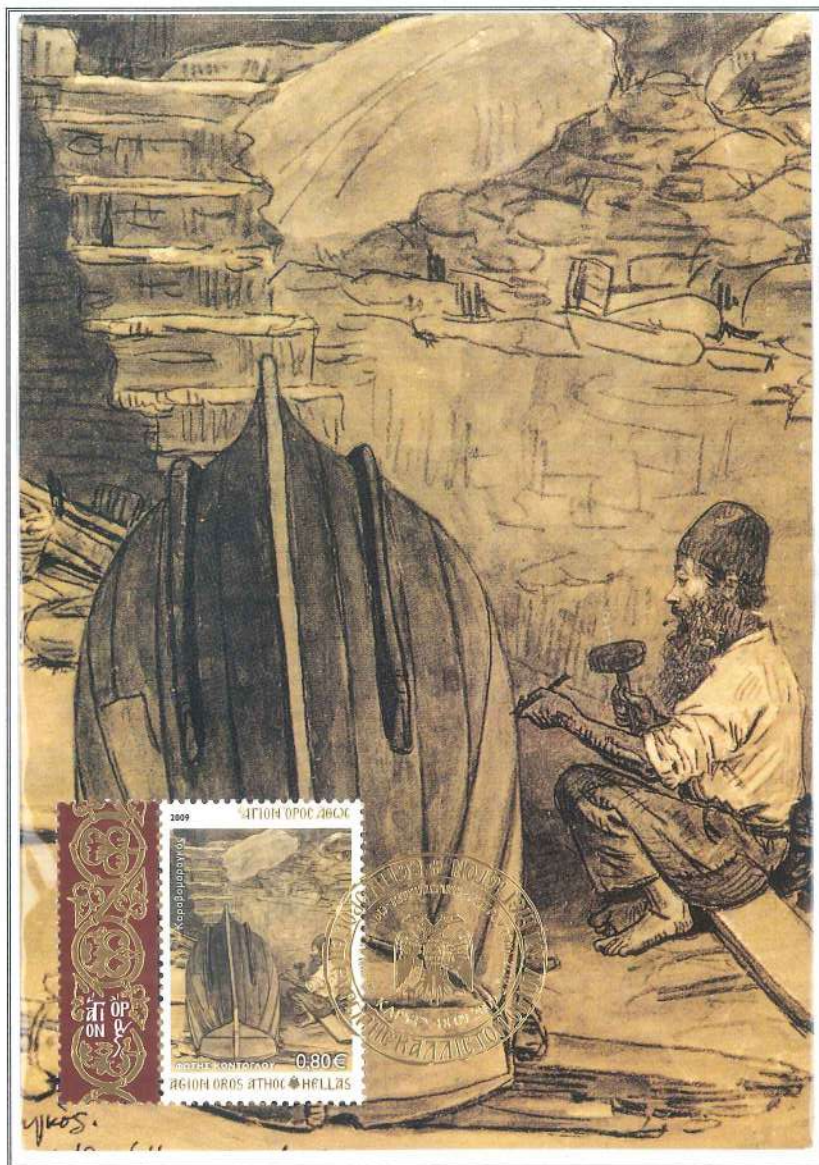
Publisher: III/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery – Boat carpenters

Boat carpenters, a profession that was mastered by monks in Mount Athos, in which the main work performed is the cutting, shaping and installation of building materials during the construction of boats.

"Boat carpenters" Fotis Kontoglou, ink drawing, 1923.



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1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E

Issued on: 18/09/2009 – KARYES.

Commemorative: "Καραβομαραγκός" – Φώτης Κόντογλου, σχέδιο με μελανι, 1923 (ιδιωτική συλλογή)

Publisher: III/2009 by Hellenic Post

03 - Daily life in the monastery – Hagiology course

Although the term painting usually refers to the art of depicting shapes on walls, the same is not true of Mount Athos. Here, in addition to the frescoes covering the interior of temples and shores - the spaces used by monks for ordinary meals - the art of painting lies in the portable icons of the cult and most characteristic in the illustrated manuscripts. In other words, any surface that participated in the life of worship could be painted, be it wall, wood or parchment and paper.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 18/09/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: “Μάθημα
Αγιογραφίας” – Θεόδωρος Ράλλης,
λάδι σε μουσαμά (μελέτη), 1885
(ιδιωτική συλλογή)
Publisher: III/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery – Monk study

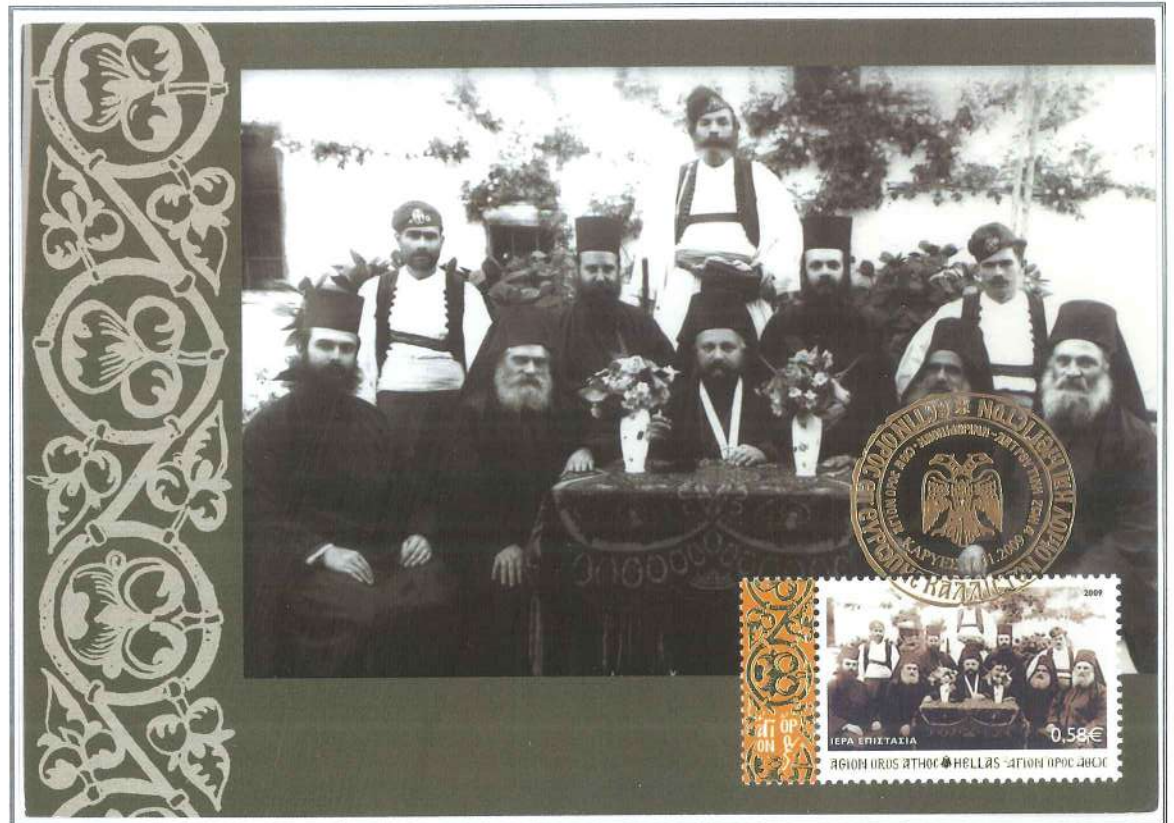
Mount Athos is a great school of Spiritual Fatherhood and a cradle of great spiritual counselors and elders, which constantly trains and highlights teachers in the service of the faithful and the Gulf.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 4,00 E
Issued on: 18/09/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: “ Μοναχός μελετά,
Δημήτρης Γιολδάσις, σχέδιο με
μολυβί, 1926 – (Συλλογή Δημοτικής
Πινακοθήκης της Καρδίτσας)
Publisher: III/2009 by Hellenic Post

**03 - Daily life in the monastery - Sacred
Chilandarin Supervision**

It is common knowledge both in the Orthodox world as well as in the Christian world in general that the Holy Land, the "vote of the Theotokos", faced in its long historical course a multitude of internal frictions and external challenges, but it always remained faithful to the fundamental rules of the solitary life. The organizational structures and the strict respect of the saintly regimes eliminated any occasional deviations from the rules of ascetic life and always strengthened the power of the saintly tradition in Agios Oros.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,58 E
Issued on: 17/11/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Χιλανδαρινή
Επιστασία, Ιεράς Κοινότητας Αγίου
Ορους, 1938 – 1939 μετά των
γραμματέων και Σευμενιδων, της
Ιεράς Κοινότητας (Φωτογραφικό
αρχείο της Ιεράς Κοινότητας)
Publisher: IV/2009 by Hellenic Post



**03 - Daily life in the monastery - The
Headmaster of the Athonia School**

Athoniada Academy or Athoniada School is a school operating in Karyes of Mount Athos. It was originally founded in 1749, during the Patriarchate of Cyril V, and was housed in a building of the Vatopedi Monastery. Although the finances of the monasteries at that time were in poor financial condition, this school was founded with the aim of spreading Greek education. One of the first leaders of the Academy was the enlightened clergyman Eugenios Voulgaris.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,70 E
Issued on: 17/11/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ο Σχολάρχης της
Αθωνιάδος Σχολής – Αρχιμανδρίτης
Αθανάσιος Παντοκρατορινός με
καθηγητές και μαθητές της Σχολής,
1936 (Φωτογραφικό αρχείο της Ι. Μ.
Παντοκράτορος)
Publisher: IV/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery - The Professor of I. M. Dionysiou, Mr. Gabriel

One of the leading figures of Athonian monasticism during the 20th century, the blessed abbot of the St. Dionysius Monastery, Gerontas Gabriel, lived through the Balkan Wars and the Asia Minor devastation, to the Epic of the '40s, the Civil War and the Cyprus tragedy.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,20 E
Issued on: 17/11/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ο Καθηγούμενος της Ι. Μ. Διονυσίου κυρός Γαβριήλ, προεξάρχων της πανήγυρεως της Ι. Μ. Ξενοφώντος μεταβαίνει στην Τράπεζα, Απρίλιος 1967. (Π. Λ. Βοκοτόπουλος, Άγιον Όρος. Φωτογραφίες 1956 – 2001, Θεσσαλονίκη 2008)
Publisher: IV/2009 by Hellenic Post



03 - Daily life in the monastery - Holy Community of Mount Athos, 1951

Holy Community - The self-government of Mount Athos lies in the fact that its administration, of its twenty Holy Monasteries, constitute the Holy Community.

Thus, the monasticism of Mount Athos began to develop as in its oldest centers in the East, passing through three phases: ascetic, communal, and coenobitic in a short time.

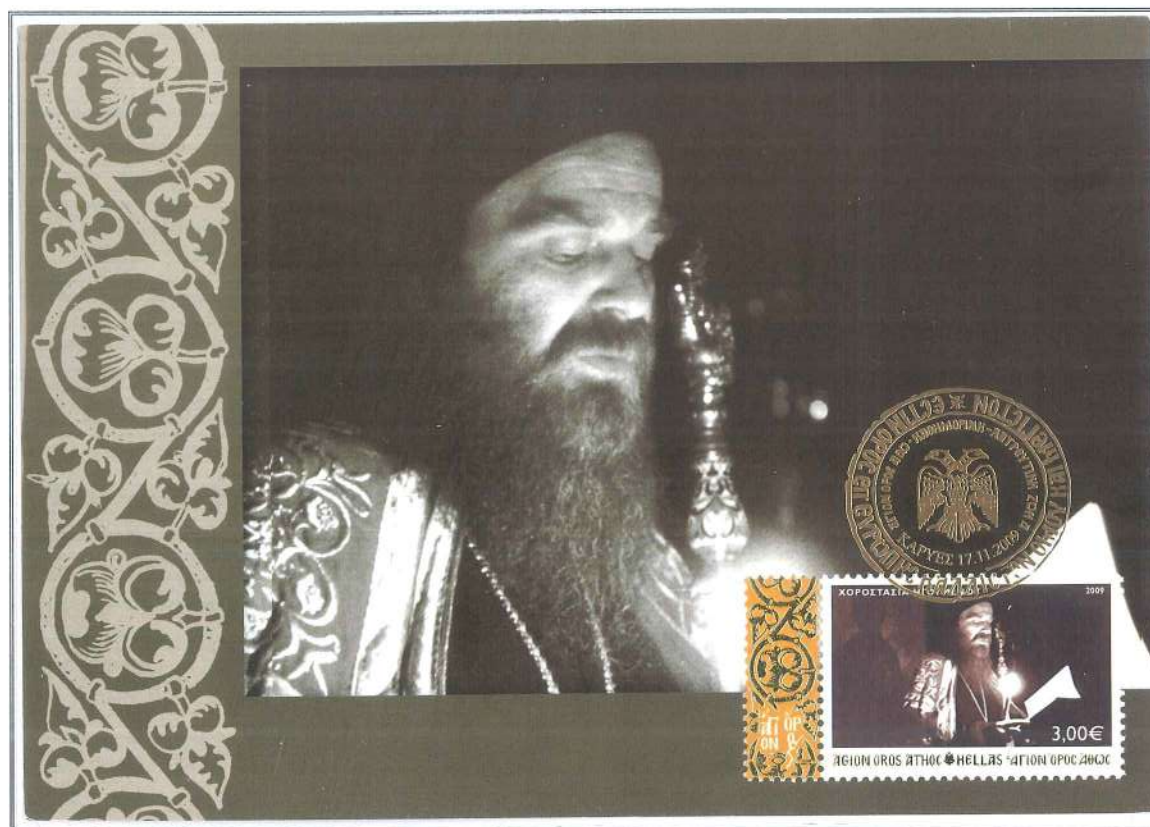
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,85 E
Issued on: 17/11/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Κοινότητα Αγίου Ορους 1951 (Φωτογραφικό αρχείο της Ι. Μ. Παντοκράτορος)
Publisher: IV/2009 by Hellenic Post



**03 - Daily life in the monastery -
Archimandrite Kyros Bissarion,**

The first abbot of the Conovian monastery was Archimandrite Bessarion, who died in 2001 at the age of 47 from cancer. Today's abbot is Elder Gabriel.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E
Issued on: 17/11/2009 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ο Αρχιμανδρίτης
κυρός Βησσαρίων, Καθηγούμενος
Ιεράς Μονής Παντοκράτορος Αγίου
Ορούς, χοροστατών 1998
(Φωτογραφικό αρχείο της Ι. Μ.
Παντοκράτορος)
Publisher: IV/2009 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – Arbutus Unedo

Mount Athos has a delightful nature, which is why it's epithet "The Garden of the Virgin Mary". Thanks to favorable topographic, climatic and soil conditions, geographical isolation, and complete absence of grazing by herds of cattle and sheep, the peninsula of Mount Athos expects a rich and diverse flora and vegetation.

Kumari'a is a small tree or shrub of Mediterranean origin. It has an excellent appearance, not only thanks to its evergreen and bright green leaves, but also thanks to an extraordinary feature: in the same plant can be seen at certain times of the year almost all plant parts of plant, including flowers, unripe as well as its ripe fruits.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Κουμαριά με
καρπούς - Arbutus Unedo
Publisher: I/2010 by Hellenic Post

04 - Flora and fauna – Viola athis

Viola athis is a purple plant specimen described by Wilhelm Becker. *Viola athis* are part of the genus *Viola* and the violet plant family. Occurs naturally in northwestern Greece.

Perennial plant that grows up to 15 cm in height, forms rhizomes.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,58 E

Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Πανσές του Άθω –

Viola athis. Mount Athos pansy.

Publisher: I/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – Cercis siliquastrum

Cercis siliquastrum, commonly known as the eose tree or the tree of Judah, is a small deciduous tree from Southern Europe and Western Asia which is noted for its fertile display of deep pink flowers in spring. This species forms a small tree up to 12 m in height and 10 m in width. Deep pink flowers are produced growing one year or older, including the trunk, in spring. Also, the flowers show a bloom with five free petals and fused sepals. The tree produces long flat pods that hang vertically. The flowers are edible and re said to have a sweet-acid taste.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E

Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Κουτσουπιά
ανθισμένη, – *Cercis siliquastrum*.
Judas tree.

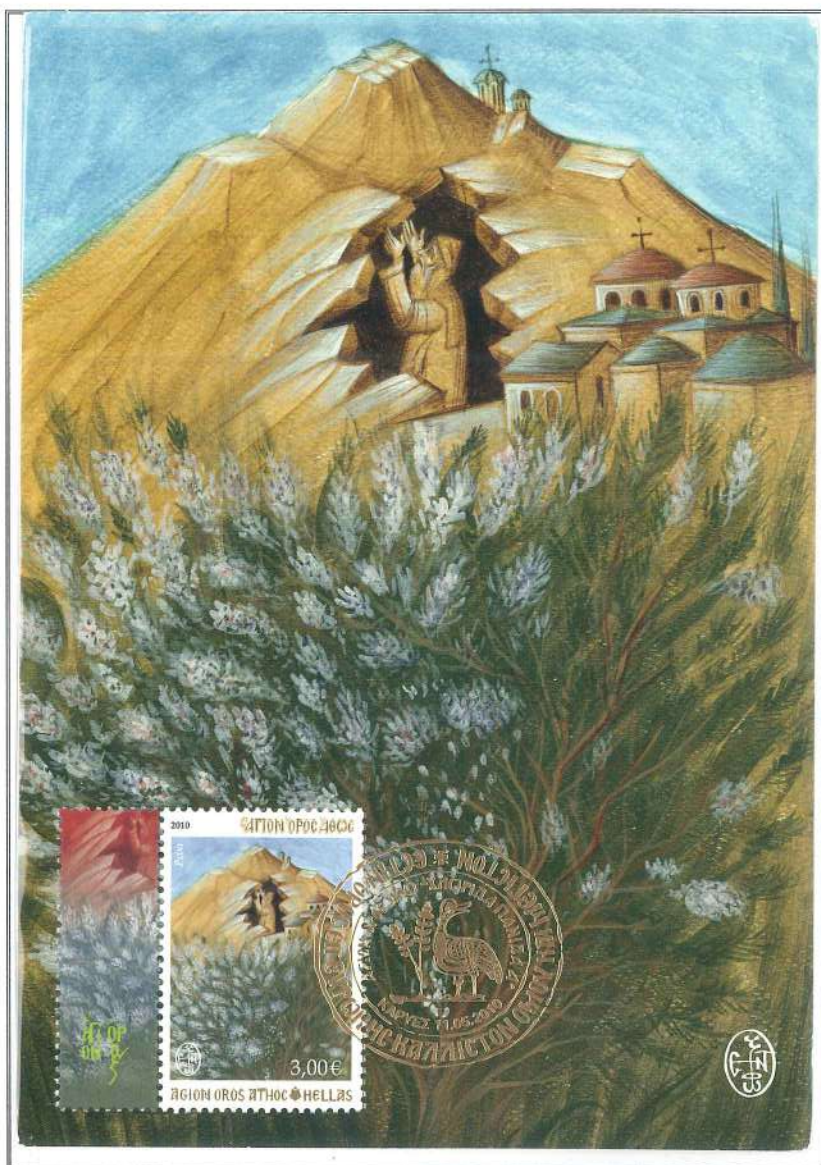
Publisher: I/2010 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

04 - Flora and fauna – *Hyla arborea*

The European tree frog (*Hyla arborea*) is a small tree frog. As traditionally defined, it was found in most of Europe, Asia, and North Africa, but based on molecular genetic data and other data, some of the populations previously included in it are now known as separate species (e.g., *H. intermedia* of Italy and nearby, *H. molleri* of the Iberian Peninsula, *H. meridionalis* of parts of southwestern Europe and northern Africa, and *H. orientalis* of parts of Eastern Europe, Turkey and the Black Sea and Caspian Sea regions), restricting tree frog in European tree frog in Europe from France to Poland and Greece. European tree frogs are small. They are slender, with long legs. Their dorsal skin is smooth, while the skin of the abdomen is granular. Their dorsal skin may be green, gray, or tanned depending on their temperature, humidity, or mood. Their belly skin has a white color, and the skin of the back and abdomen is separated by a dark brown side band from the eyes to the groin.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,43E
Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Δενδροβάτραχος -
Hyla arborea. European tree frog.
Publisher: 1/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – *Erica arborea*

Erica arborea, tree heather, is a plant species with (angiosperma) in the heather family Ericaceae, native to the Mediterranean basin and Ethiopia, Kenya, and Tanzania in East Africa.

It is also cultivated as an ornamental. *Erica arborea* is a straight evergreen shrub or small tree with a typical outdoor height of about 7 m, especially in Africa, but most typically 1–4 m in gardens.

It has needle-like dark green leaves and numerous small white flowers with a honey-bell-shaped scent.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E
Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ρεϊκι – *Erica arborea*. Heath
Publisher: 1/2010 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

04 - Flora and fauna – Silene Orphanides Boiss

Type *Silene orphanidis* Boiss is a rare local endemic that occurs only in places around the top of Mount Athos and at an altitude ranging from 1700 to 2000 m. It grows on rocky slopes and crevices of limestone rocks in semi-shaded places. The species is not in immediate danger due to the special conditions prevailing on Mount Athos.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 21/06/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Σίληνο του
Ορφανίδη - *Silene Orphanides Boiss*.
Publisher: II/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Nightngale.

The common nightingale, rufous nightingale or simply nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*), is a small passerine bird best known for its powerful and beautiful song. It was formerly classed as a member of the thrush family Turdidae but is now more generally considered to be an Old-World flycatcher, Muscicapidae. It belongs to a group of more terrestrial species, often called chats. "Nightingale" is derived from "night" and the Old English galan, "to sing". The genus name *Luscinia* is Latin for "nightingale" and *megarhynchos* is from Ancient Greek *me-gas*, "great" and *rhunkhos* "bill".

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,58 E
Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Αηδόνη – *Luscinia megarhynchos*. Nightngale.
Publisher: II/2010 by Hellenic Post

04 - Flora and fauna – *Capreolus capreolus*

The fauna of Mount Athos is as interesting as the flora. Here we will meet deer, roe deer, hedgehogs, wild boar, eagles, hawks, crows, seagulls, and herons. The roe deer is found throughout Europe and Asia Minor. *Capreolus capreolus* is classified as a telemetacarpalian. It is a small deer with a long neck minus a mane, relatively large ears (12-14cm), a rudimentary tail (2-3 cm) and no preorbital glands. In the winter the coloration ranges from grayish brown to dark brown. A large white caudal patch present. In summer, they are reddish to red brown.

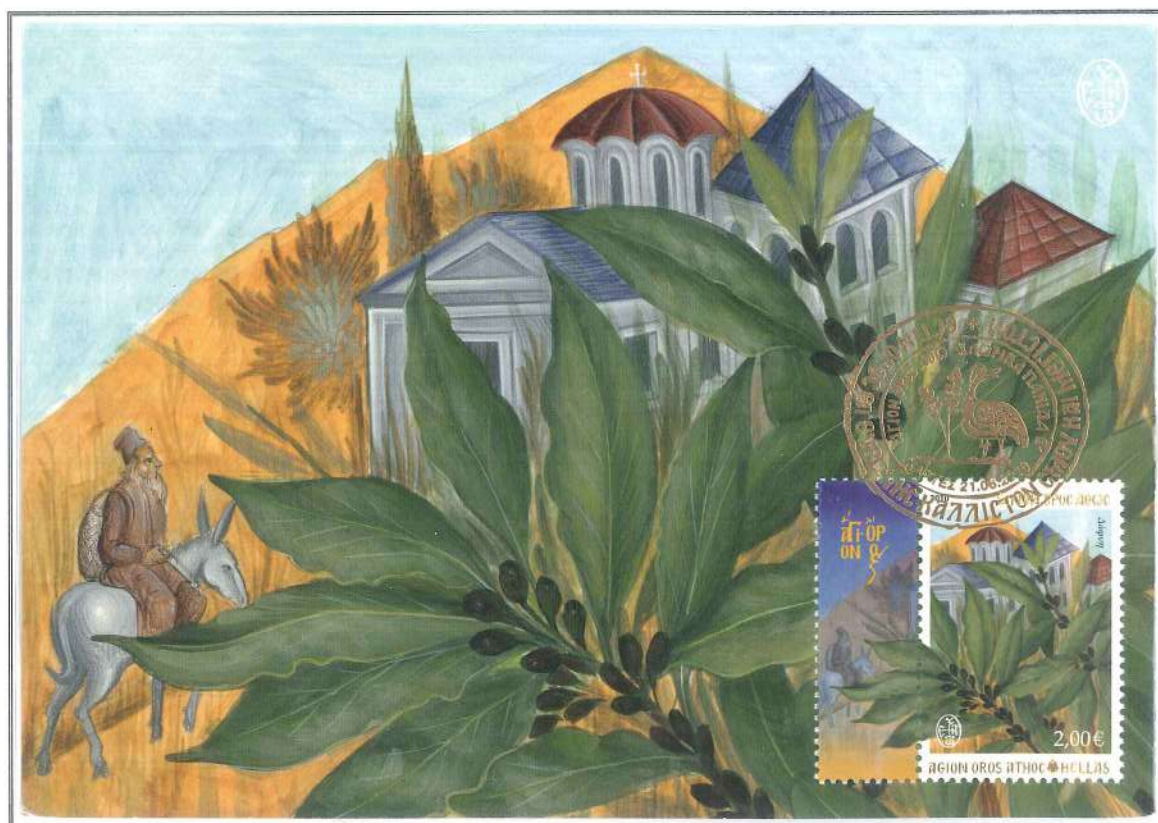
Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E
Issued on: 21/06/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ζαρκάδι –
Capreolus capreolus. European roe deer.
Publisher: II/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – *Laurus nobilis*.

Laurus nobilis is an aromatic evergreen tree or arge shrub with green, glabrous smooth leaves, in the flowering plant family Lauraceous. It is native to the Mediterranean region and is used as bay leaf for seasoning in cooking. Its common names include bay tree (esp. United Kingdom), bay laurel, sweet bay, true laurel, Grecian laurel, or simply laurel. *Laurus nobilis* figures prominently in classical Greco-Romano culture.

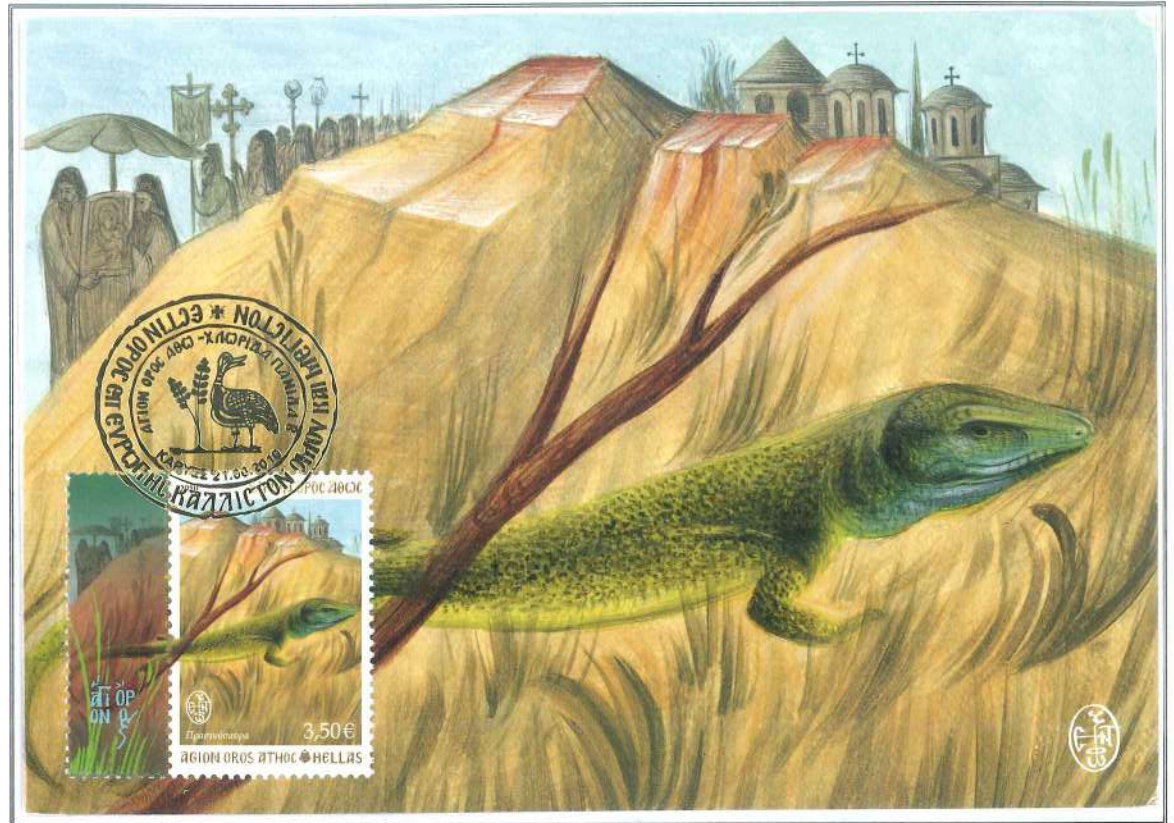
Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E
Issued on: 11/05/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Βαγιά Δαφνόφυλλα
– *Laurus nobilis*. Bay laurel.
Publisher: II/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – *Lacerta viridis*

The European green lizard (*Lacerta viridis*) is a large lizard distributed across European midlatitude from Slovenia and eastern Austria to as far east as the Black Sea coasts of Ukraine and Turkey. It is often seen sunning on rocks or lawns or sheltering amongst bushes. The lizard reaches up to 15 cm (5.9 in) from the tip of the muzzle to the cloaca. The tail can be up to twice the length of the body, total length is up to 40 cm. This lizard sometimes sheds its tail (autotomy) to evade the grasp of a predator, regrowing it later.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,50 E
Issued on: 21/06/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Πρασινόσαυρα –
Lacerta viridis. European green lizard.
Publisher: II/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – *Charaxes jasius* -
Butterfly

Charaxes jasius is a butterfly of the family Nymphalid on the island of Crete, and the Mount Athos in Greece. The upper sides of the wings are dark brown with orange margins and the hindwings bring two short tails, where there are a few blue markings. The underside of the wings is reddish-brown with a series of darker bands edged with white or gray. The orange marginal band is also present on the undersides of the wings, and it is preceded by a white transversal band.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,58 E
Issued on: 16/09/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Πεταλούδα –
Charaxes jasius. Linnaeus 1766.
Butterfly
Publisher: III/2010 by Hellenic Post



MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

04 - Flora and fauna – Aquila chrysaetus. Golden eagle

The golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) is a bird of prey living in the Northern Hemisphere. It is the most widely distributed species of eagle.

Like all eagles, it belongs to the family Accipitridae. They are one of the best-known birds of prey in the Northern Hemisphere.

These birds are dark brown, with lighter golden-brown plumage on their napes. Immature eagles of this species typically have white on the tail and often have white markings on the wings. Golden eagles use their agility and speed combined with powerful feet and large, sharp talons to hunt a variety of prey, mainly hares, rabbits, and marmots and other ground squirrels.

Golden eagles maintain home ranges or territories that may be as large as 200 km².

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E

Issued on: 16/09/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Χρυσαιετός – Aquila Chrysaetus. Golden eagle.

Publisher: III/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – Mountain tea

This aromatic medicinal plant belongs to the Lamiaceae family. In the Mediterranean region, which seems to be the place of origin of the plant, have been recorded over 100 different species of the genus *Sideritis*. The produced tea with the name "Mountain Tea" has many beneficial properties, which are due to the constituents of the essential oil (flavonoids). The mountain tea is preferred especially in the winter months because of its beneficial effects on colds and inflammations of the upper respiratory system, properties considerably strengthened by the addition of the Athonite chest honey.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E

Issued on: 16/09/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Τσάι βουνού Μπετονίκο – Sideritis athena papan. Mountain tea.

Publisher: III/2010 by Hellenic Post

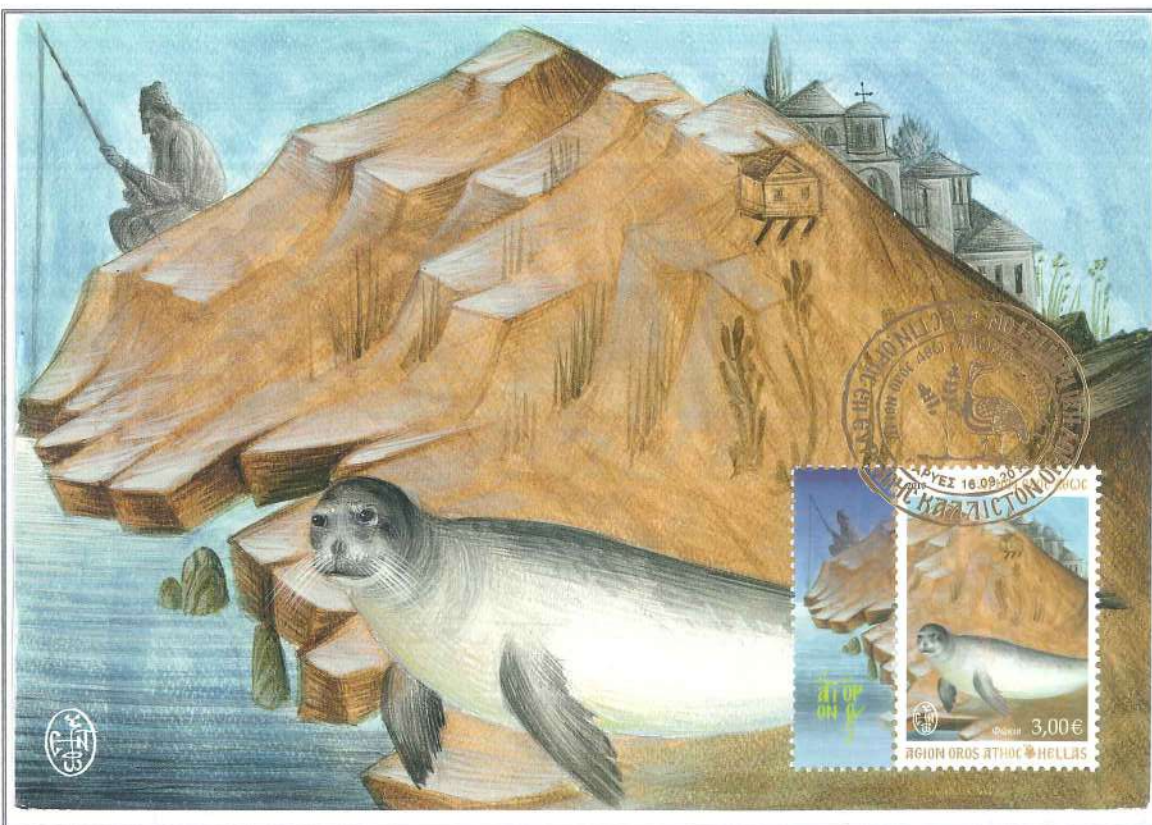
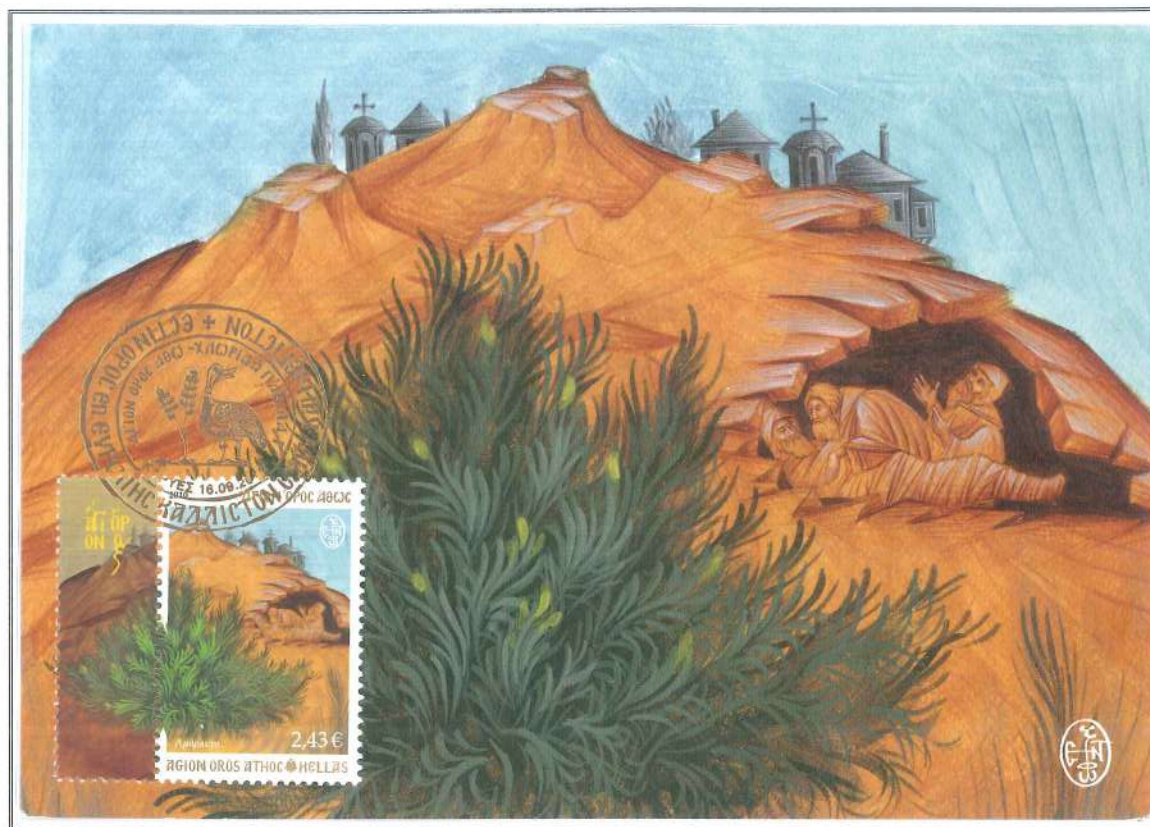
04 - Flora and fauna – Helichrysum sibthorpii. Amaranth.

Helichrysum sibthorpii was first found by Sibthorp and Bauer on their ascent of Mt Athos on 11 August 1787, and subsequently described as *Gnaphalium virgineum*, aptly named after the Holy Virgin, the only woman on Athos.

When later transferred to the genus *Helichrysum*, it had to change epithet for nomenclatural reasons and is now named after its discoverer.

It is a rare local endemic, confined to crevices limestone cliffs in the upper 100 m of the Holy Mountain.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,43 E
Issued on: 16/09/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Πεταλούδα –
Helichrysum sibthorpii. Amaranth.
Publisher: III/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – Mediterranean monk seal.

The Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) is a monk seal belonging to the family Phocidae. As of 2015, it is estimated that fewer than 700 individuals survive in three or four subpopulation in the Mediterranean, (especially) in the Aegean Sea, the archipelago of Madeira and the Cabo Blanco area in the northeastern Atlantic Ocean.

It is believed to be the world's rarest pinniped species.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 3,00 E
Issued on: 16/09/2010 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Πεταλούδα –
Mediterranean monk seal.
Publisher: III/2010 by Hellenic Post

04 - Flora and fauna - Castanea vesca. Sweet chestnut

Sweet chestnut is a deciduous tree which can reach 35m when mature and live for up to 700 years. They belong to the same family as oaks and beeches.

The bark is grey-purple and smooth and develops vertical fissures with age. The twigs are purple-brown, and buds are plum, red-brown, and oval.

They can develop vast girths which can reach up to 2m in diameter. The leaves are about 16–28 cm long, 5–9 cm wide and oblong with a pointed tip and a serrated or toothed edge. The leaves are quite glossy and there are about 20 pairs of prominent parallel veins. After pollination by insects, female flowers develop into shiny, red-brown fruits wrapped in a green, spiky case. The trees begin to bear fruit when they are around 25 years old.

Special Pictorial Postmark

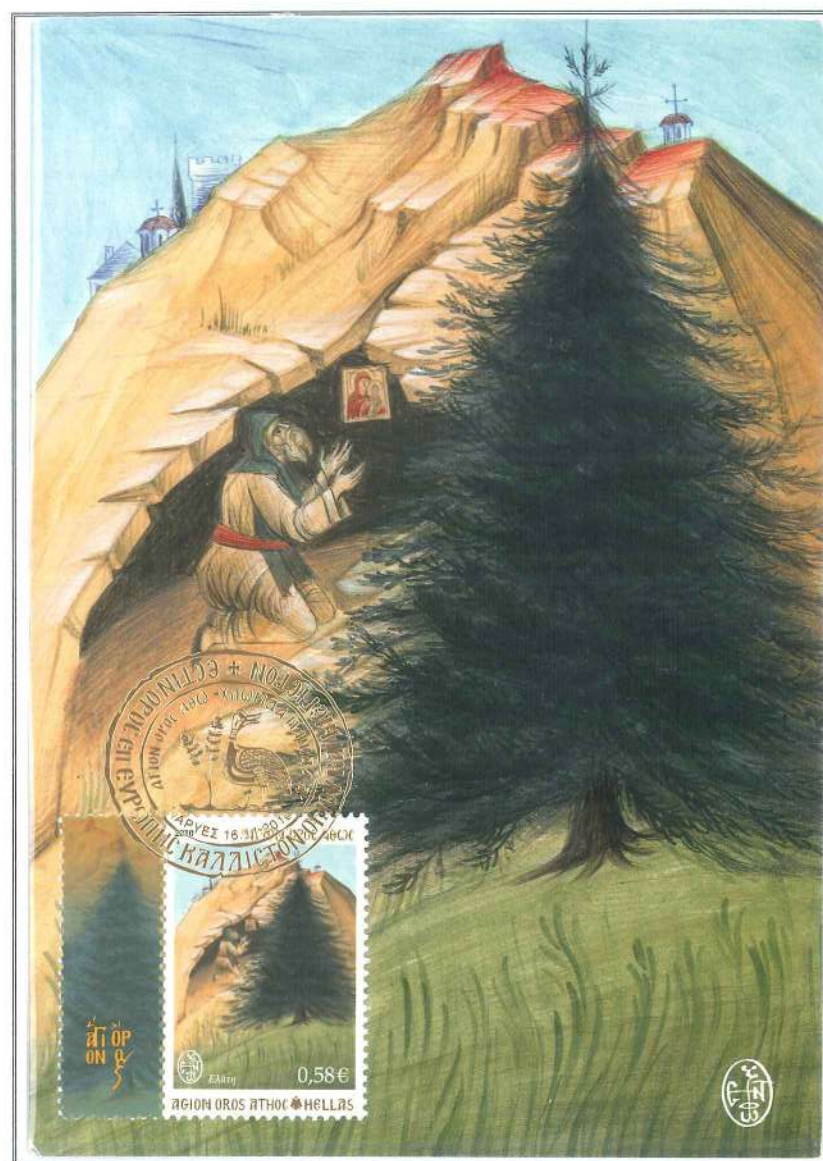
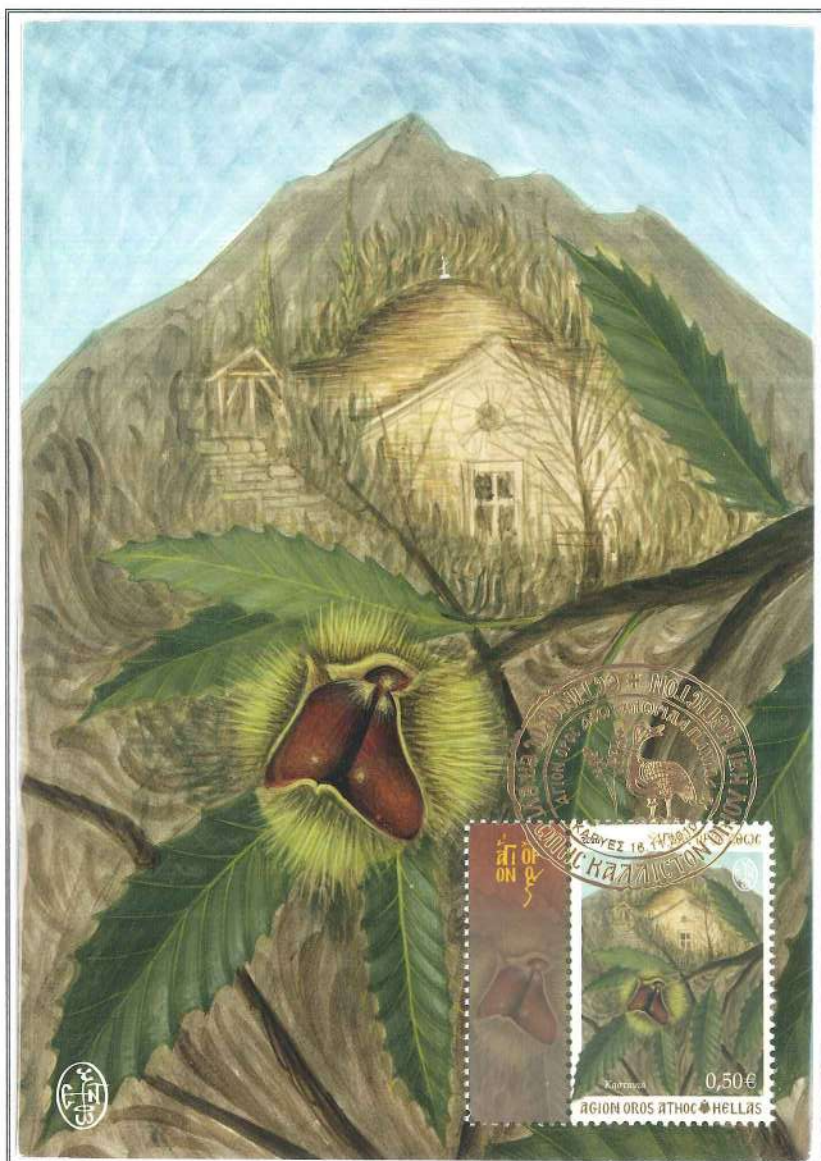
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E

Issued on: 16/11/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Καστανιά –

Castanea vesca. Sweet chestnut.

Publisher: IV/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – Abies pseudo-Cilicia Matf. Fir.

Abies cilicica, also known as Cilician fir or Taurus fir, is a species of conifer in the family Pinaceae. *Abies cilicica* and *Cedrus libani*, together with *Acer hyrcanum* subsp. *tauricum* and *Sorbus torminalis* subsp. *orientalis*, are vthe predominant trees in the phytocoenosis Abeti-Cedrion. They grow at altitudes of 800m to 2100m. Cilician fir is a tall, narrow coniferous species of tree, that grows to mature heights of (25 - 35 m) tall, with a trunk up to (210 cm) in diameter, measured at breast height, with a narrow, conical crown.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,58 E

Issued on: 16/11/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ελατή – *Abies pseudo-Cilicia Matf. Fir.*

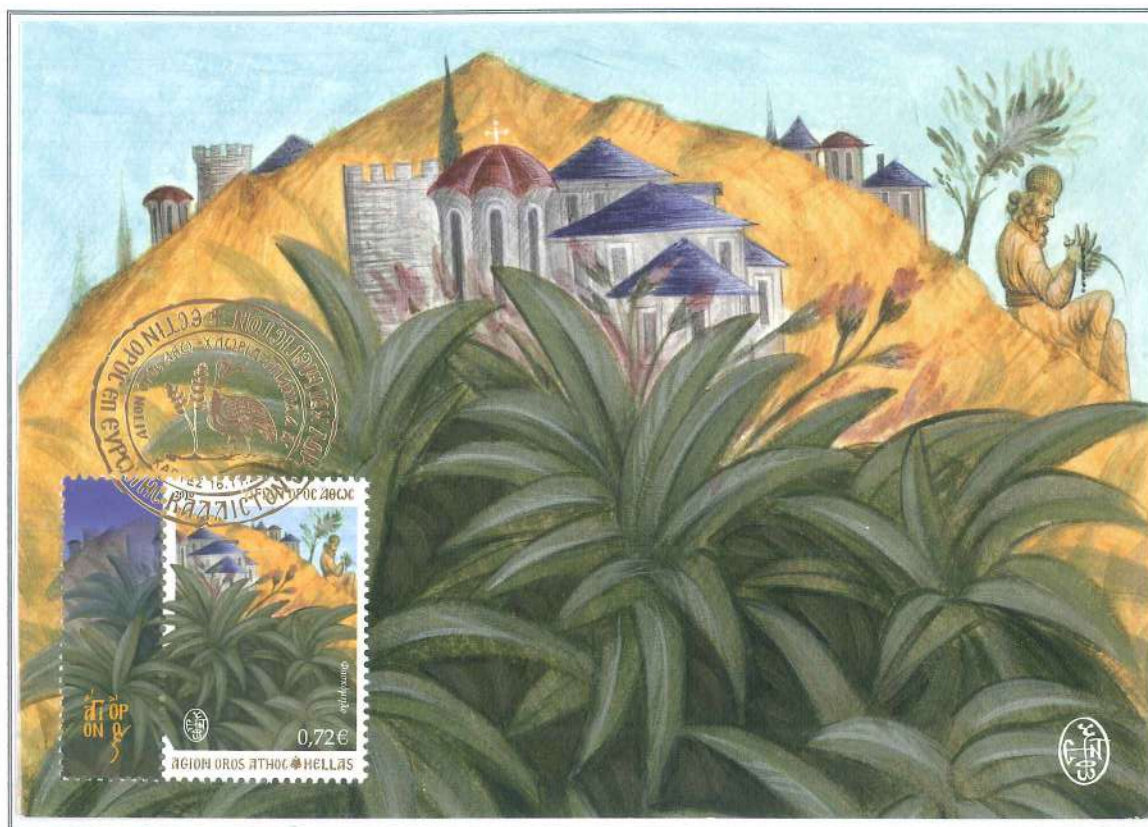
Publisher: IV/2010 by Hellenic Post

04 - Flora and fauna – *Salvia officinalis*. Sage.

Salvia officinalis, the common sage, is a perennial, evergreen subshrub, with wood stems, grayish leaves, and blue to purplish flowers.

It is a member of the mint family Lamiaceae and native to the Mediterranean region, though it has been naturalized in many places throughout the world. It has a long history of medicinal and culling use, and in modern times it has been used as a naturalized ornamental garden plant.

The common name "sage" is also used for closely related species and cultivars.



Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E

Issued on: 16/11/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Φασκόμηλο

Αλισφακιά – *Salvia officinalis*. Sage.

Publisher: IV/2010 by Hellenic Post



04 - Flora and fauna – *Sus scrofa*. Wild boar

The wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), also known as the wild swine, common wild pig, Eurasian wild pig, or simply wild pig, is a suid native to much of Eurasia and North Africa and has been introduced to the Americas and Oceania. The species is now one of the widest-ranging mammals in the world, as well as the most widespread suiform. The ancestral forms of the European and Asian subspecies are estimated to have diverged from each other between 500,000 and one million years ago. Then around 8000 years ago, modern pigs (*Sus domesticus*) were domesticated in multiple sites.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E

Issued on: 16/11/2010 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Αγριογούρουνο –

***Sus scrofa*. Wild boar.**

Publisher: IV/2010 by Hellenic Post

05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Megiste Lavra.

The Catholic Church of the Holy Monastery of Megistis Lavra is an emblematic building for the history of Mount Athos, as it is the first of the large Catholic churches built on the peninsula, effectively inaugurating the form of monasteries we know today in the history of Mount Athos. Also, it is about a building dated exactly in 963.

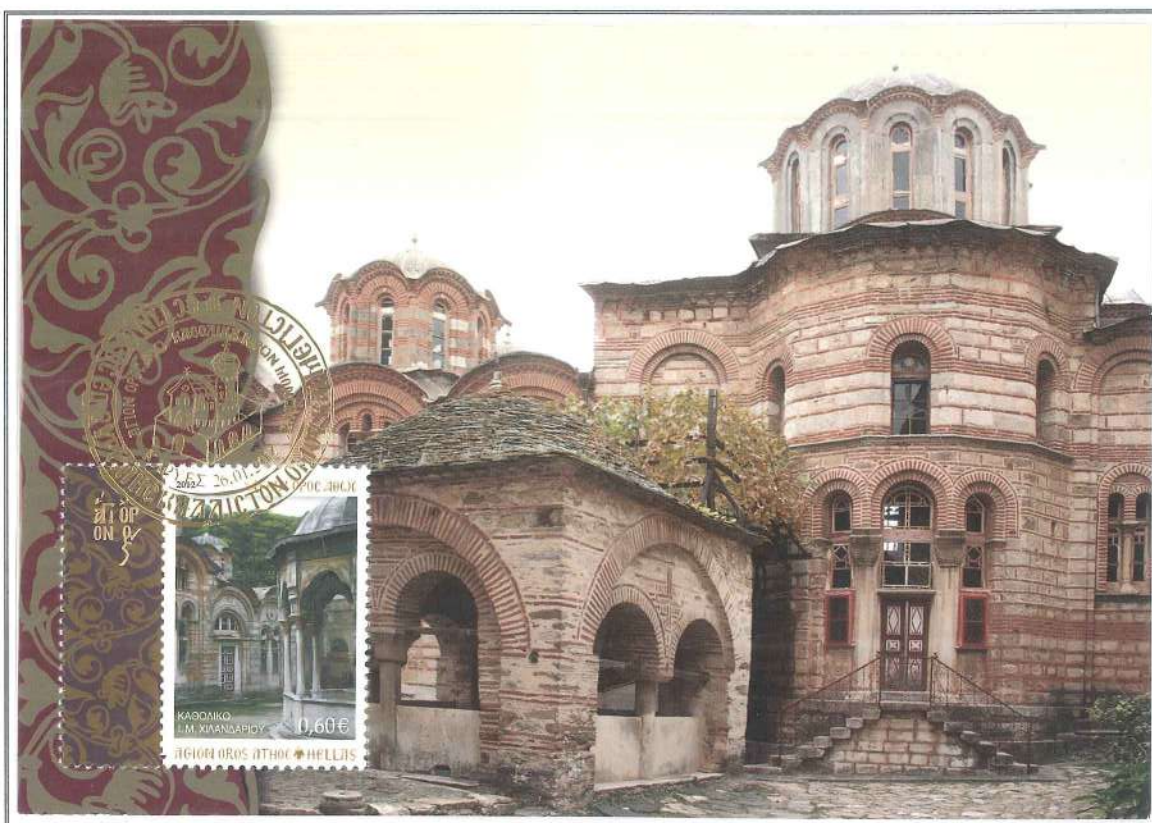
There are four appendices: in the first, the Iznik tile decoration of the main church is developed, in the second, a constitution of churches with lite pillars is listed, in the third, the theme of the marble decoration of the temple is fully developed, and in the fourth, the temples with cylindrical drum.



Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 26/01/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Μέγιστης Λαύρας – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Megiste Lavra.
Publisher: 1/2012 by Hellenic Post

05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Chilandari.

The Catholic Church of the Hilandariou Monastery was built around 1293 by Stefanos Urosh Milutin and is dedicated to the entry of the Virgin Mary. It is one of the most elegant temples of Mount Athos. From the original, the magnificent white marble floor with a large cross in the middle, surrounded by bands of mosaics of different rocks, is preserved. The frescoes that decorate the Catholics of the monastery are related to the Macedonian school and are by the painters Eutichios and Michael.



Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E
Issued on: 26/01/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Χαλανδρίου – Catholicon of the H. M.
of Chilandari
Publisher: 1/2012 by Hellenic Post

05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Iveron.

The Catholic Church of the Holy Monastery of Iveron, dedicated to the Dormition of the Virgin, began to be built in 984, finished after 1019 and rebuilt in the early 16th century.

It is in the eastern part of the great courtyard and follows the form of the Byzantine saint style. From the old Catholic church, the beautiful marble panel with various geometric shapes and an inscription of the Georgian founder Georgios, its third Abbot, is preserved. Here the two-headed capitals, in second use, which are found on the columns of the main Temple, stand out.

The frescoes of the Catholicon belong to different periods, from the 16th to the 19th century, so we also have a painting of them. Of interest are the post-Byzantine temple, carved in wood, with its rich floral decoration.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,75 E
Issued on: 26/01/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Ίβηρων – Catholicon of the H. M. of
Iveron.
Publisher: 1/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Dionisiou

The Catholic Church of the Dionysiou Monastery, named after Genesios the Forerunner, was built shortly before the middle of the 16th century (1537 - 1547) during the abbotship of Mattheios. Dionysiou Monastery has fourteen chapels. The frescoes of the Catholicon are by George, a student of Theofanis, as well as the frescoes of the Catholicon (1547) as well as the frescoes with the famous scenes of the Apocalypse located in the corridor outside the coast, as well as the holy sacristy and the rich historical library of the Monastery.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E
Issued on: 26/01/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Διονύσου – Catholicon of the H. M. of
Dionisiou
Publisher: 1/2012 by Hellenic Post



**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Vatopaidi.**

The catholicon was built in the tenth century in the Athonite style. It is dedicated to the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The beautiful Catholicon is dedicated to the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin and was built in the 10th century.

Its oldest murals (although painted in the 18th and 19th centuries) date from the 14th century.

The Catholicon still retains some mosaics from the Byzantine period.

There are nineteen chapels in and around the monastery proper, with five within the catholicon.



Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 26/01/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Βατοπεδίου – Catholicon of the H. M.
of Vatopaidi.
Publisher: 1/2012 by Hellenic Post

**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Protaton**

Protato is the name of the cathedral located in the center of Karia on Mount Athos. The temple, which is the oldest surviving on Mount Athos, is dedicated to the Dormition of the Virgin. It is best known for the relics it houses, such as the icon of the Panagia Axion Esti. The construction of the church in its current form was done in 962, a year before the foundation of the first Catholic church of the Great Lavra. The temple was built by the Cathedral of the Elders, the governing body of the monastery at that time, when it moved its headquarters there, the name prototo is due to the name of the governor of thchair who was Protos.



Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,20 E
Issued on: 26/01/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Πρωτάτου – Catholicon of the H. M. of
Protaton.
Publisher: 1/2012 by Hellenic Post

05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Koutloumousiou.

The Catholicon of the monastery, built in 1370, was frescoed in 1540, except for the narthex, which was frescoed in 1744.

On the left side of the strict Catholicon is the chapel of Our Lady of Awesome Protection, where there is a wonderful icon - the patron saint of the monastery. It was founded under Emperor Alexios I Comnenus at the end of the 11th century.

The name was given by Kallistos Koutloumos of Seljuk origin, the first abbot of the Monastery.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 20/03/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Κουτλουμουσίου – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Koutloumousiou.
Publisher: 11/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Pantocrator.

The Catholicos of Pantokratoros is dedicated to the Transfiguration of the Savior.

It holds as a great treasure the miraculous icon of Panagia Gerontissa.

On the north side of the church is the chapel of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.

The tombs of the two builders are located inside the Catholic Church, which was painted in the 14th century with frescoes of the Macedonian school.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E
Issued on: 20/03/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Παντοκράτορος – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Pantocrator.
Publisher: 11/2012 by Hellenic Post



**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Xeropotamou.**

The church of Xiropotamos is dedicated to the Forty Martyrs.

Among the relics kept in the Catholic Church is the largest piece of Sacred Wood in the world (It is 31 cm long, 16 cm wide and 25 cm thick).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 20/03/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Ξηροποταμού – Catholicon of the H.
M. of Xeropotamou.
Publisher: 11/2012 by Hellenic Post



**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Zographou.**

The new Catholic Church of Zografou built in 1801 is dedicated to Saint George and was painted in 1817, while the narthex was built in 1840.

Visitors to the monastery should see the Catholic church with the handmade icon of Saint George, the monument of the 26 martyr painters located in the courtyard of the Monastery but also the library with the parchments of the 12th-13th centuries.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,50 E
Issued on: 20/03/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Ζωγράφου – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Zographou.
Publisher: 11/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Docheiariou.

The Catholic Church of I.M. Dochiariou belongs to the Athonian or Agioreite type of church, i.e. it is a complex cruciform inscribed tetragonal church, with a central dome and two smaller ones in the lateral compartments of the sanctuary (protest and diaconal), with lateral choirs and two narthexes, the inner one of which (simple) is tetragonal with two domes on the side aisles.

It was founded in 1568 and is named after Archangels Michael and Gabriel.

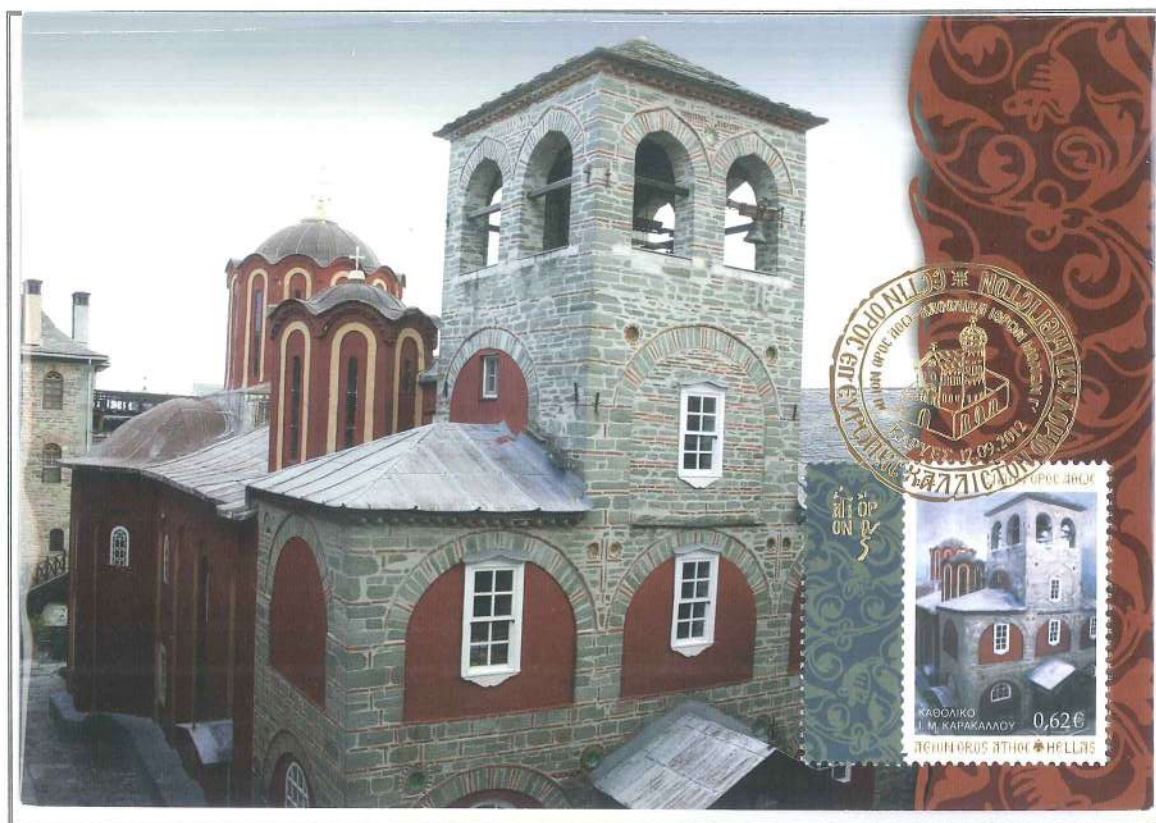
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E
Issued on: 20/03/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Δοχειαρίου – Catholicon of the H. M.
of Docheiariou.
Publisher: II/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Karakallou.

The catholicon of the monastery of Caracalla is dedicated to the First Apostles Peter and Paul. It was founded in 1548 and finished in 1563. At the beginning of the 18th century, it underwent a small renovation. In 1710 the spire was added and four years later its exonartekas.

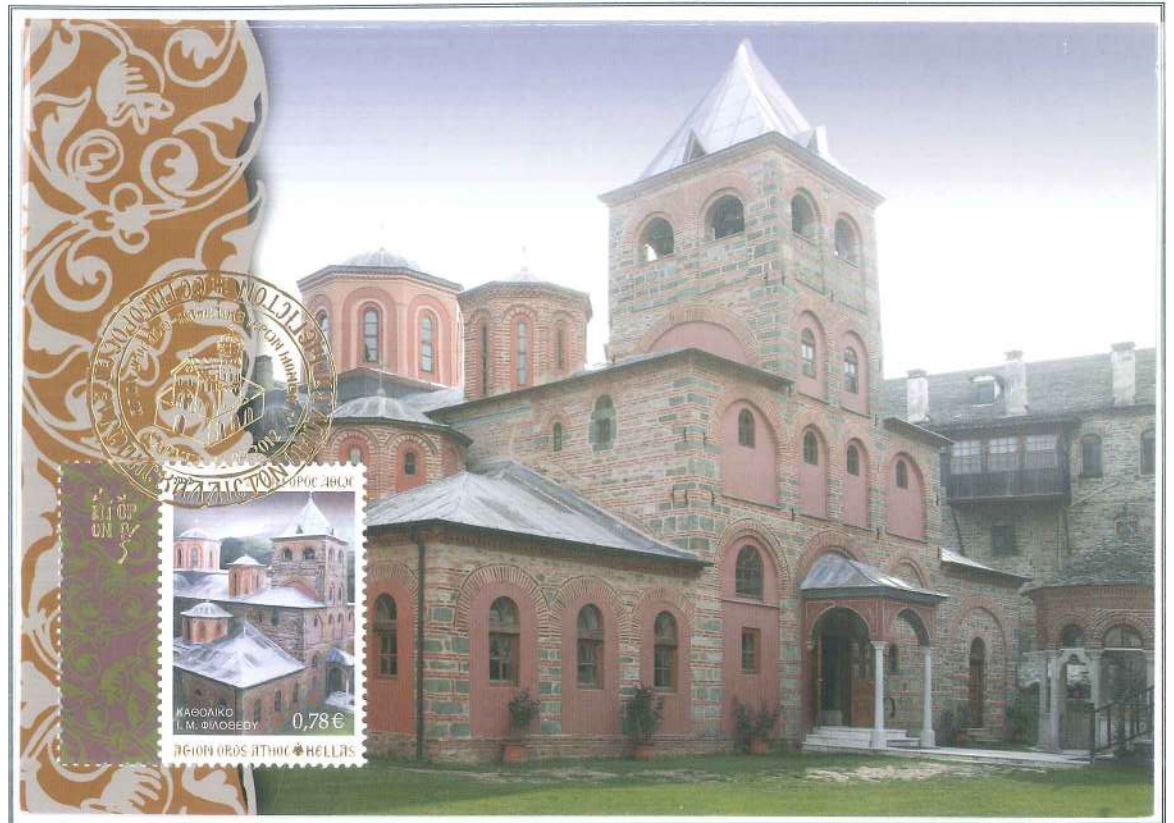
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,62 E
Issued on: 12/09/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Καρακάλλου – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Karakallou.
Publisher: III/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Philotheou.

The Catholic Church of Philotheu was built in 1746 on top of the old one that had fallen and is commemorated in the Annunciation of the Virgin. Philotheos Monastery was founded in the 10th century by Saint Philotheos. The monastery used to be called Fteris Monastery. The Catholic Church was built in 1746 on top of the old one that had fallen and is commemorated in the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary.

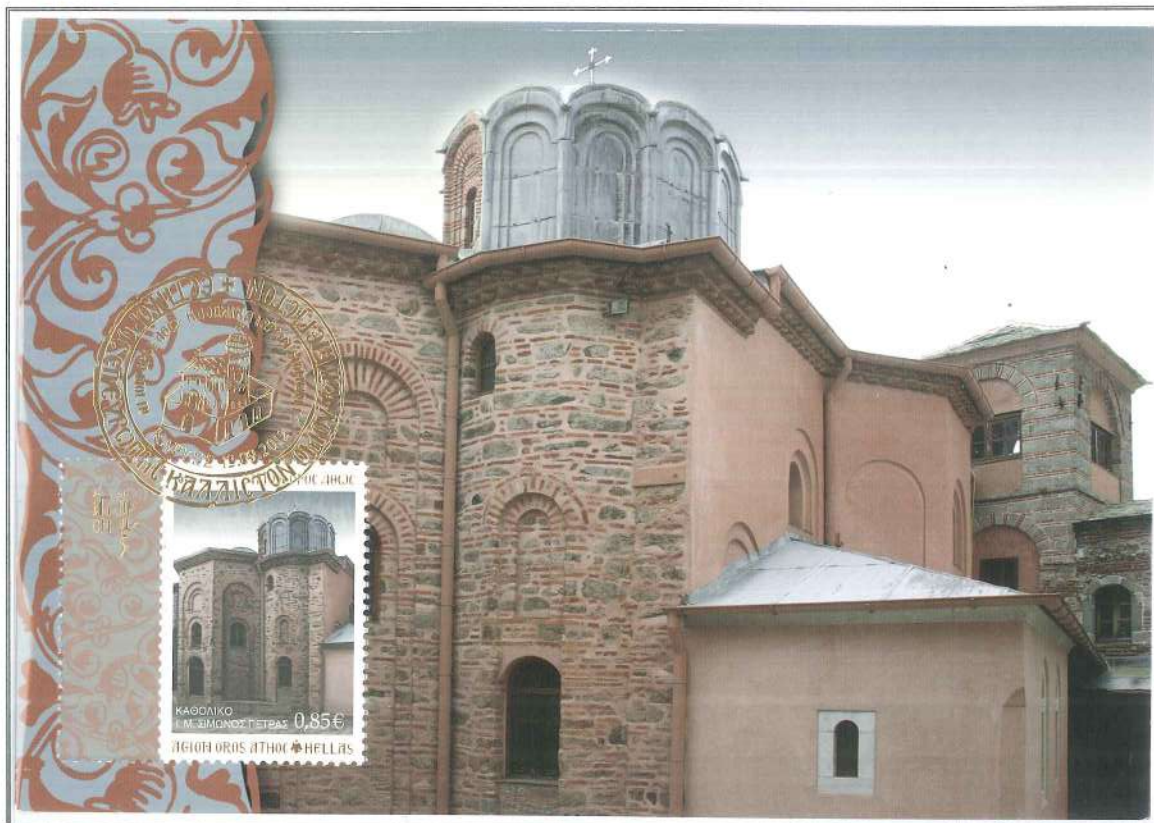
Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,78 E
Issued on: 12/09/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Φιλόθεου – Catholicon of the H. M. of
Philotheou.
Publisher: III/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Simonos Petras.

The Catholicon of Simonos Petras Monastery is dedicated to the Nativity of Christ.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E
Issued on: 12/09/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Σίμωνος Πέτρας – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Simonos Petras.
Publisher: III/2012 by Hellenic Post



**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Agiou Pavlou.**

Her universe is dedicated to the Lord. The first and most important benefactors were the Vránkóbit family, the owners of Serbia, where they undertook the construction of the Catholic church. At the beginning of the 19th century, Ανθιμος Κομνηνός from Serbia undertook the renovation of the wings and the Catholic Church and donated many properties.

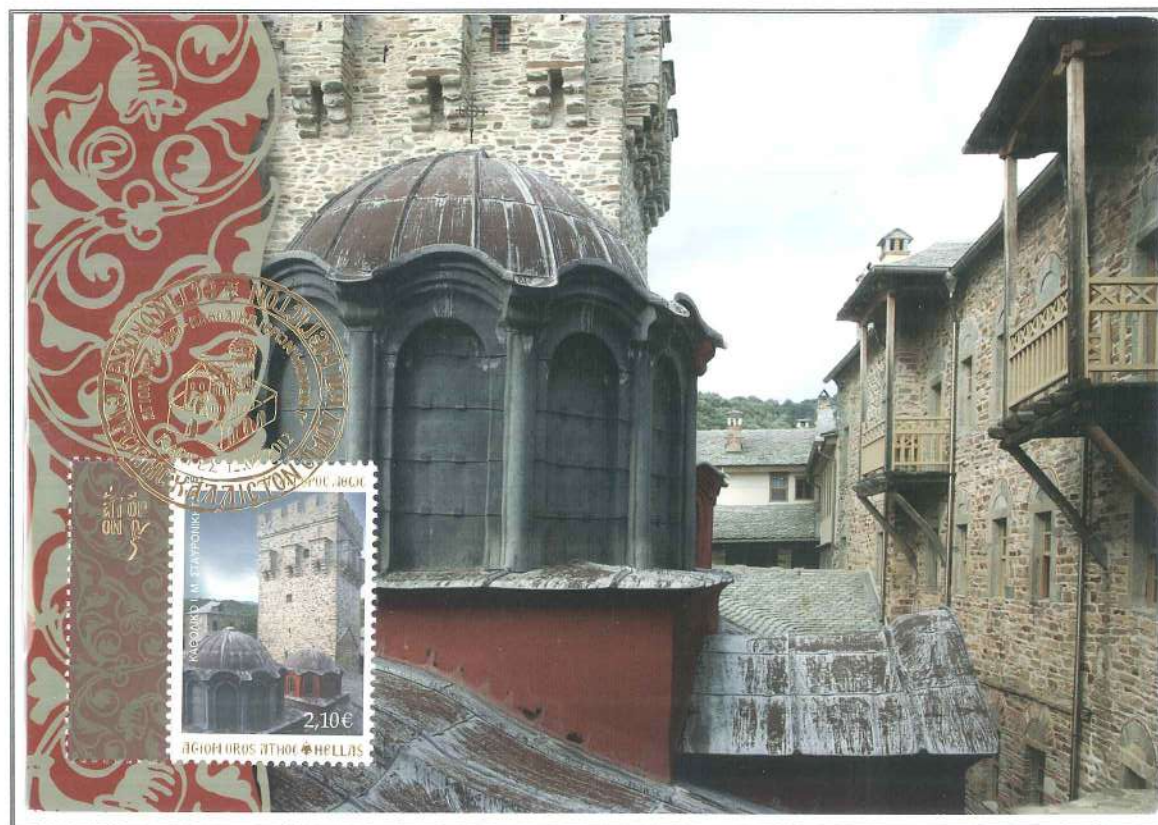
Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 12/09/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Άγιου Παύλου – Catholicon of the H.
M. of Agiou Pavlou.
Publisher: III/2012 by Hellenic Post



**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Stavronikita.**

The Catholic Church was built in 1536 and is honored in the name of Agios Nikolaos. It is the smallest of all the Catholicos of the Monasteries of Mount Athos. It was frescoed by the iconographer Theophanes the Cretan and his son Simeon in 1546. Among the relics of the Stavronikita Monastery, the icon of Saint Nicholas of Streida stands out.

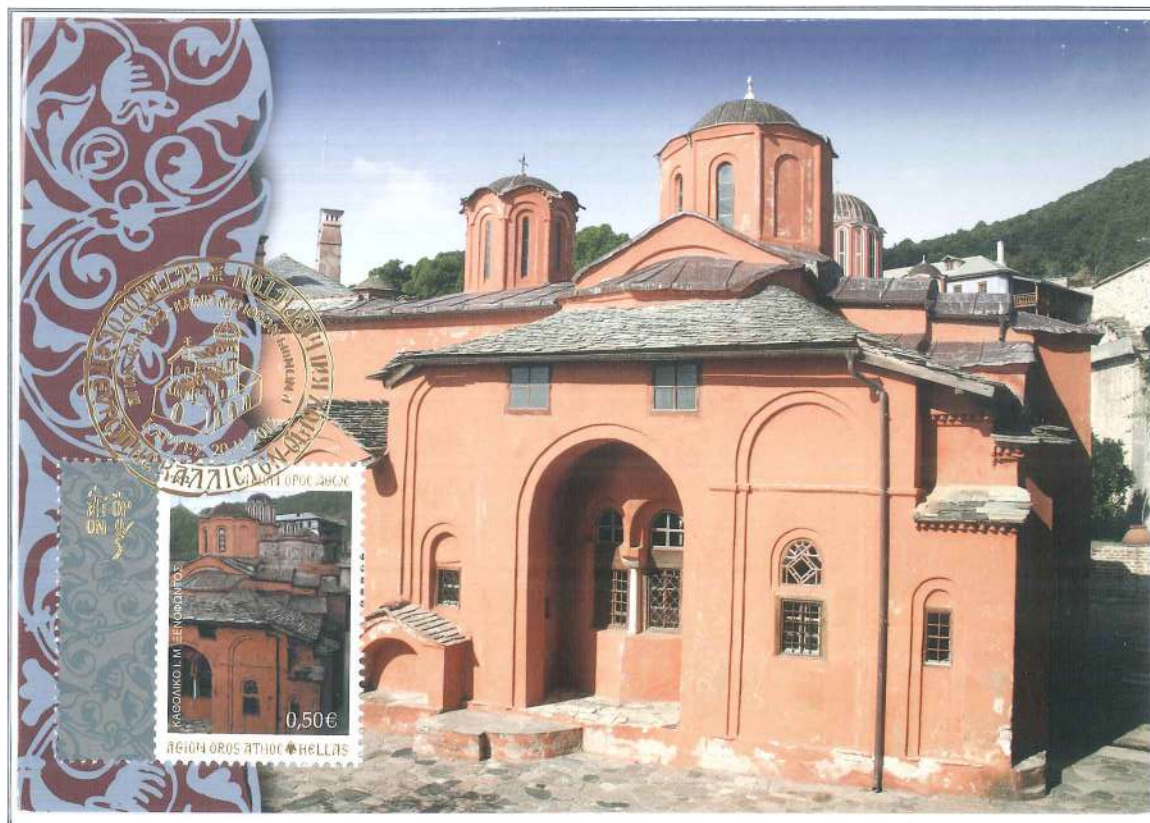
Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,10 E
Issued on: 12/09/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Σταυρονικητα – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Stavronikita.
Publisher: III/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Xenofontos.

The Monastery has the distinction of having two Catholicos. The old Catholicos is a monument of art. The main temple was built at the end of the 10th century. It features the early Christian columns (6th century) brought here for a second use, the famous mosaic floor of the 10th century, the first marble iconostasis of the 11th century. with its ornate chests and epitaph, the gilded wood-carved iconostasis of the 17th century. with his icons, but also the frescoes of Monk Anthony, 16th century. The great Catholic church of the 19th century. it is admired for its magnificence, the eight domes, and the marble icon of the Tinian marble sculptor Ant. Ransom.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 20/11/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Ξενοφώντος – Catholicon of the H. M.
of Xenofontos.
Publisher: IV/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Grigoriou.

The Catholic Church of the Gregory Monastery, named after Saint Nicholas, began to be built immediately after the fire of 1761. The original core can be seen on the south side of the complex with the Catholic Church dominating the middle of a small courtyard and the defensive Tower on its eastern side.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,62 E
Issued on: 20/11/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Γρηγορίου – Catholicon of the
H. M. of Grigoriou.
Publisher: IV/2012 by Hellenic Post



05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Cathicon of the H. M. of Esphigmenou.

The Catholic Church of the Monastery dedicated to the Ascension of the Lord began to be built by Abbot Theodoritos in the place of the older church and according to the type of the other Catholic churches. It was inaugurated on May 11, 1811, by Patriarch Gregory V after his second Patriarchate.

*Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 20/11/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Εσφιγμένου – Cathicon of the H. M.
of Esphigmenou.
Publisher: IV/2012 by Hellenic Post*

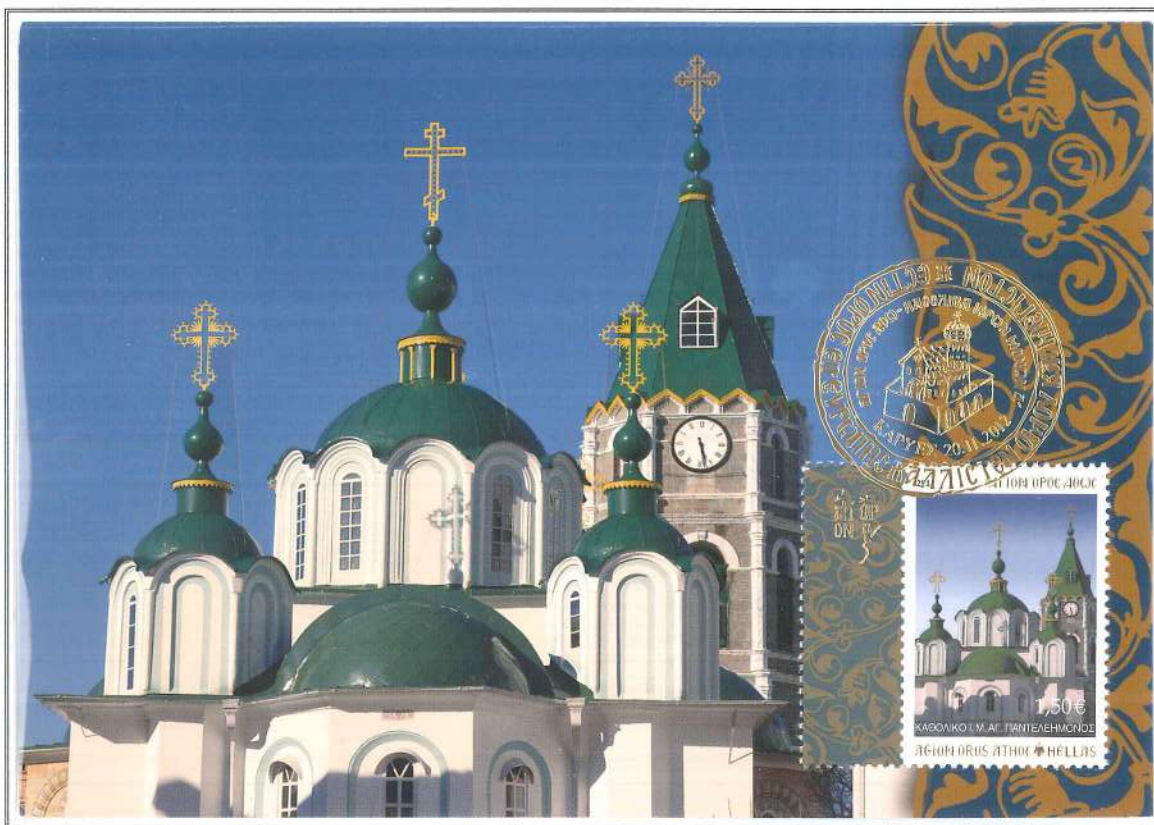


05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Cathicon of the H. M. of Ag. Panteleimonos.

The Catholic Church, which is dedicated to Saint Panteleimon, began to be built in 1812 and finished in 1821.

In the 18th century, the Monastery of Saint Panteleimonos returns to Greek hands for the Russians to prevail again in 1875, when it was decided that services should be held in both Greek and Russian languages.

*Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,50 E
Issued on: 20/11/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ. Άγιο
Παντελεήμωνος – Cathicon of the
H. M. of Saint Panteleimonos.
Publisher: IV/2012 by Hellenic Post*



**05 - Catholic Churches in Mount Athos -
Catholicon of the H. M. of Konstamonitou.**

The Catholicos of the Konstamonitou monastery is dedicated to the memory of Saint Stephen. It was erected in 1867 on the ruins of the older Catholic church and is in the middle of the courtyard. His typology generally follows the Saints type.

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1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,10 E
Issued on: 20/11/2012 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Καθολικό Ι. Μ.
Κωνσταμονίτου – Catholicon of the H.
M. of Konstamonitou.
Publisher: IV/2012 by Hellenic Post



**06 – Calligraphy
Holy Monny of Dionysiou – Initial Letter “A”**

The 24 letters of the Greek alphabet in four rows of six stamps where the initial letters appear as they have been depicted in documents and Gospels by monks in Holy Monasteries.

The letter “A” - alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet. It remained in this position throughout its history.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΥ Αρχικό Γράμμα “Α” – Holy
Monny of Dionysiou – Initial Letter “A”
Publisher: I/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Saint Panteleimonos –
Initial Letter “B”

Monks even risked their lives to preserve ancient knowledge, which for some fanatical Christians was considered "heretical".

And yet, it was this "heretical" knowledge that led to the rebirth of Western civilization.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή Άγιου
Παντελεήμωνος - Αρχικό Γράμμα “B”
– Holy Mony of Ag. Panteleimon’s –
Initial Letter B”
Publisher: 1/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Vatopedis – Initial Letter “Γ”

These manuscripts, in addition to the content, were also decorated with calligraphy, which made them real monuments of Byzantine art.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,75 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Βατοπαιδίου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Γ” –
Holy Mony of Vatopedis –
Initial Letter “Γ”
Publisher: 1/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Docheiarios –
Initial Letter “D”

Despite the devastation and bloodshed, the suffered, the libraries of the monasteries of Mount Athos hide a true treasure of ancient Greek knowledge and more.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Δοχειαρίου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Δ” –
Holy Mony of Docheiariou –
Initial Letter “ D ”
Publisher: I/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Philotheou – Initial Letter “ E ”

What is certain is that the monks of Mount Athos did not despise books. After a monastery was founded, one of the first actions of its founders were to create a library, while the abbot always appointed a librarian responsible for the preservation and maintenance of the manuscripts.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,50 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Φιλόθεου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “ E ” –
Holy Mony of Philotheou –
Initial Letter “ E ”
Publisher: I/2011 by Hellenic Post

06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Vatopedis –

Initial Letter "Z"

In terms of their content, the manuscript of Mount Athos differs in that they preserve texts of ancient classical writers or more general secular knowledge e.g., botany, geography, medicine, law - and those containing Christian and liturgical texts.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,15 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Βατοπεδίου - Αρχικό Γράμμα "Ζ" –
Holy Mony of Vatopedis–
Initial Letter "Z"
Publisher: I/2011 by Hellenic Post



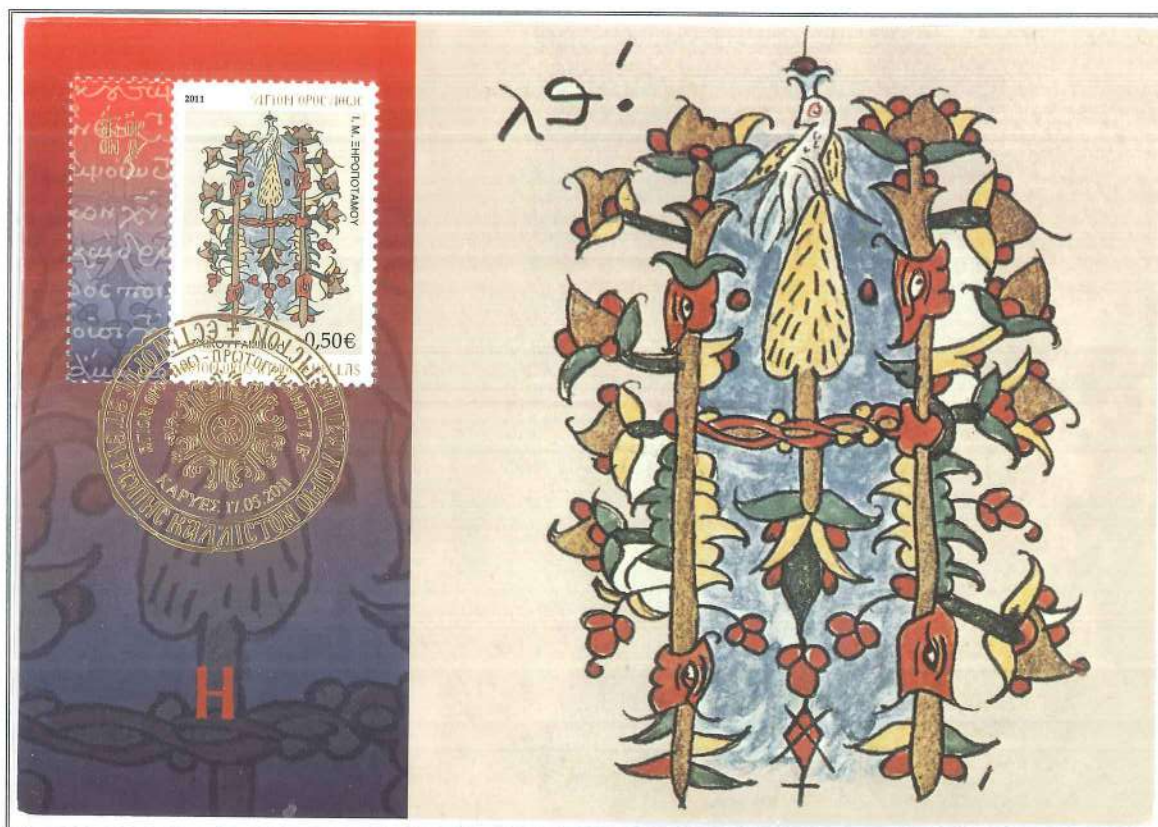
06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Xeropotamou –

Initial Letter "H"

Unfortunately, we do not have valuable data on the exact number of ancient Greek manuscript found today in the monastic libraries of Mount Athos. Indicative should be preserved about 600 works of classical authors. This number should not be considered small, as it in these manuscripts that European "pilgrims" who have stolen or bought codes to enrich Western libraries have always been focused. Yet despite the great thefts and bloodshed, the libraries of Mount Athos still have many remarkable ancient Greek codes.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 17/05/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Ξηροποταμου - Αρχικό Γράμμα "Η"
– Holy Mony of Xeropotamou –
Initial Letter "H"
Publisher: II/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Simonos Petras –

Initial Letter “Θ”

There is evidence that once in the tower there was a scriptorium.

The names of the calligraphers mentioned are those of the monks Ignatius, Gerassimos and Theoleptos while in the first decades of the fifteenth century the copying of manuscripts continued with David of Raedestos and Callistus.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E

Issued on: 17/05/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή

Σίμωνος Πέτρας - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Θ”

– Holy Mony of – Initial Letter “Θ”

Publisher: 11/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Koutloumousiou –

Initial Letter “Ι”

St. Theophilos was a well-known copyist of many manuscripts that can be found today in libraries on and beyond the Holy Mountain.

He prepared at least one codex for the monastery library.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,75 E

Issued on: 17/05/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή

Κουτλουμουσίου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Ι”

– Holy Mony of Koutloumousiou –

Initial Letter “Ι”

Publisher: 11/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Pantokrator –

Initial Letter “K”

The monasteries were in a dire financial state in the 18th century.

But despite their poverty, a movement arose to spread Greek education in the Athos region.

In the middle of the 18th century, the Athonia Academy was founded in a building near the Vatopedi Monastery. Its purpose was to teach students theology, philosophy, and logic.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E

Issued on: 17/05/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Παντοκράτορας - Αρχικό Γράμμα “K”

– Holy Mony of Pantokrator –
Initial Letter “K”

Publisher: 11/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Iveron –

Initial Letter “A”

The library of Iveron contains more the 2000 manuscripts and 15 liturgical scrolls, and more than 20,000 books, with important incunabula.

It also possesses the so-called dalmatic of loane's Tsimiskes, the episcopal vestments of Patriarch Dionysios IV, a Gospel book which was the gift of Peter the Great, sacred vessels, vestments embroideries, and the relics of at least 150 saints.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,47 E

Issued on: 17/05/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή Ιβήρων -
Αρχικό Γράμμα “A” – Holy Mony of
Iveron – Initial Letter “A”

Publisher: 11/2011 by Hellenic Post

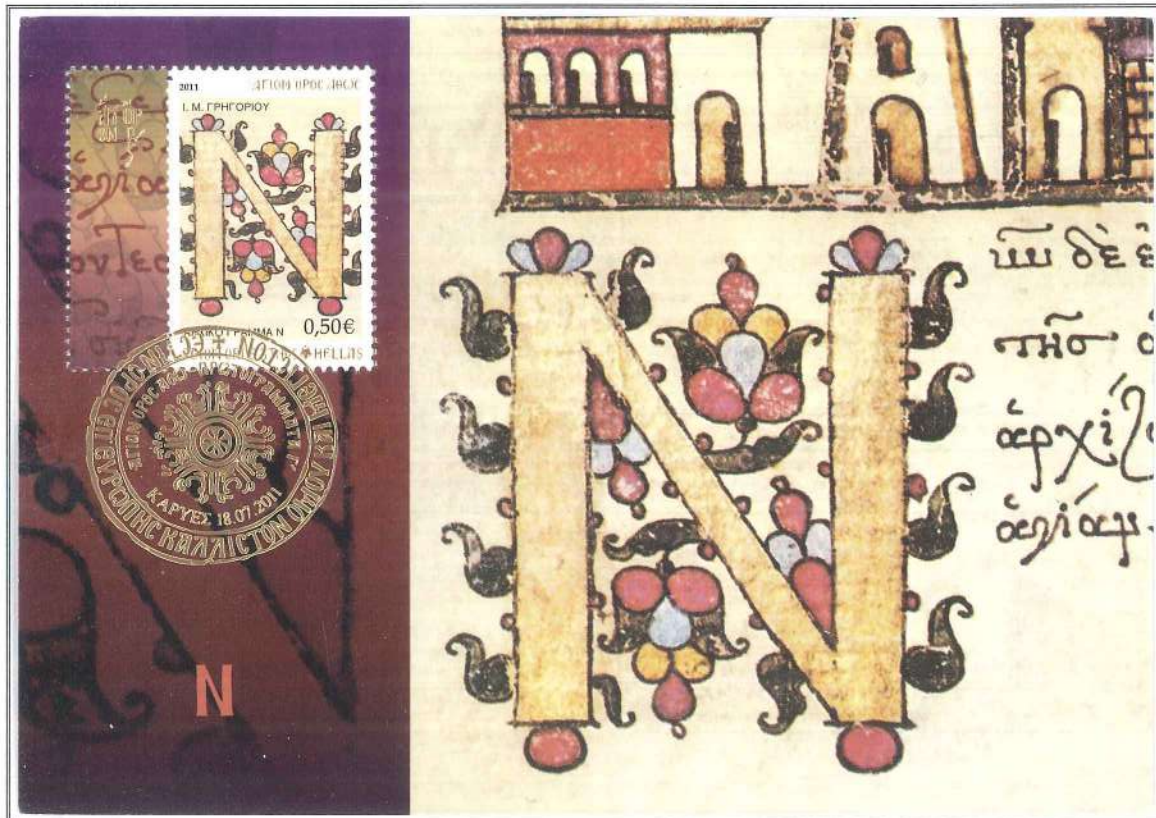
06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Zographou –

Initial Letter “M”

The library of the Holy Monastery of Zographou includes 126 Greek and 388 Slavic manuscripts, as well as about 10,000 printed books. Among the famous relics of Zografou are the two wonderful icons of the mother of God, Akathistos and Epakousa.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E
Issued on: 18/03/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Ζωγράφου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “M” –
Holy Mony of Zographou –
Initial Letter “M”
Publisher: II/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Grigoriou –

Initial Letter “N”

The oldest and most important of all is the famous Dioskurido Botany, a 1000-year-old codex, a personal gift from Nikiforos Fokas to Athanasios Athonitis. The book, kept in the library of the Great Lavra, is considered ideal for the preparation of herbal medicines.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 18/07/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Γρηγορίου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “N” –
Holy Mony of Grigoriou –
Initial Letter “N”
Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post

06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Konstamonitou –

Initial Letter “Ξ”

In the Middle Ages, some monasteries also functioned as "arks of knowledge" preserving ancient texts in the form of manuscripts. These manuscripts were copied by monks in the dim light of the monastic workshops, in the famous sculpting offices.

Even in the Middle Ages, at a time when illiteracy prevailed, the monks of Mount Athos emphasized the written word, considering that it contributed to the spiritual upgrading of people.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E

Issued on: 18/07/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Κωνσταμονίτου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Ξ”
– Holy Mony of Konstamonitou –
Initial Letter “Ξ”

Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Xenophontos –

Initial Letter “O”

Even in the Middle Ages, at a time when illiteracy prevailed, the monks of Mount Athos emphasized the written word, considering that it contributed to the spiritual upgrading of people. That is why they wrote, copied, and preserved thousands of manuscripts, not only of a theological or liturgical nature, but also of "worldly knowledge", which were bequeathed by the ancient Greek sages.

These manuscripts, in addition to their content, were also decorated with calligraphy, which made them true monuments of Byzantine art.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,75 E

Issued on: 18/07/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Ξενοφώντος - Αρχικό Γράμμα “O” –
Holy Mony of Xenophontos –
Initial Letter “O”

Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post

06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Stavronikita –

Initial Letter “Π”

The first calligraphers - monks of Athos. The Orchard of Panagia began to emerge as a monastic center of the Byzantine Empire towards the end of the 10th AD. century, when the monk Athanasios secretly arrived there, who founded the monastery of Megisti Lavra (963 AD) at the south-eastern end of the peninsula. Athanasios, the founder of the Agioreite Koinovian monasticism, was a friend of Ioannis Tsimiskis as well as a distinguished calligrapher and stenographer.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E
Issued on: 18/07/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Σταυρονικήτα - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Π”
– Holy Mony of Stavronikita – Initial
Letter “Π”
Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Iveron –

Initial Letter “P”

Today, 16,000-20,000 manuscripts are preserved in the monastic libraries of Mount Athos!

This quantity is considered to constitute 50% of the Greek-language manuscripts that exist today in the entire world.

Of these, more than half are in the libraries of only three monasteries (Megisti Lavra, Iveron and Vatopaidi).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,47 E
Issued on: 18/07/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή Ιβήρων -
Αρχικό Γράμμα “P” – Holy Mony of
Iveron – Initial Letter “P”
Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post

06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Megiste Lavra –

Initial Letter “Σ”

What is certain is that the monks of Mount Athos did not despise books.

As soon as a monastery was founded, one of the first actions of its founders was the creation of a library, while the abbot always appointed a librarian, responsible for the preservation and maintenance of manuscripts.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E

Issued on: 18/07/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Μέγιστε Λαύρας - Αρχικό Γράμμα “ Σ ” – Holy Mony of Megiste Lavra –
Initial Letter “ Σ ”

Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Chilandari –

Initial Letter “Τ”

Regarding their content, the Agiorite manuscripts are distinguished among those that preserve texts of ancient classical authors or of secular knowledge in general, e.g. botany, geography, medicine, law - and those containing texts of Christian and liturgical content.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E

Issued on: 15/12/2011 – KARYES.

Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Χαλανδαρίου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “ Τ ” – Holy Mony of Chilandari – Initial
Letter “ Τ ”

Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post

06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Karakallou –

Initial Letter “Υ”

Unfortunately, we do not have valid data on the exact number of ancient Greek manuscripts that are today in the monastic libraries of Athos. Indicatively, around 600 works by classical authors should be preserved. This number should not be considered small, since it were precisely these manuscripts that European “pilgrims” who stole or bought the codices to enrich Western libraries always focused on.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,60 E
Issued on: 15/12/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Καρακάλλου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Υ” –
Holy Mony of Karakallou –
Initial Letter “Υ”
Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Protaton –

Initial Letter “Φ”

However, despite the significant thefts and bloodsheds, the libraries of Mount Athos continue to this day to contain many and remarkable ancient Greek codices.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E
Issued on: 15/12/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Πρωτάτου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Φ” –
Holy Mony of Protaton –
Initial Letter “Φ”
Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Agiou Pavlou –

Initial Letter “X”

Oldest and most important of all is the famous Botany of Dioskouridos (Ω75), a 1000-year-old codex, a personal gift of Nikephoros Phokas to Athanasios the Athonite.

The book, which is kept in the library of the Great Lavra, is considered ideal for the preparation of herbal medicines.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 15/12/2011 – KARYES,
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Αγίου Παύλου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “X” –
Holy Mony of Agiou Pavlou –
Initial Letter “X”
Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post



06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of – Iveron

Initial Letter “Ψ”

The Library of the Great Lavra is the largest collection of manuscripts (2,242 manuscripts) on Mount Athos and the 3rd in the world, after that of Saint Catherine of Sinai (4,500 manuscripts of which 75% are in Greek) and the Vatican (3,500 manuscripts).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,47 E
Issued on: 15/12/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή Ιβήρων -
Αρχικό Γράμμα “Ψ” – Holy Mony of
Iveron – Initial Letter “Ψ”
Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post

06 – Calligraphy

Holy Mony of Esphigmenou –

Initial Letter “Ω”

The Greek manuscripts of Mount Athos constitute the largest collection of Greek manuscripts in the world, since their number far exceeds the total of the two largest collections in Europe, the Vatican and the National Library of Paris, both of which together do not exceed 10,000.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E
Issued on: 15/12/2011 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
Εσφιγμένου - Αρχικό Γράμμα “Ω” –
Holy Mony of Esphigmenou –
Initial Letter “Ω”
Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts –

H. M. of Iveron – Tale of Varlaam and

Joasaph (13th cent.)

Barlaam and Josaphat, also known as Bilawhar and Budhasaf, are Christian saints. Their life story was based on the life of the Gautama Buddha and tells of the conversion of Josaphat to Christianity. According to the legend, an Indian king persecuted the Christian Church in his realm. After astrologers predicted that his own son would some day become a Christian, the king imprisoned the young prince Josaphat, who nevertheless met the hermit Saint Barlaam and converted to Christianity.

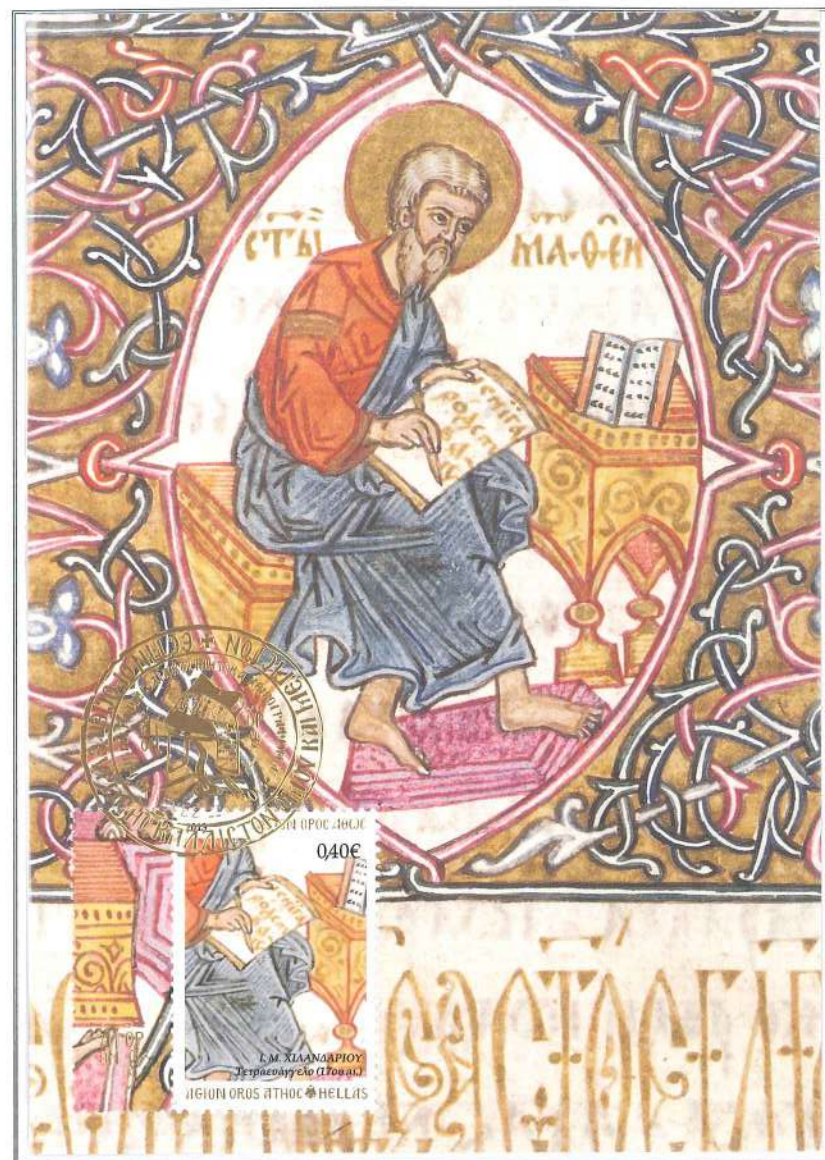
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 22/04/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ι. Μ. ΙΒΗΡΩΝ:
Ιστορία Βαρλαάμ και Ιωάσαφ (13^{ου}
αι.) – H. M. of Iveron – Tale of
Varlaam and Joasaph (13th cent.)
Publisher: I/2013 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. CHILANDARI: Tetra-Evangelium (17th cent.)

The decoration of the illustrated manuscript is mainly limited to titles and initials such as codex 531 of 1677.

For illustration, the codex of the 16th century that describes the life of Joseph stands out.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 22/04/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. IBHPΩN:
Τετραευαγγελο (17^{ου} αι.) –
H. M. CHILANDARI: Tetra-Evangelium
(17th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: H. M. MEGISTE LAVRA: Sticherararion (17th cent.)

The Codex of the Great Lavra 1187, a Sticherary of Triodius and Pentecost, was completed by Seraphim Lavriotis in the year 1761 and was written at the prompting of his disciple Gabriel Hieromonachus.

A reference, which we find at the end of the manuscript, points out the following:
"The present Triodion and Pentecost was written by the hand of me Seraphim at the request of Gabriel the hieromonk and former disciple in the month of August (1761)."

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,62 E
Issued on: 22/04/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΜΕΓΙΣΤΗΣ
ΛΑΥΡΑΣ: Στιχίραριο (17^{ου} αι.) –
H. M. MEGISTE LAVRA: Sticherararion
(17th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2013 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

07–Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. of VATOPAIDI: Octateuch (13th cent.)

An "Octateuchos" in the Holy Monastery of Vatopediou, is the parchment manuscript, specifically six of the eight books of the Old Testament as the first two are considered to have been in a separate volume.

The codex consists of 61 issues, in total it has 469 pages of dimensions 34, 5X11.5X24.5 cm in diameter and comes with 162 thumbnails.



Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,78 E
Issued on: 22/04/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΒΑΤΟΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ:
Οκτάτευχος (13^{ου} αι.)– H. M. of
VATOPAIDI: Octateuch (13th cent.)
Publisher: I/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. of PROTATON – Tetra-Evangelium (13th cent.)

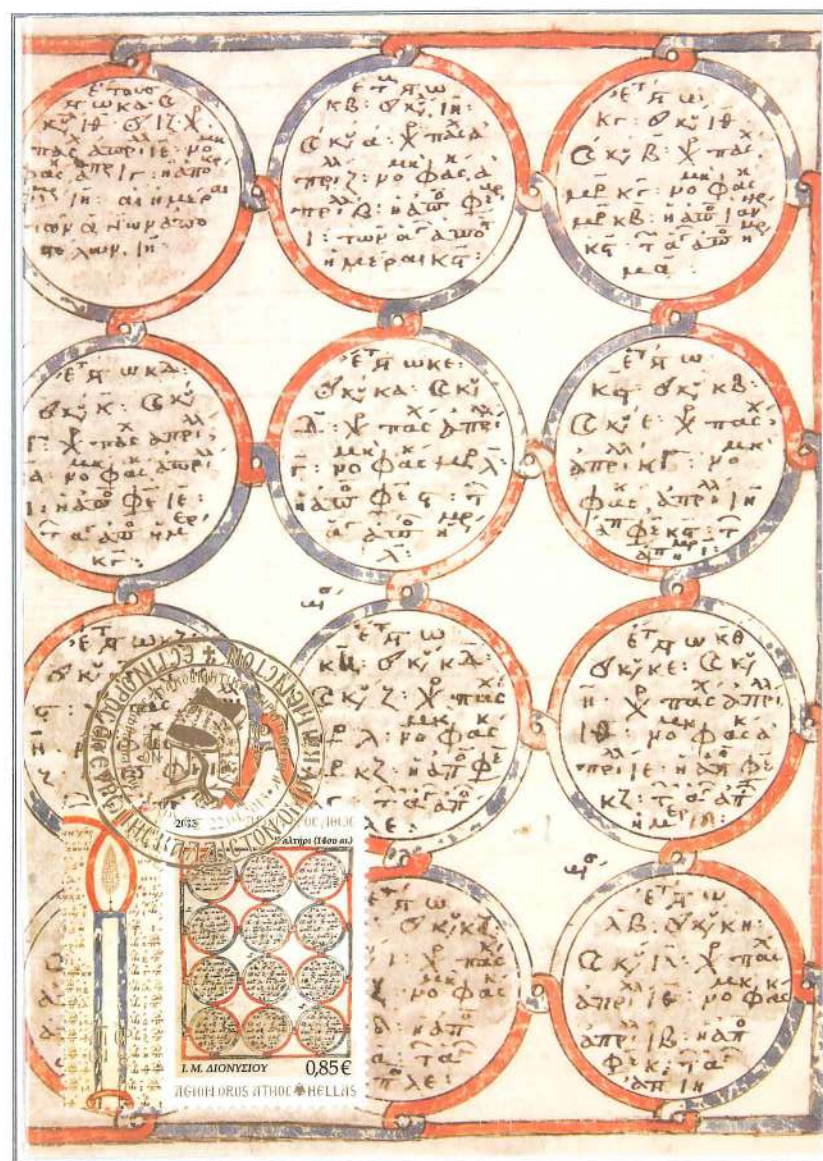
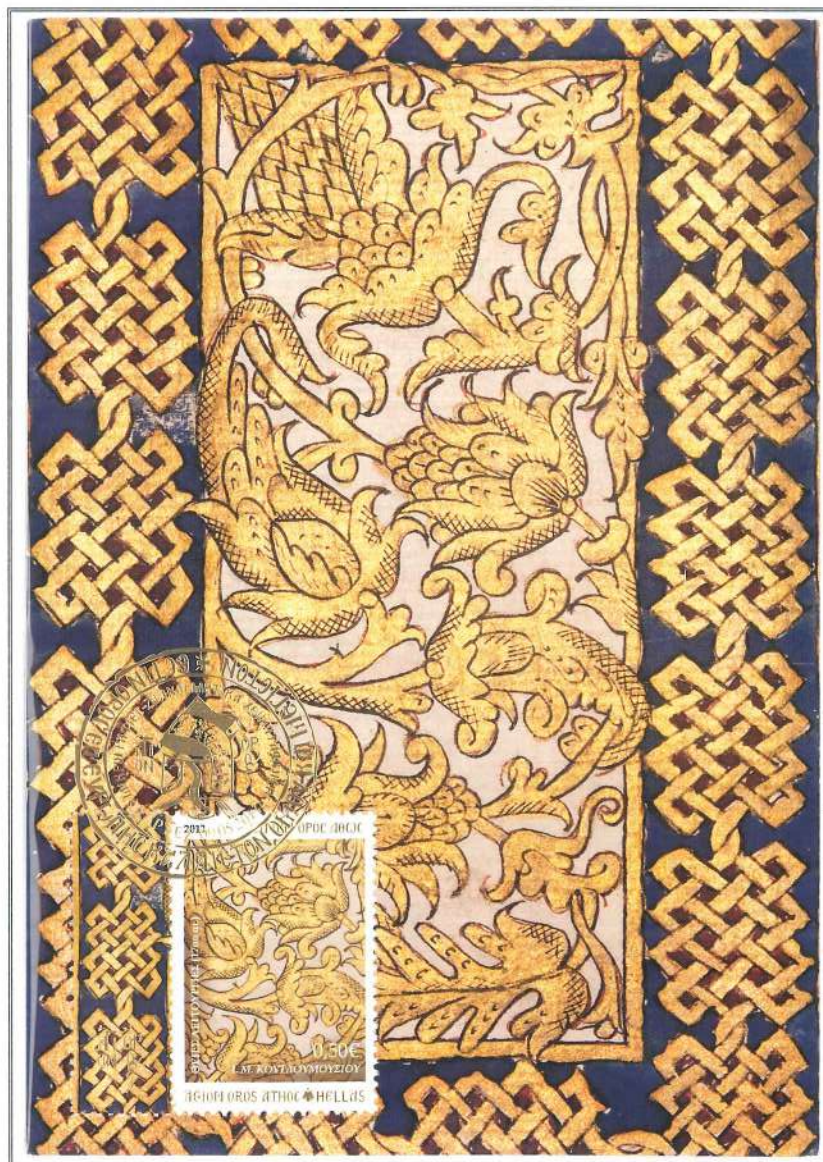
In the historic temple of Protatos, in the holy Vima, enthroned on the holy symthron is the venerable and miraculous icon of the Virgin Mary, called "Axion estin". It is called so, because this well-known hymn was first sung by the archangel Gabriel in front of this image. "This pan sept and holy place, from ancient and ancient times, has been the boast of the Kareans, the glory of the Protatines, the shelter and protection of the surrounding Cellia", but also the glory, boast and protection of the entire Mount Athos.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,00 E
Issued on: 22/04/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΠΡΩΤΑΤΟΥ:
Τετραευαγγελο (10^{ου} αι.) – H. M. of
PROTATON – Tetra-Evangelium
(13th cent.)
Publisher: I/2013 by Hellenic Post

**07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. DIONISIOU:
Psalter (14th cent.)**

In the Holy Monastery of Dionysius there is a parchment Gospel of the 13th century, seventeen parchment scrolls of the 13th and 15th centuries and other codices, i.e. manuscripts illustrated with very large miniatures, rich titles, and calligraphic initials. This Gospel, decorated with 80 miniatures in very good condition, is very rare and the best of its kind. Altogether in Manastir there are more than 5000 volumes of classical and church authors, dictionaries, and others.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 22/04/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΥ:
Ψαλτήρι (14^{ου} αι.) –
H. M. DIONISIOU: Psalter (14th cent.)
Publisher: I/2013 by Hellenic Post



**07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: – H. M.
KOUTLOUMOUSIOU: Divine Liturgies (17th cent.)**

Hymnography developed on Mount Athos, the Holy Monastery of Koutloumousiou, as well as outside it, during the post-Byzantine period.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΚΟΥΤΛΟΥΜΟΥΣΙΟΥ: Θείες
Λειτουργίες (17^{ου} αι.) – H. M.
ΚΟΥΤΛΟΥΜΟΥΣΙΟΥ: Divine Liturgies
(17th cent.)
Publisher: II/2013 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. PANTOCRATOR:
Psalter (9th cent.)

In a Psalter of the 9th century in the Holy Monastery of Pantokratoros from Mount Athos, a side-page miniature depicts a virgin nursing a unicorn.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,62 E

Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.

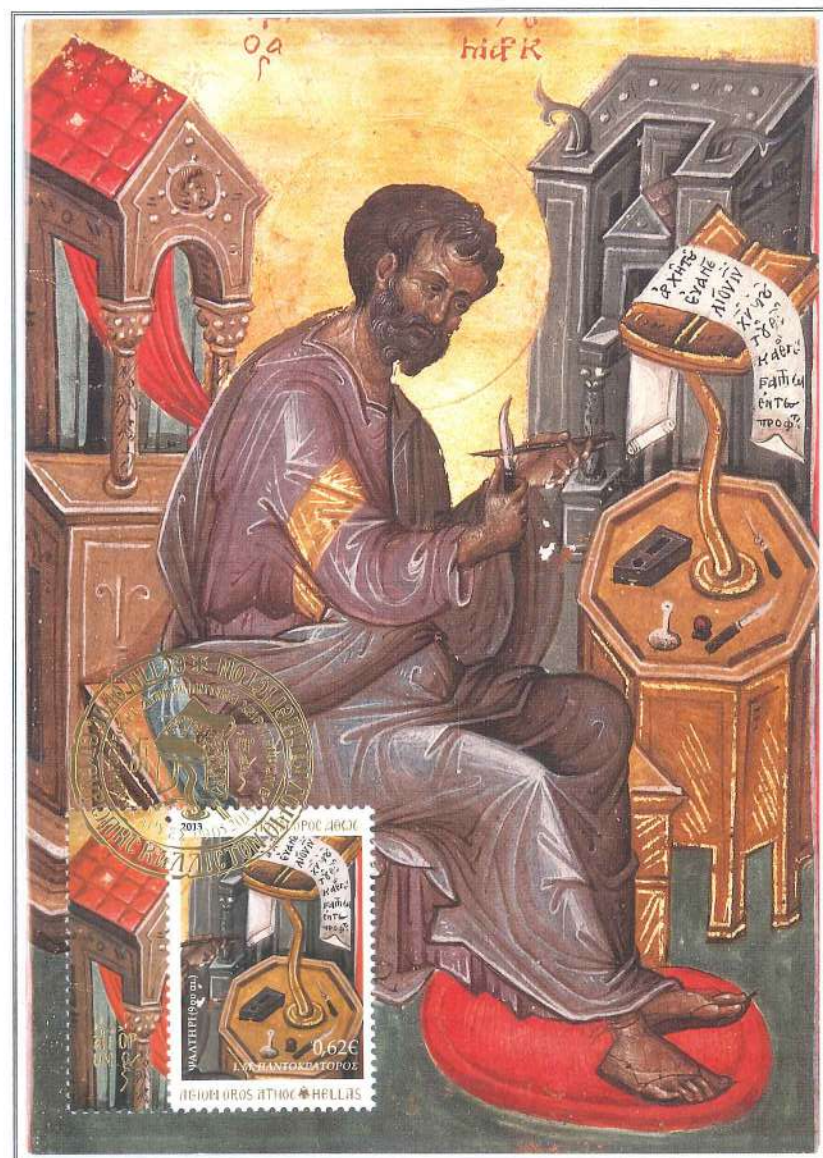
Commemorative: I. M.

ΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΑΣ: Ψαλτήρι (9^{ου} αι.) –

H. M. PANTOCRATOR:

Psalter (9th cent.)

Publisher: 11/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: – H. M. XEROPOTAMOU:
Evangelistarium (17th cent.)

In the Holy Monastery of Xeropotamou, during the late 16th and early 17th centuries, chrysobulæ, sigils and letters were either created or bronzed.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,78 E

Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.

Commemorative: I. M.

ΞΗΡΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ: Ευαγγελιστάριο

(17^{ου} αι.) – H. M. XEROPOTAMOU:

Evangelistarium (17th cent.)

Publisher: 11/2013 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. PANTOCRATOR:
Psalter (9th cent.)

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Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,62 E

Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.

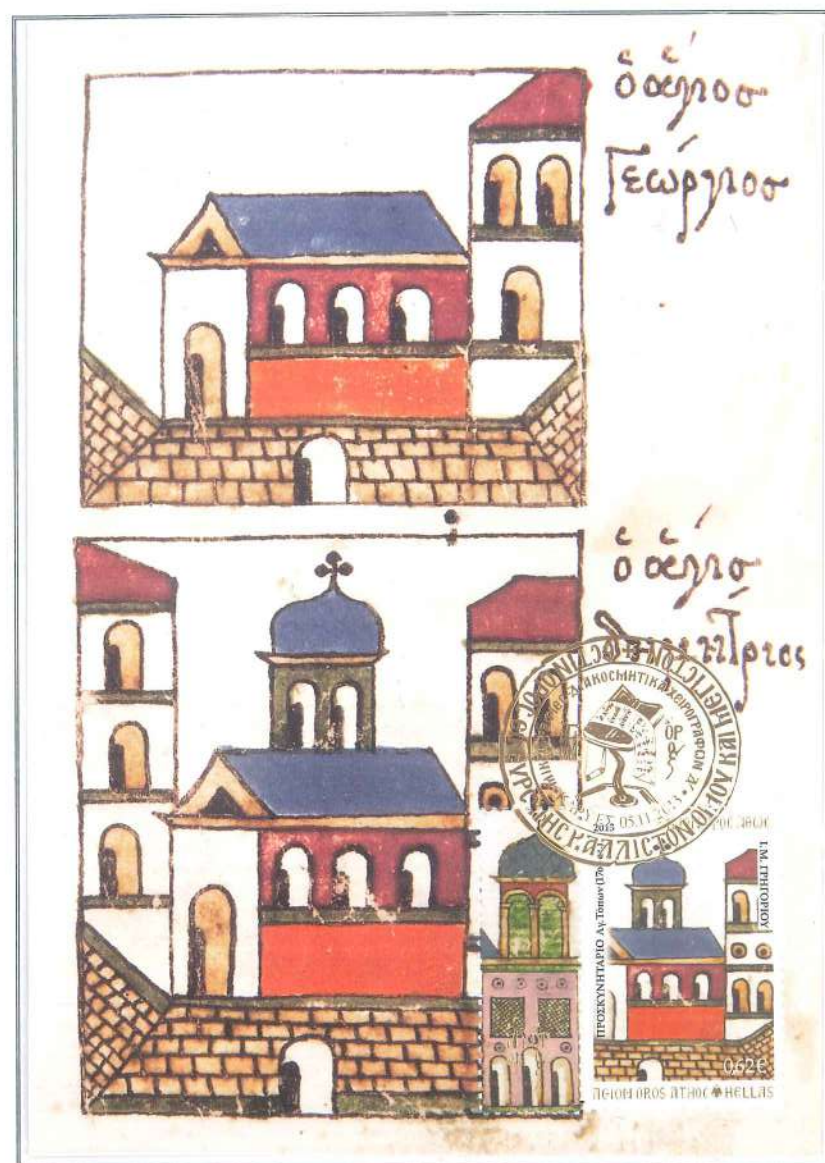
Commemorative: I. M.

ΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΑΣ: Ψαλτήρι (9^{ου} αι.) –

H. M. PANTOCRATOR:

Psalter (9th cent.)

Publisher: 11/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: – H. M. XEROPOTAMOU:
Evangelistarium (17th cent.)

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Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,78 E

Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.

Commemorative: I. M.

ΞΗΡΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ: Ευαγγελιστάριο

(17^{ου} αι.) – H. M. XEROPOTAMOU:

Evangelistarium (17th cent.)

Publisher: 11/2013 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. ZOGRAPHOU:
Tetra-Evangelium (16th cent.)

It is an important Tetra-Evangelium of the 15th-16th century which is decorated with miniatures of the Evangelists, titles, and initial letters at the beginning of each Evangelium.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΖΟΓΡΑΦΟΥ:
Τετραευαγγελο (16^{ου} αι.) –
H. M. ΖΟΓΡΑΦΟΥ:
Tetra-Evangelium (16th cent.)
Publisher: II/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: – H. M. of DOCHEIARIOU:
Pilgrim's Guide of the Holy Land (17th cent.)

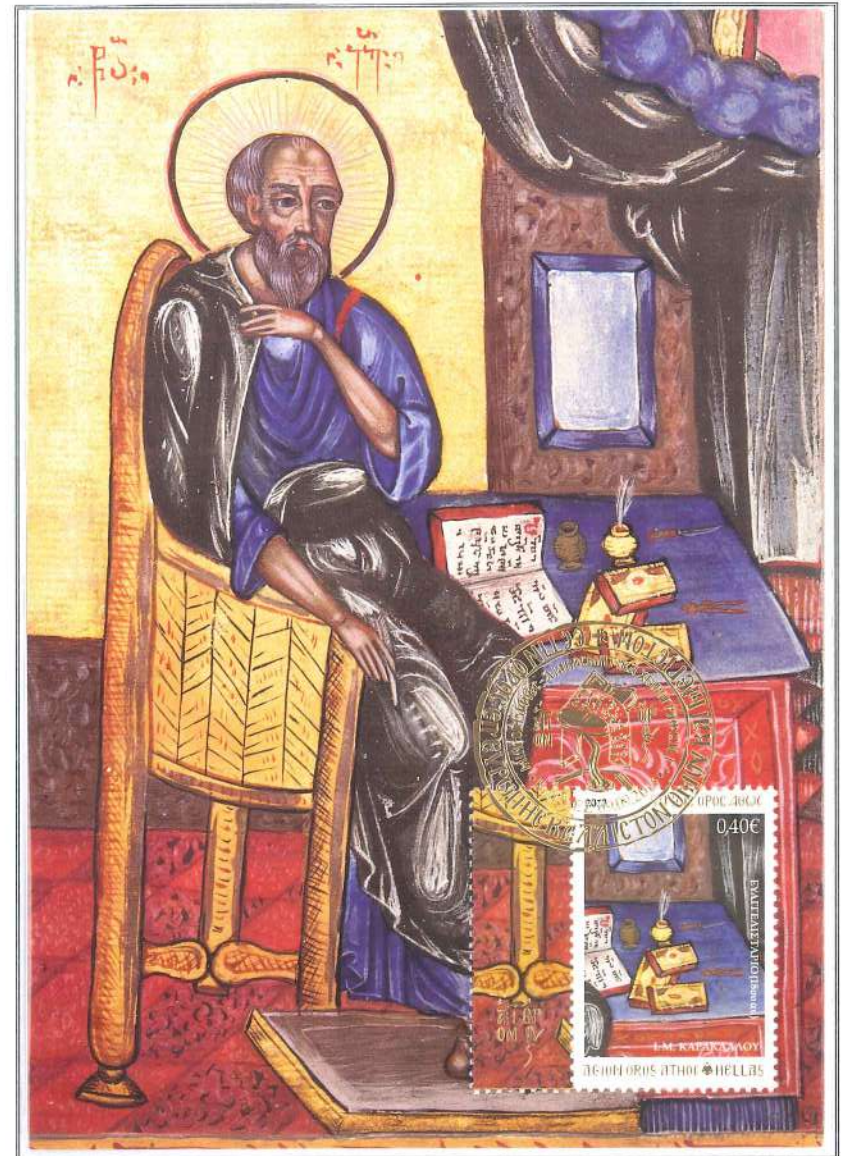
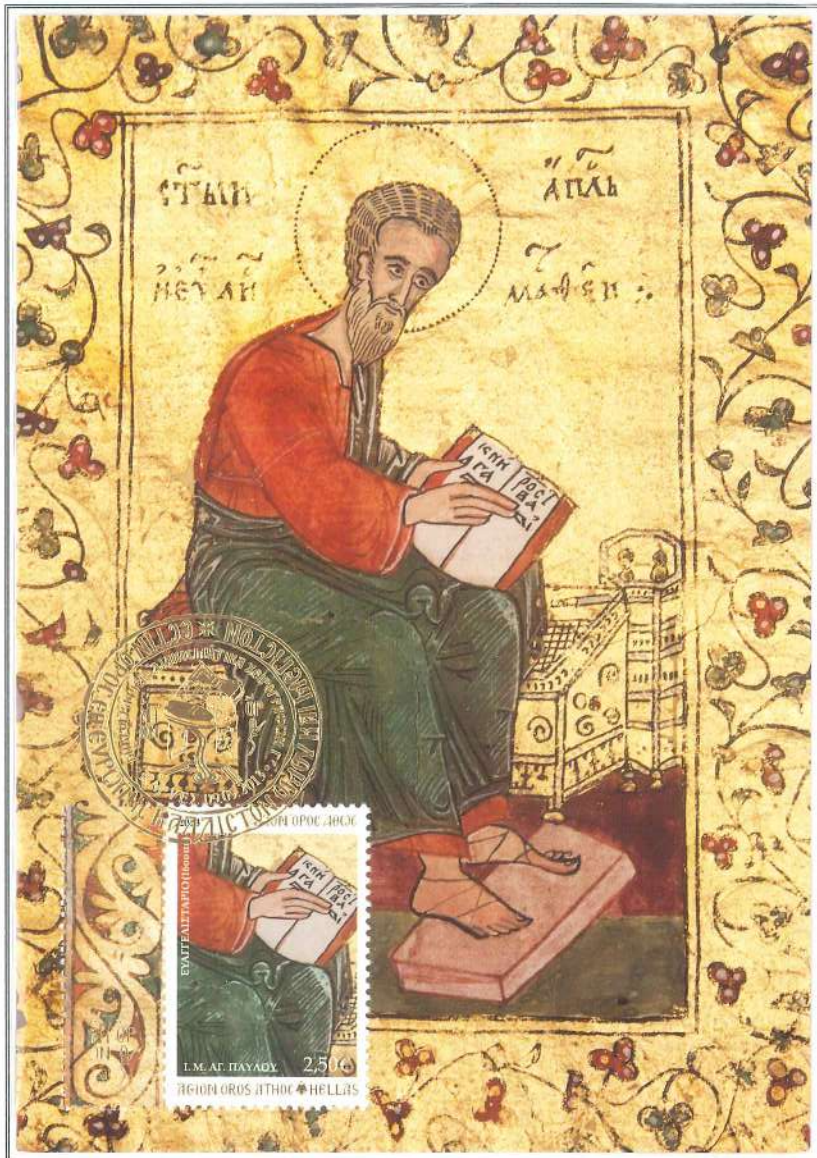
The Illustrated Pilgrimages were compiled between 1634-1748 and are respectful guides to major Christian landmarks, combining oral information and historical data.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,78 E
Issued on: 09/05/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΔΟΧΕΙΑΡΙΟΥ:
Προσκυνητάριο Αγίων Τοπων (17^{ου}
αι.) –H. M. of DOCHEIARIOU: Pilgrim's
Guide of the Holy Land (17th cent.)
Publisher: II/2013 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. of KARAKALLOU:
Evangelistaron (18th cent.)

It is indeed certain that the same iconographers who made the frescoes also made portable icons for use in temples and chapels or even for personal use.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,40 E
Issued on: 09/09/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΚΑΡΑΚΑΛΛΟΥ:
Ευαγγελιστάριο (16^{ου} αι.) –
H. M. of Karakallou:
Evangelistaron (18th cent.)
Publisher: III/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: – H. M. of AGHIOU
PAVLOU: Evangelistaron (16th cent.)

No one can say with certainty where humanity would be today without the ancient knowledge that was preserved with the manuscripts of the Byzantine monasteries, and especially of Agios Oros.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,50 E
Issued on: 09/09/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΑΓΙΟ ΠΑΥΛΟΥ:
Ευαγγελιστάριο (16^{ου} αι.) – H. M. of
AGHIO PAVLOU: Evangelistaron
(16th cent.)
Publisher: III/2013 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts
– H. M. of STAVRONIKITA: The ladder of Drive Ascent (14th cent.)

The Ladder of Divine Ascent or Ladder of Paradise is an important ascetical treatise for monasticism in Eastern Orthodoxy and Roman Catholicism, written by John Climacus in c. 600 AD.

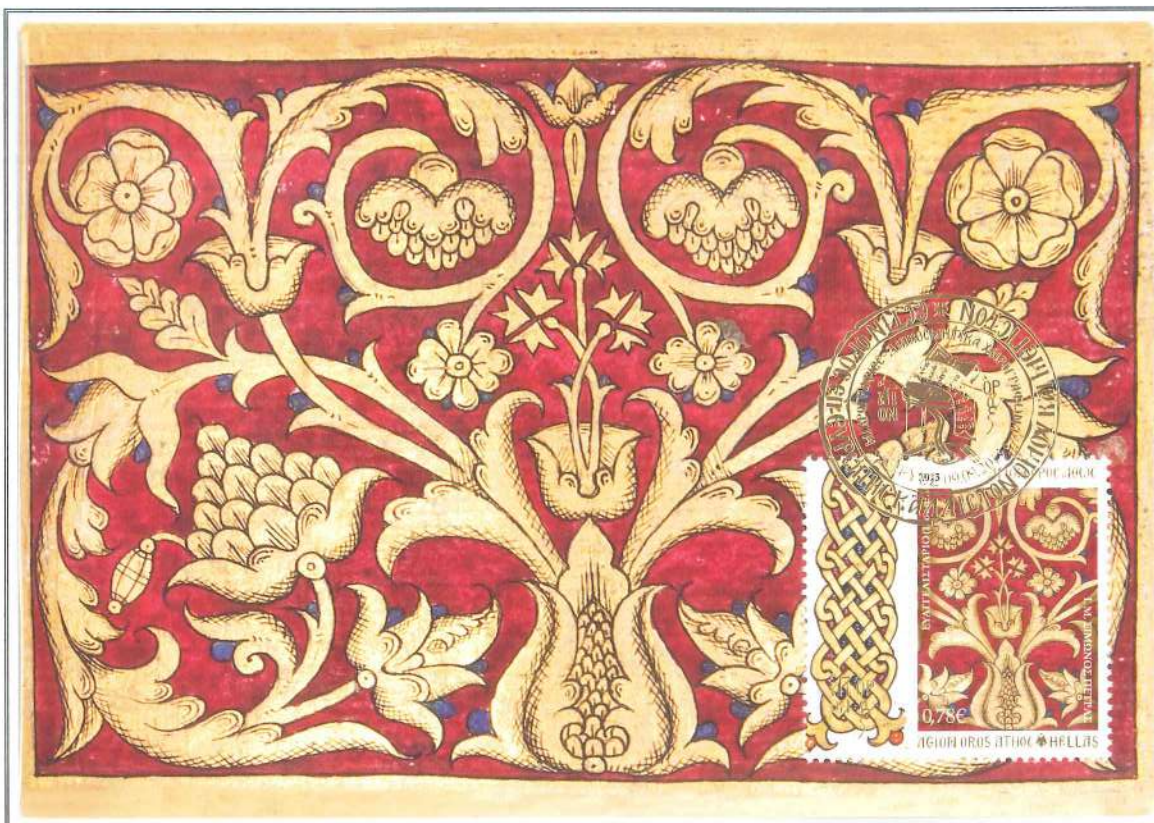
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 09/09/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
ΣΤΑΥΡΟΝΙΚΗΤΑ – Κλιμακα Ιωάννου
(14ου αι) - Holy Monoy of
STAVRONIKITA: The ladder of Drive
Ascent (14th cent.)
Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts
– H. M. of STAVRONIKITA: The ladder of Drive Ascent (14th cent.)

In the 17th and 18th centuries, they were signed by Athonian monk painters, who cultivated the art of painting within the Athonian state. In any case, the conclusions and findings of the research show the centuries-old value of the portable icon for the monks of Simonopetra, whose preservation was their main concern.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,78 E
Issued on: 09/09/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
ΣΙΜΩΝΟΣ ΠΕΤΡΑΣ – Ευαγγελισταριο
(17ου αι) – Holy Monoy of SIMONOS
PETRAS: Evangelistarion (17th cent)
Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts
 – H. M. of PHILOTHEOU: The Book of Gospels
 (12th cent.)

Thousands of Byzantine manuscripts have survived to this day. The main bulk of this material is post-Iconoclast.

Although not precisely dated, our manuscript is a product of the period of the Comnenan dynasty of emperors (1081-1204), a time of thriving artistic and intellectual life.



Special Pictorial Postmark
 1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,62 E
 Issued on: 09/09/2013 – KARYES.
 Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
 ΦΙΛΟΘΕΟΥ – Ευαγγέλιο (12ου αι) -
 Holy Mony of PHILOTHEOU: The Book
 of Gospels (12th cent.)
 Publisher: III/2011 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts
 – H. M. of KONSTAMONITOU: The ladder of
 Drive Ascent (14th cent.)

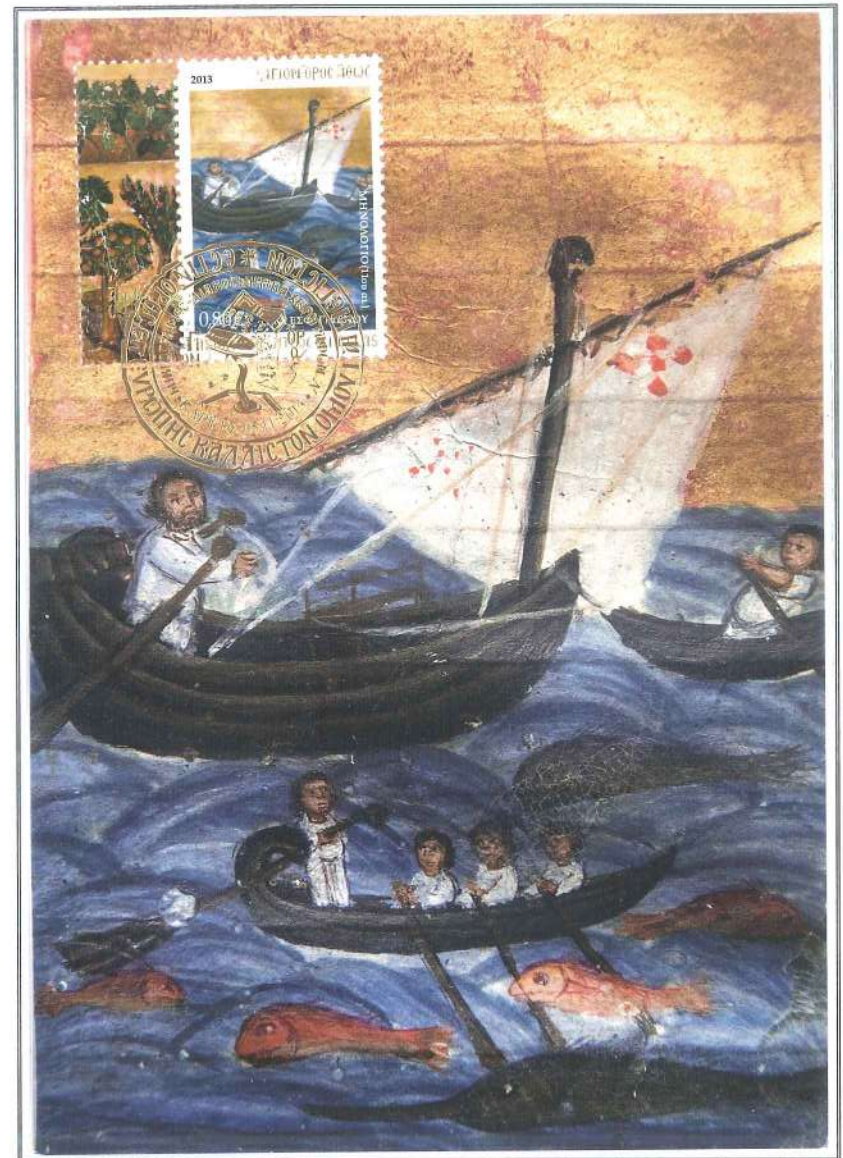
The most reliable name of the monastery of Konstamonitou was the Monastery of Agios Stefanos, since the monastery is dedicated to the first martyr, Agios Stefanos.

Special Pictorial Postmark
 1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E
 Issued on: 05/11/2013 – KARYES.
 Commemorative: Ιερά Μονή
 ΣΙΜΩΝΟΣ ΠΕΤΡΑΣ – Ακολουθία Αγίου
 Στεφάνου (17ου αι) – Holy Mony of
 KONSTAMONITOU: Service of Saint
 Stephen (17th cent)
 Publisher: IV/2011 by Hellenic Post

07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts – H. M. of ESPHIGMENOY:
Menelogion (11th cent.)

In the 11th century, new themes appear, such as the Second Coming and the Menelogion icons, while the forms become elegant and tall.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,80 E
Issued on: 05/11/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΕΣΦΙΓΜΕΝΟΥ:
Μηνολογιο (11^{ου} αι.) – H. M. of
ESPHIGMENOY: Menologion
(11th cent.)
Publisher: IV/2013 by Hellenic Post



07 – Miniatures - Ornaments of manuscripts: – H. M. of AGHIOU
PANTELEIMONOS: Sermons of Gregory the Theologian (12th cent.)

One is the creator of man and woman, and from one flesh they are both, from one image of God. Logos is the most important of the Theological Logos of St. Gregory.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,90 E
Issued on: 05/11/2013 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΑΓΙΟ ΠΑΥΛΟΥ:
Λόγοι Γρηγορίου Θεολογου (12^{ου} αι.)
–H. M. of AGHIO PAVLOU: Sermons of
Gregory the Theologian (12th cent.)
Publisher: IV/2013 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – I. M. Megiste Lavra

Megistis Lavra, founded in 963.

Painting by Vladimir Davydov (1871 - 1906)

*Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΜΕΓΙΣΤΗΣ
ΛΑΥΡΑΣ (Vladimir Davydov – 19ος αι)
H. M. of MEGISTE LAVRA (Vladimir
Davydov – 19th cent)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post*



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – I. M. Megiste Lavra

*Megiste Lavra is the first monastery in the hierarchy of Mount Athos.
Painting by Polykleitos Regos (1903 - 1984), who was a 20th century Greek painter and engraver.*

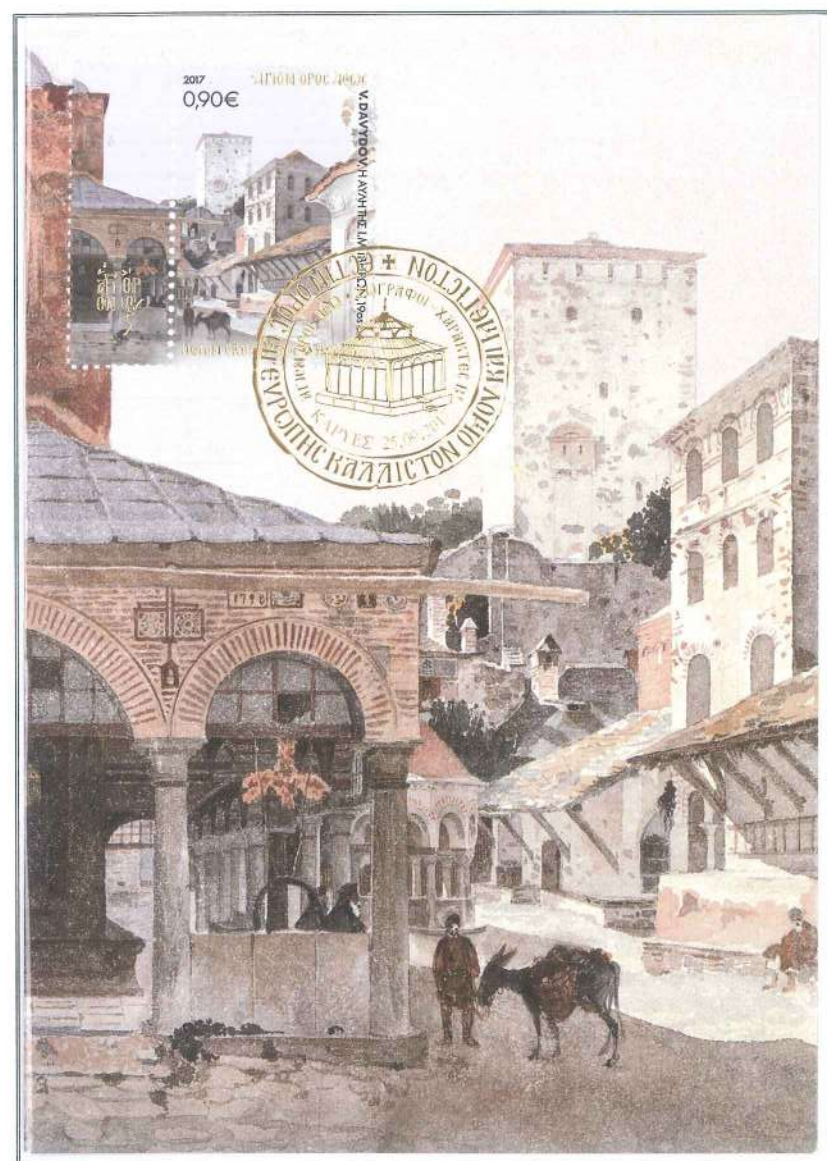
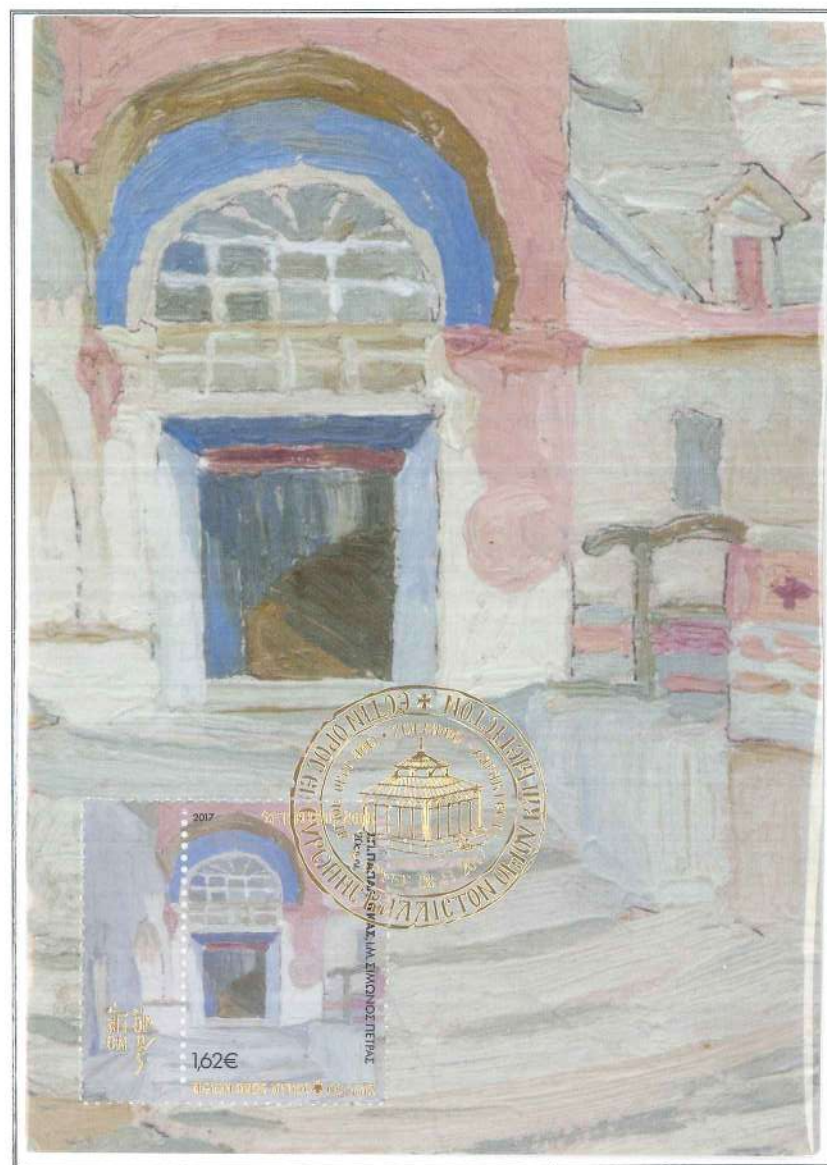


*Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,57 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: Μονή Μεγίστης
Λαύρας - Πολύκλειτος Ρέγος,
αυγοτέμπερα, 1939 (Συλλογή
Δημοτικής Πινακοθήκης
Θεσσαλονίκης)
Monastery of Megistis Lavras -
Polykleitos Regos, egg tempera, 1939
(Collection of the Municipal Gallery of
Thessaloniki)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post*

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. Iveron

*Iveron, founded in 963. Painting by Vladimir Davydov (1871 - 1906).
It is one of the largest monasteries of Mount Athos and third in hierarchy.*

*Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,90 E
Issued on: 25/09/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. IBHPQN
(Vladimir Davydov – 19^{ος} αι)
H. M. of IVERON (Vladimir Davydov –
19th cent)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post*



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings –

H. M. Simonos Petras

*The seven-story Simonos Petra Monastery is the boldest building on Mount Athos.
Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957) was a distinguished Greek painter,
forerunner of the Generation of 1930.*

*Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,62 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΣΙΜΟΝΟΣ
ΠΕΤΡΑΣ (Σπύρος Παπαλουκάς –
20^{ος} αιώνας)
H. M. of SIMONOS PETRAS (Spiros
Papalukas – 20th cent)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post*

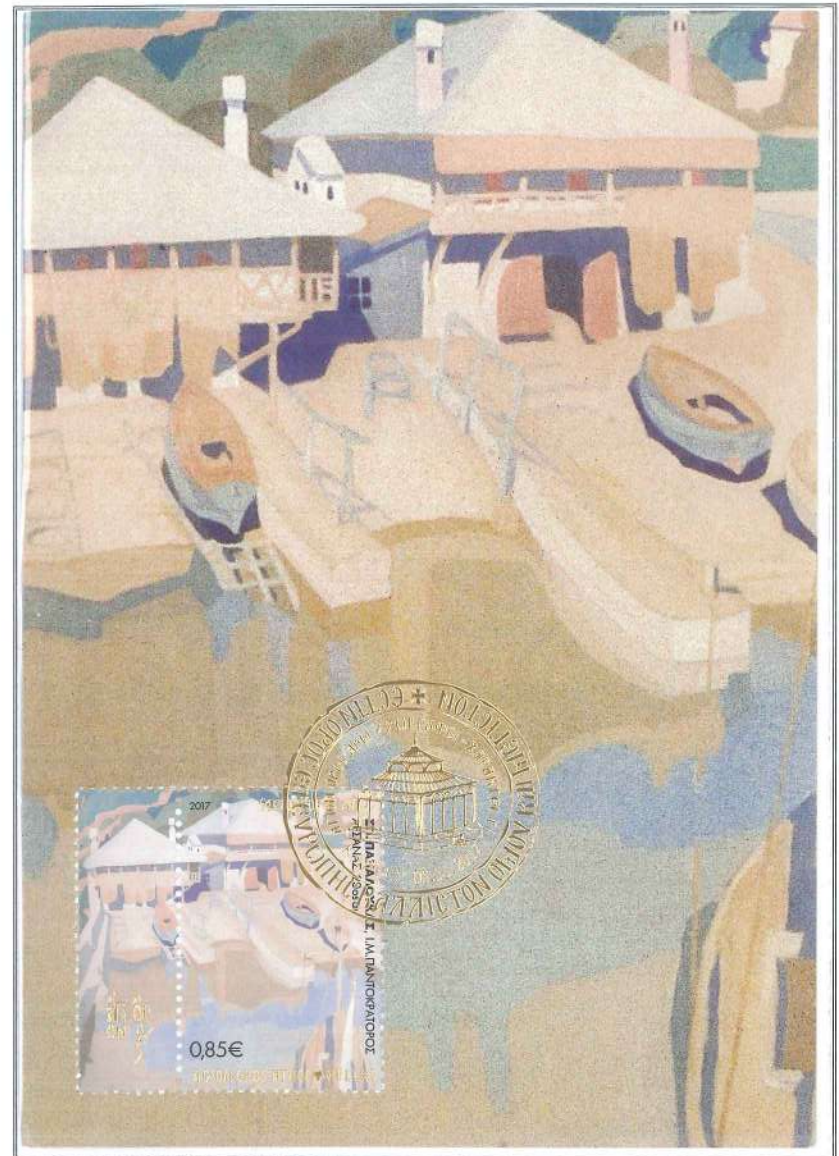
MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history in world heritage

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. Pantokratoros

The Monastery of Pantokratoros is built on the sea, on the Northeast side of Mount Athos. It was founded in the middle of the 14th century. from the great centurion Alexios and the brother great centurion Ioannis.

Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957)

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,85 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ (Σπύρος
Παπαλουκάς – 20ος αιώνας)
H. M. of PANTOKRATOROS (Spiros
Papalukas – 20th cent)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings –

H. M. Stavoniketa

It is the smallest in building facilities and the poorest Monastery of Mount Athos. It got its name according to a testimony from two monks, Stavros, and Nikitas, who had cells nearby.

Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957).

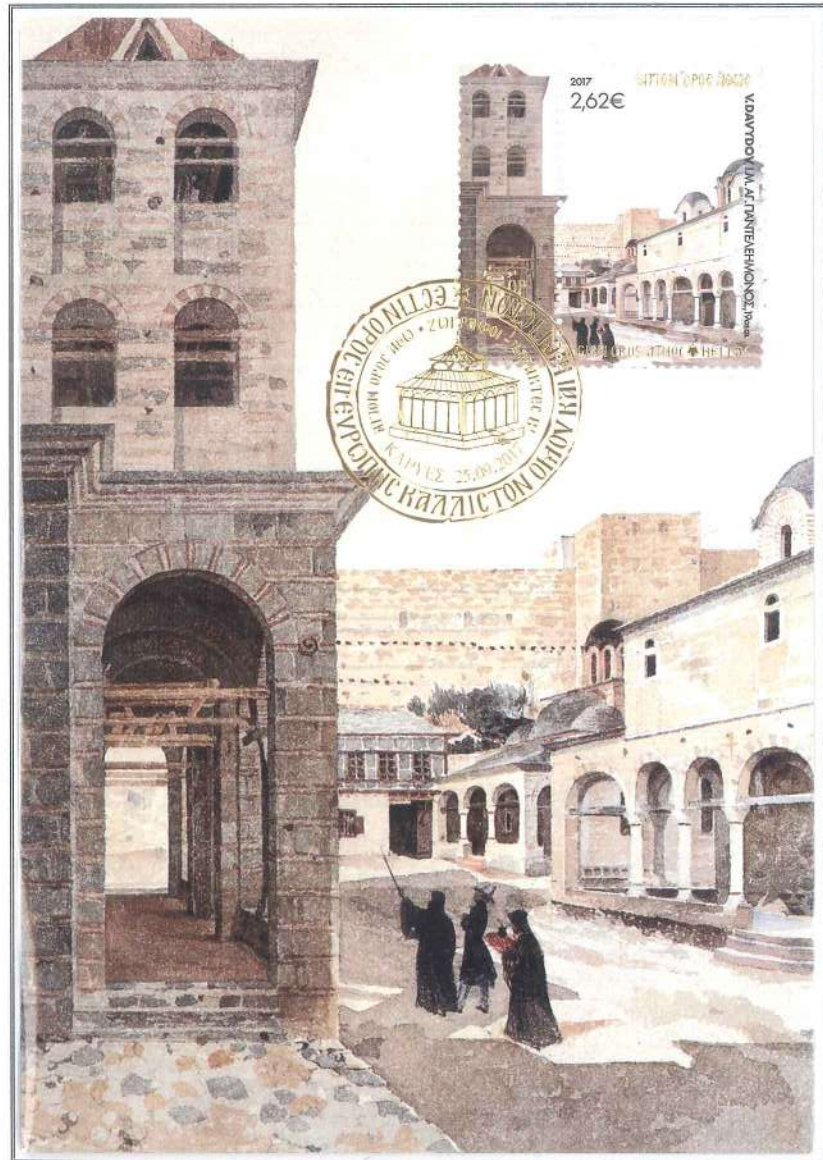
Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,62 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΣΤΑΥΡΟΝΙΚΗΤΑ (Σπύρος Παπαλουκάς
– 20ος αιώνας)
H. M. of STAVRONIKETA (Spiros
Papalukas – 20th cent)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history
in world heritage

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and
Engravings – H. M. of Docheiariou

The establishment of the Monastery dates to the 10th century and its founder is Euthymios, a student and co-practitioner of Saint Athanasios of Athonite, who had the service of "Dochiarii" in the Monastery of the Great Lavra, hence the name Dochiarii.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 25/09/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΔΟΧΕΙΑΡΙΟΥ
(Vladimir Davidov – 19^{ος} αι)
H. M. of ΔΟΧΕΙΑΡΟΥ (Vladimir
Davydov – 19th cent)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post



- 08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings –
H. M. of AGION PANTELEIMONOS

It was founded at the beginning of the 11th century, in the place of today's Paleomonastir or Sketi Vogoroditsa.

It used to be called Thessalonikeos Monastery and later Xylourgou Monastery.

Painting by Vladimir Davydov (1871 – 1906).

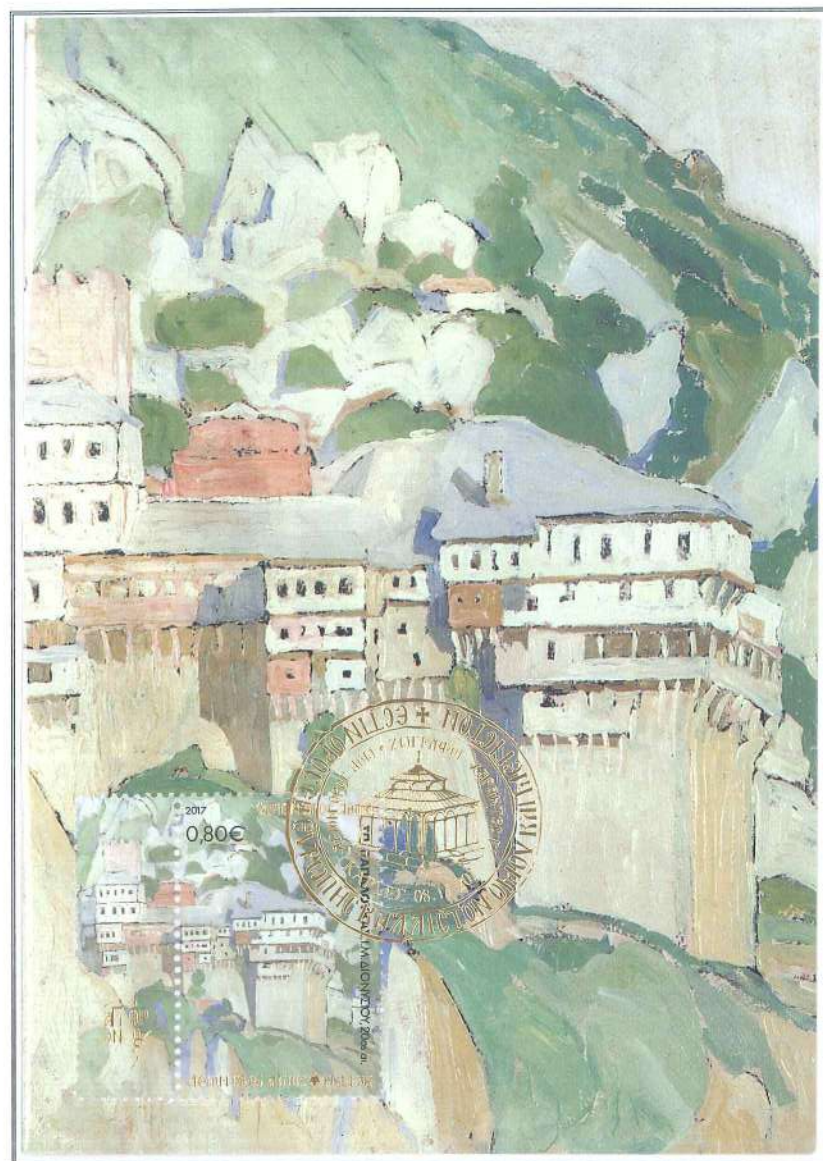
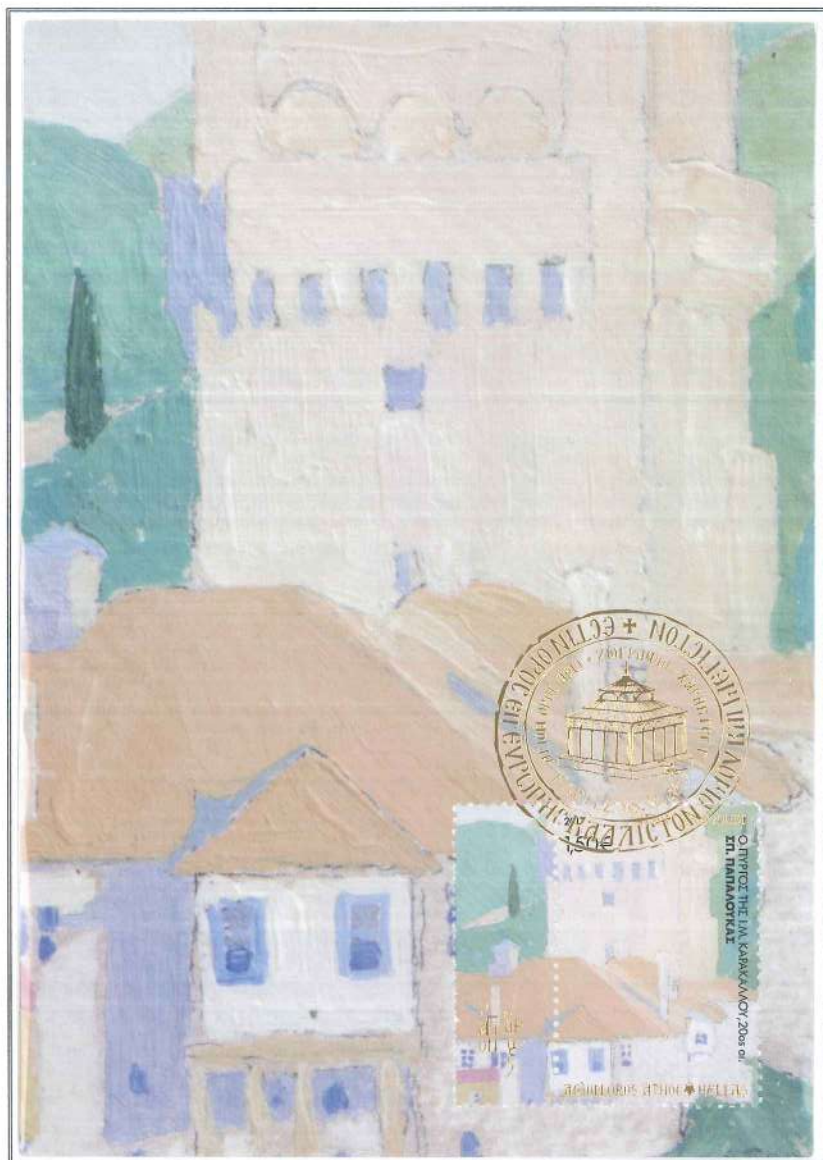
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 2,62 E
Issued on: 25/09/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative:
I. M. ΑΓ. ΠΑΝΤΕΛΕΙΜΟΝΟΣ
(Vladimir Davidov – 19^{ος} αι)
H. M. of ΑΓ. ΠΑΝΤΕΛΕΙΜΟΝΟΣ
(Vladimir Davydov – 19th cent)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of DIONYSIOU

It was built in the middle of the 14th century by the monk Dionysios with financial support from Emperor Alexios III Komnenos of Trebizond. It was originally called "Nea Petra".

Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,80 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΥ
(Σπύρος Παπαλουκάς – 20ος αιώνας)
H. M. of DIONISIOU
(Spiros Papalukas – 20th cent)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings –

H. M. of KARAKALLOU

The Caracalla Monastery is located between the monasteries of Megistis Lavra and Ivera, at an altitude of 200m. from the sea. According to tradition, it was founded by the Roman emperor Caracalla, but there are other versions.

Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,50 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΚΑΡΑΚΑΛΛΟΥ
(Σπύρος Παπαλουκάς – 20ος αιώνας)
H. M. of KARAKALLOU
(Spiros Papalukas – 20th cent)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Koutloumousiou

The Monastery is located at 500m from Karyes. It was founded in the 13th century. by Constantine, Christianized son of Azzedine II. of the Koutloumos family.

Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,90 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΠΑΝΤΟΚΡΑΤΟΡΟΣ (Σπύρος
Παπαλουκάς – 20ος αιώνας)
H. M. of KOUTLOUMOUSIOU (Spiros
Papaloukas – 20th cent)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. Agio Pavlou

It is located at an altitude of 140 meters from the sea and is dedicated to the Presentation of Christ. It was founded at the end of the 9th and beginning of the 10th century, by Pavlos Xeropotaminos or Xeropotamitis on the ruins of a small cell of the Entrance of the Virgin, the which had been founded in 377.

Painting by Vladimir Davydov (1871 – 1906).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,50 E
Issued on: 25/09/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΔΟΧΕΙΑΡΙΟΥ
(Vladimir Davydov – 19ος αι)
H. M. of AGIO PAVLOU (Vladimir
Davydov – 19th cent)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – KARYES

Karyes is the largest monastic settlement and therefore the capital of Mount Athos, at least since the 10th century.

Its population amounts to only 163 inhabitants, of which the vast majority are ascetic monks.

Painting by Spyros Papaloukas (1892 - 1957).



Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,20 E

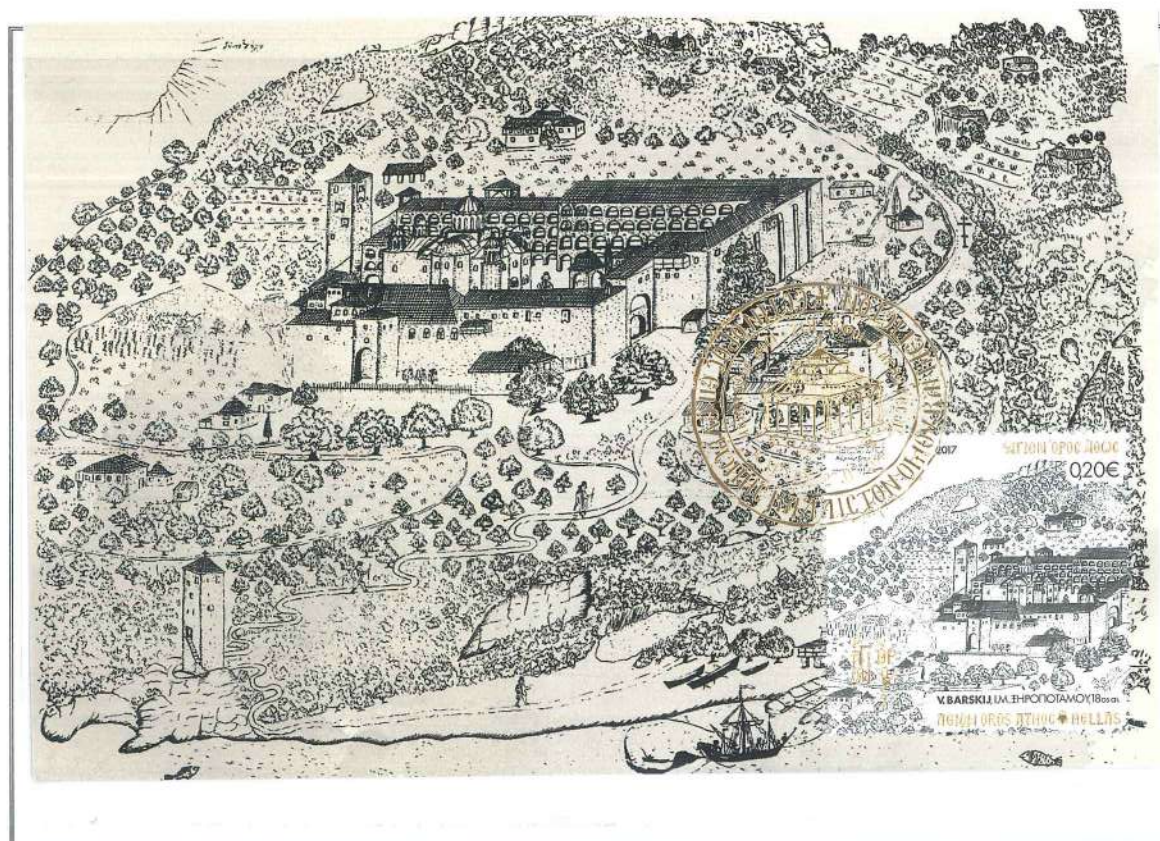
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.

**Commemorative: “ΑΓΙΟΝ ΟΡΟΣ ΑΘΩ,
ΖΩΓΡΑΦΟΙ – ΧΑΡΑΚΤΕΣ, 18ος – 20ος
(Σπύρος Παπαλουκάς – 20ος αιώνας)**

**“ΑΓΙΟΝ ΟΡΟΣ ΑΘΩΣ, ΠΑΙΝΤΕΡΣ –
ΕΝΓΡΑΦΕΙΣ, 18th – 20th cent.)**

KARYES (Spiros Papaloukas – 20th cent)

Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Xeropotamou

According to tradition it was founded around 970 by the empress Pulcheria. However, according to other sources, it was founded by the monk Pavlos Xiropotaminos.

Vasil Grigorovich Barsky (1701 -1747) was an Eastern Orthodox monk and traveler from Kiev. He spent more than 20 years travelling around Southern Europe and the Middle East, leaving an autobiographic account of his journeys.

Special Pictorial Postmark

1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,20 E

Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.

**Commemorative: I. M.
ΞΗΡΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ (Vassileios Grigorovic
Barskij – 18ος αι.)**

**H. M. of XEROPOTAMOU (Vassilieos
Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)**

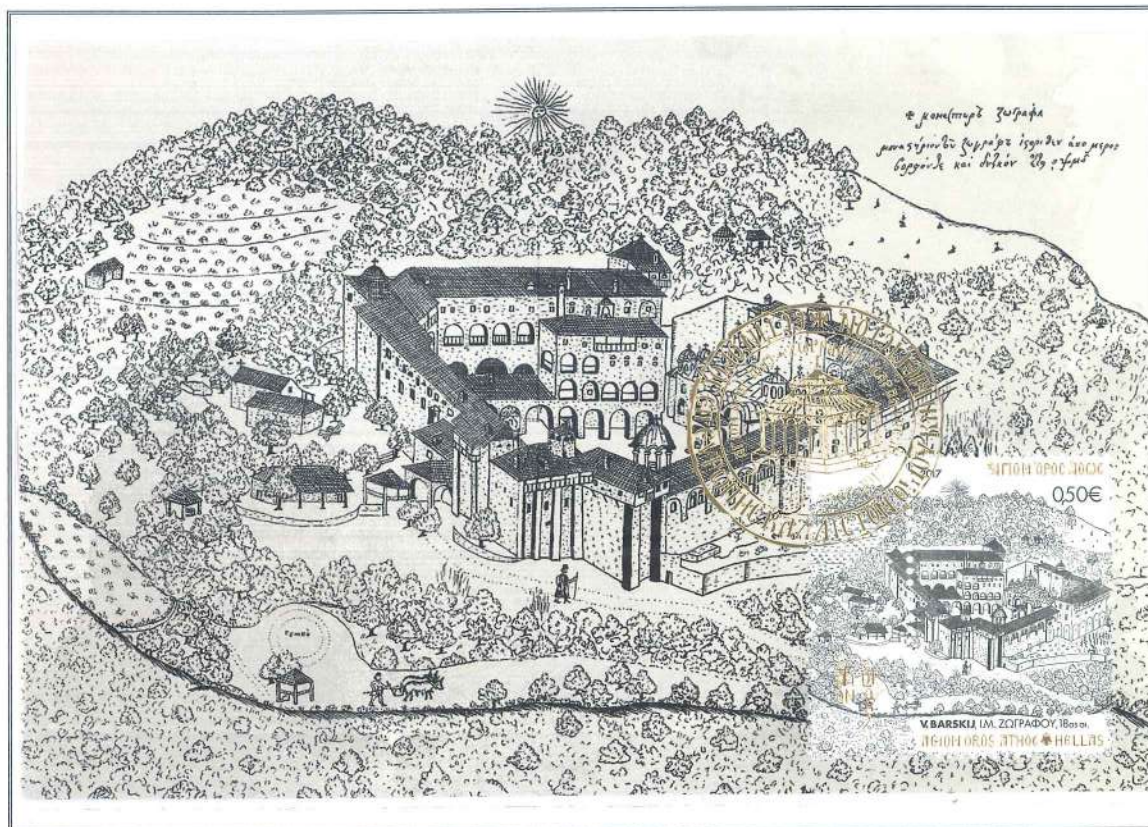
Publisher: I/2017 by Hellenic Post

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Zographou

The Monastery is located at an altitude of 160 meters, on a slope of the peninsula and is dedicated to Saint George.

According to tradition, it was founded in the 10th century, in the years of Leo, the Wise by three brothers, Moses, Aaron, and John from Ahrida.

Engravings by Vassileios Gregorovic Baarskij (1701-1747).

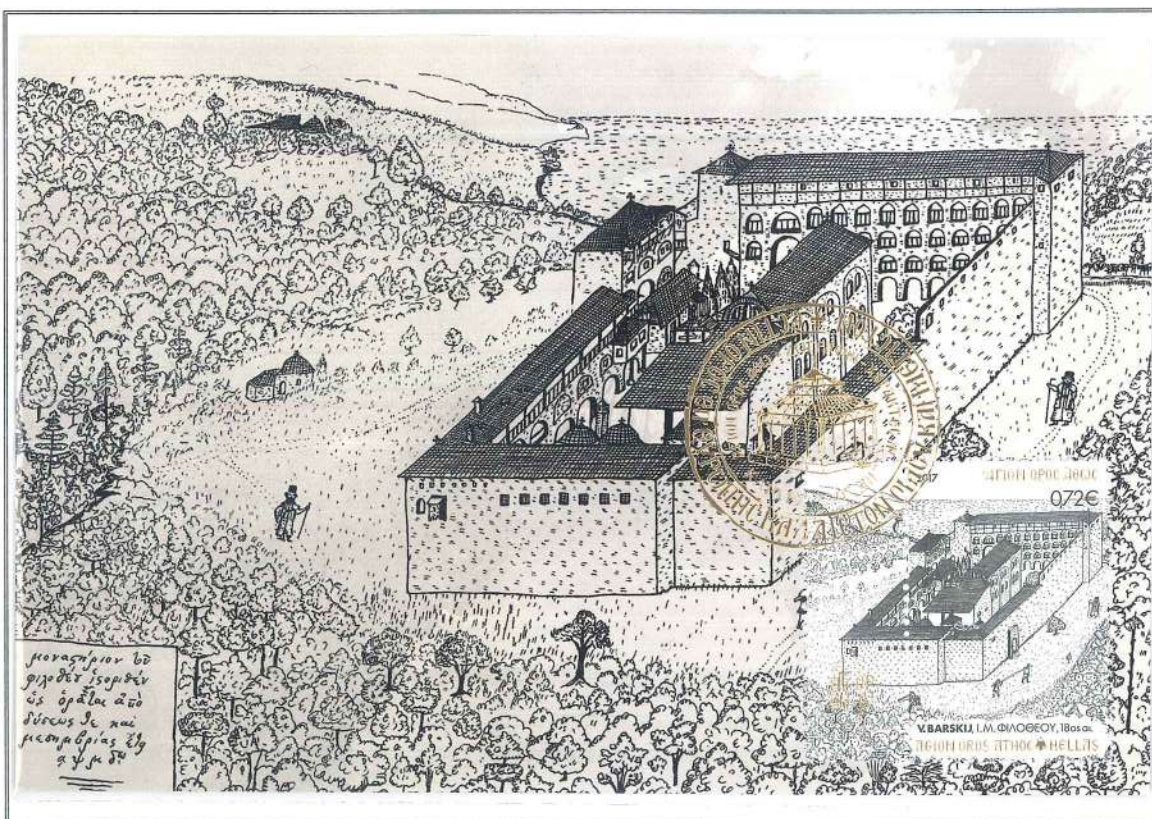


Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,50 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΖΩΓΡΑΦΟΥ
(Vassileios Grigorovic Barskij – 18^{ος}
α.λ.) H. M. of ZOGRAPHOU (Vassileios
Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2017 by Hellenic Post

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Philotheou

It was founded in the 10th century, from Saint Philotheus. The monastery used to be called Fteris Monastery. In this monastery there is the miraculous icon of OUR VIRGIN GLYKOPHILOUS, painted by the Evangelist Luke, and the icon of OUR VIRGIN GERONTISSA.

Engravings by Vassileios Gregorovic Baarskij (1701-1747).



Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΦΙΛΟΘΕΟΥ
(Vassileios Grigorovic Barskij – 18^{ος}
α.λ.)
H. M. of PHILOTHEOU (Vassileios
Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2017 by Hellenic Post

MAXIMAPHILY – Mount Athos and its history
in world heritage

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and
Engravings – H. M. of VATOPAIDI

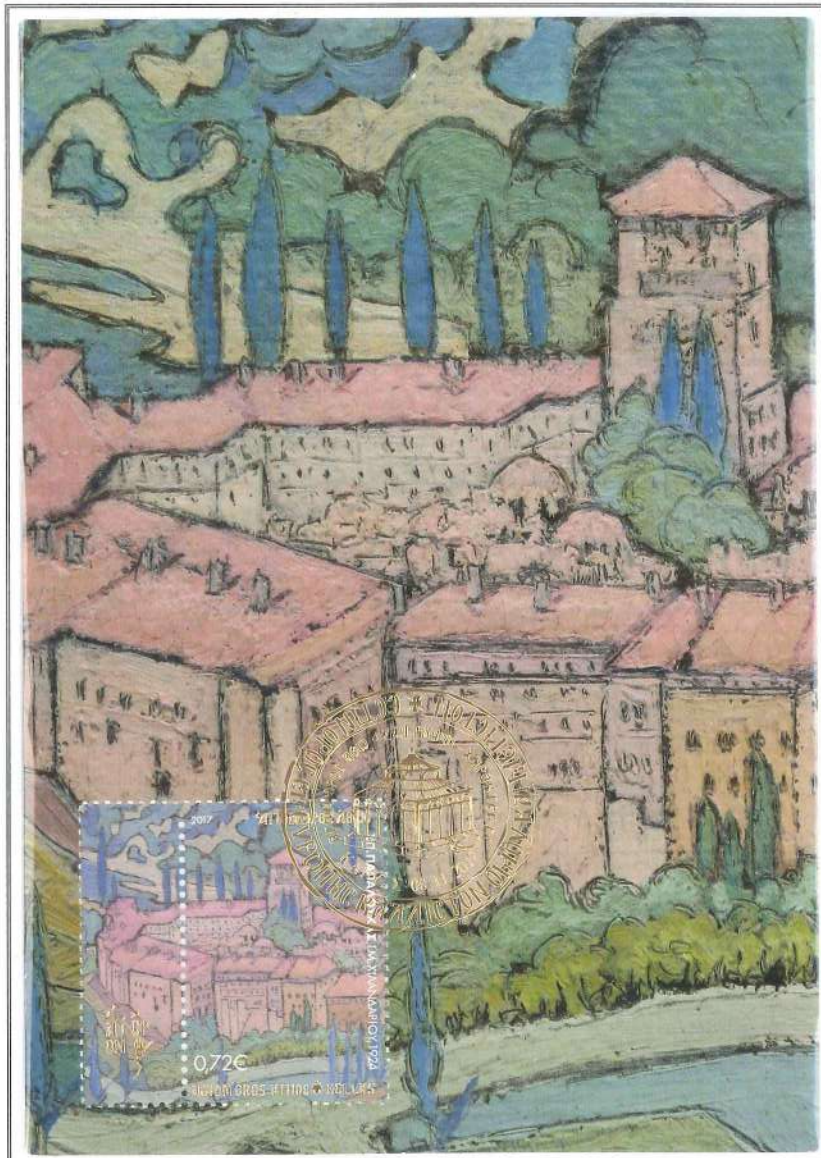
*The etymology of the more common writing
Vatopedi comes from the presence of rich
vegetation and stones around the monastery,
which still exists today.*

*Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,80 E
Issued on: 25/09/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΒΑΤΟΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ
(Vladimir Davidov – 19^{ος} αι)
H. M. of VATOPAIDI (Vladimir
Davydov – 19th cent)
Publisher: II/2017 by Hellenic Post*



- 08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings –
H. M. of CHILANDARIOU

*Its name most likely came from the Greek saint monk Georgios Chilandarios,
founder and builder of the earlier Monastery that was built in the 11th
century and parts of it that have survived to this day with building
improvements are on the southwest side.*



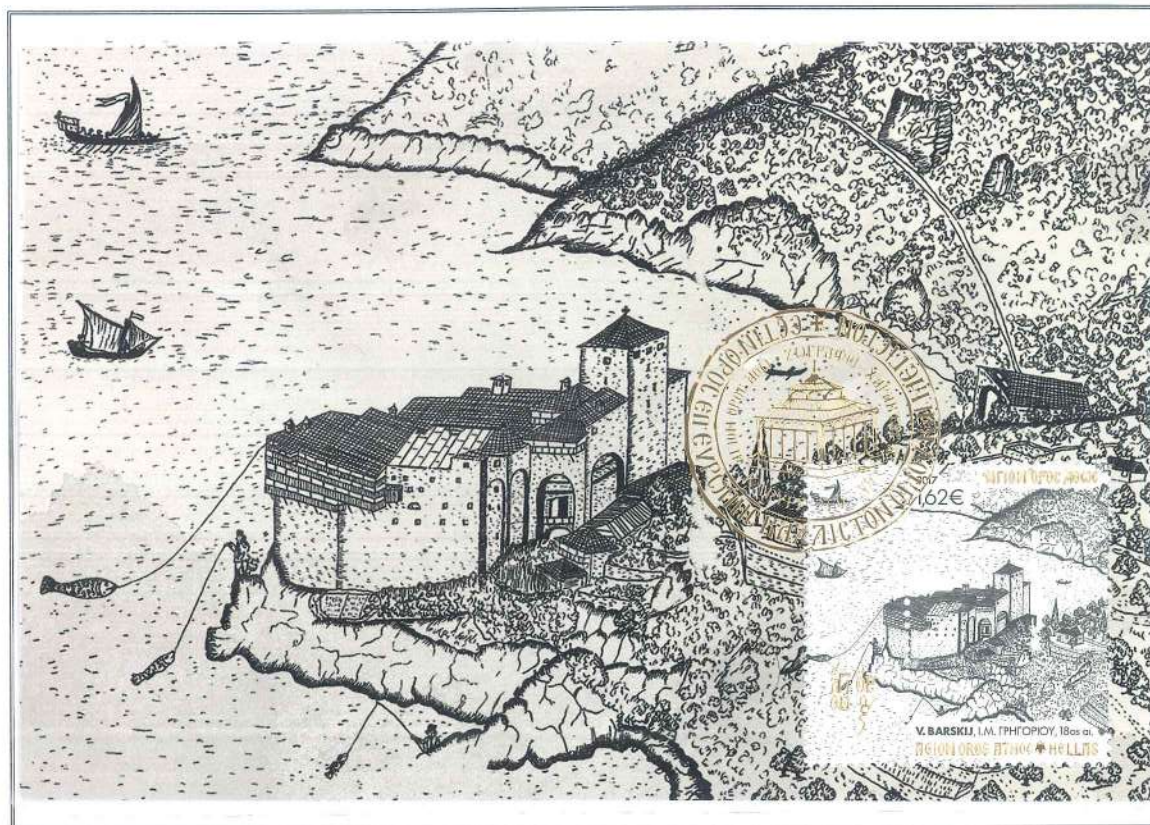
*Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,72 E
Issued on: 08/11/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative:
I. M. ΧΙΛΑΝΔΑΡΙΟΥ
(Σπύρος Παπαλουκάς – 1924)
H. M. of CHILANDARIOU
(Spiros Papaloukas – 1924)
Publisher: III/2017 by Hellenic Post*

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Gregoriou

The Monastery of Gregoriou is built on the sea, in the 14th century, on the side of the peninsula, between the Dionysos and Simonos Petra Monasteries and is dedicated to 'St. Nicholas.

According to a manuscript codex, it was founded by Saint Gregory of Sinai.

Engravings by Vassileios Gregorovic Baarskij (1701-1747).

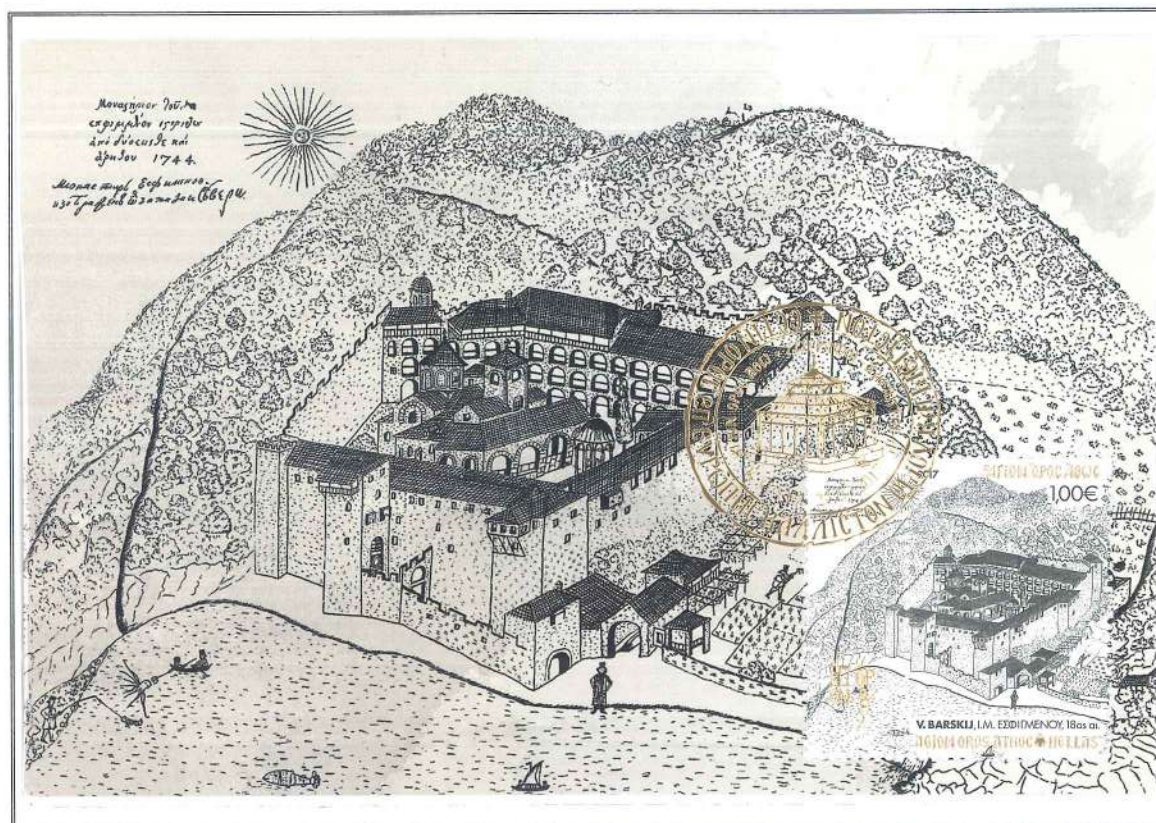


Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,62 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΓΡΗΓΟΡΙΟΥ
(Vassileios Grigorovic Barskij – 18ος
αι.) H. M. of GREGORIOU (Vassileios
Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2017 by Hellenic Post

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Esphigmenou

It was founded in the middle of the 10th century, while according to tradition it was built in the 5th century by the emperor Theodosius II and his sister Pulcheria.

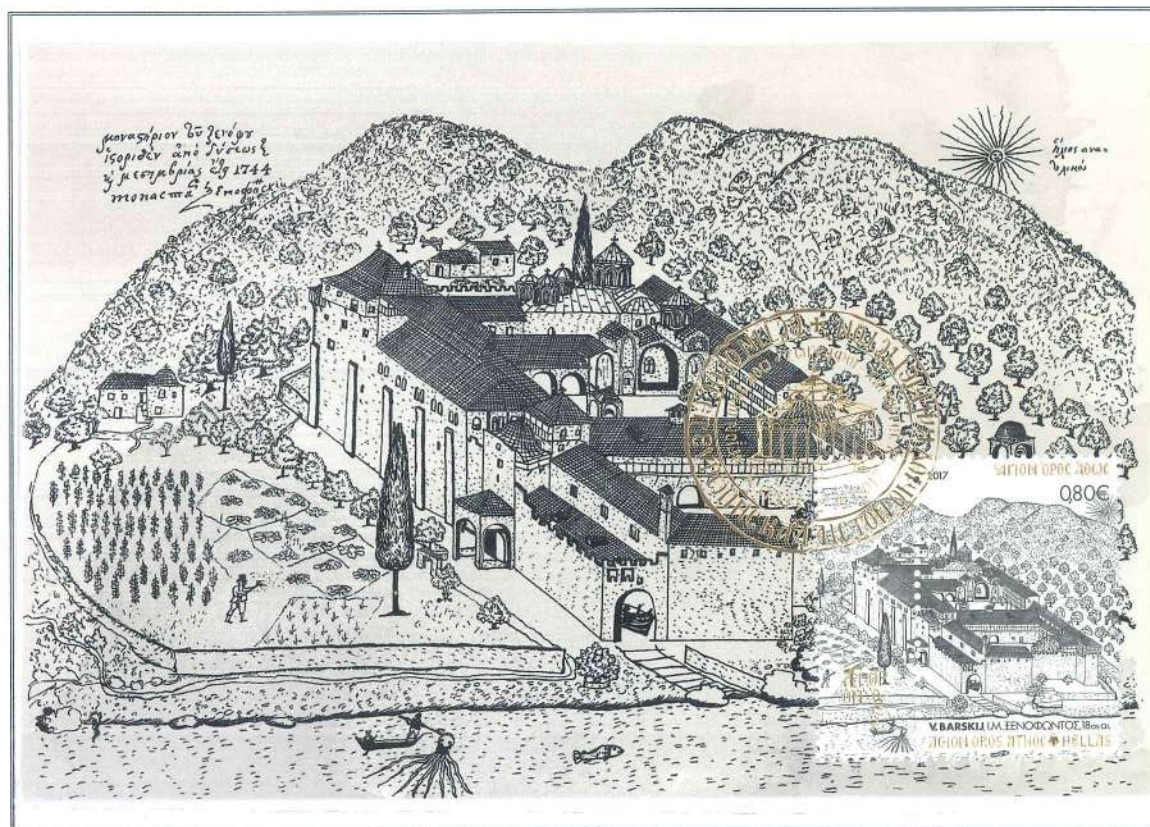
Engravings by Vassileios Gregorovic Baarskij (1701-1747).



Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΕΣΦΗΓΜΕΝΟΥ
(Vassileios Grigorovic Barskij – 18ος
αι.)
H. M. of ESPHIGMENOU (Vassileios
Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2017 by Hellenic Post

08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Xenophontos

The monastery is built on the sea, between the Monasteries of Dochiariou and Ag. Panteleimonos. It was founded in 998 by Saint Xenophon from where it got its name and is dedicated to St. George. Engravings by Vassileios Gregorovic Baarskij (1701-1747).



Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,62 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΞΕΝΟΦΩΝΤΟΣ
(Vassileios Grigorovic Baarskij – 18οσ α.λ.)
H. M. of Xenophontos (Vassileios Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2017 by Hellenic Post



08 – Agion Oros Athos, Paintings and Engravings – H. M. of Konstamonitou

The monastery was founded around the 11th century and is located at an altitude of 200m from the sea. According to tradition, it was founded by the son of Constantine the Great Konstas or by an ascetic who came from Kastamona in Asia Minor. Engravings by Vassileios Gregorovic Baarskij (1701-1747).

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 27/07/2017 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΚΩΝΣΤΑΜΟΝΙΤΟΥ (Vassileios Grigorovic Baarskij – 18οσ α.λ.)
H. M. of KONSTAMONITOU (Vassileios Grigorovic Baarskij – 18th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2017 by Hellenic Post

09 – Agion Oros Athos, techniques and works of art – Embroideries - DIONYSIOU

How much life the embroiderer manages to give to his work with the minimal tools he has. Skilled gold embroiderers, true artists – *acu pictores*: “needle painters,” as the texts call them – seem to have been inspired by portable iconography and imagery. And there are times when the composition of an epitachel, with the Deesis and the hierarchs in line, is worthy of a church arch.

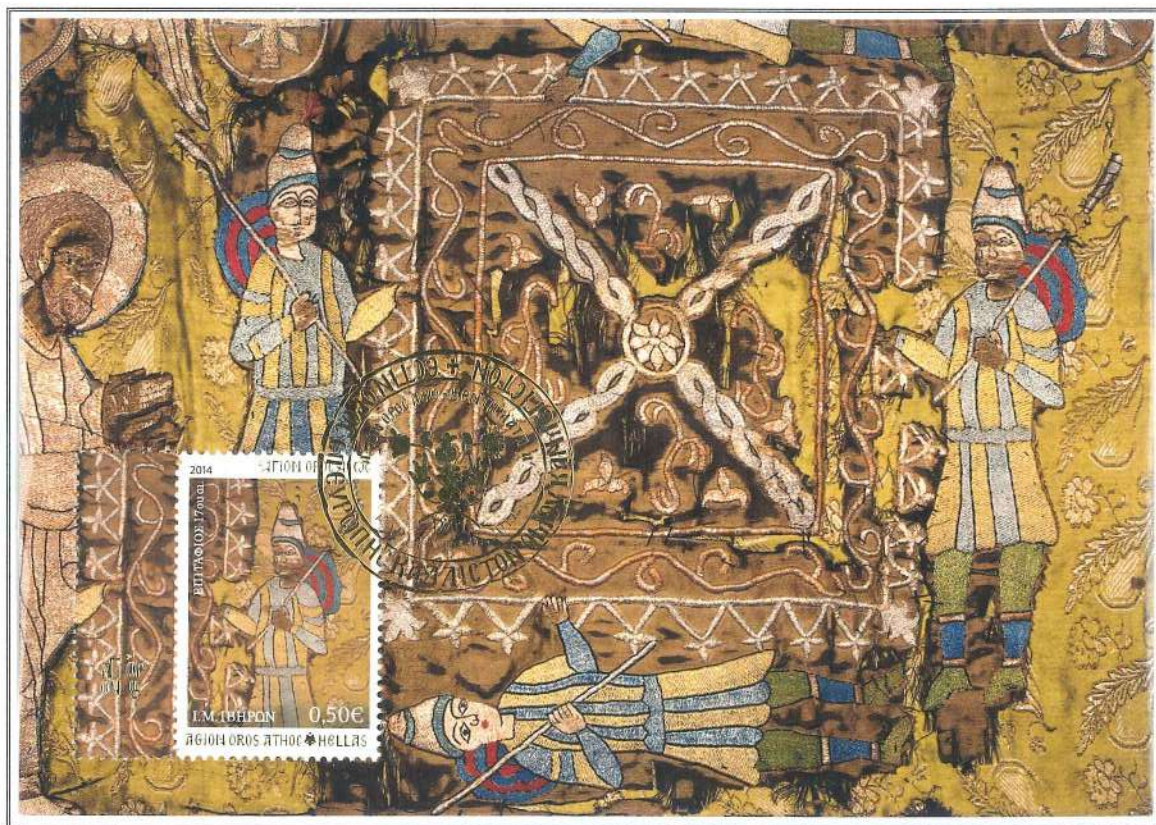
Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,40 E
Issued on: 09/07/2014 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΔΙΟΝΥΣΙΟΥ:
Χρυσοκέντητο επιτραχήλιο (16^{ος} -17^{ου}
αι.)- H. M. of DIONYSIOY (Gold-
embroidered Priest's Stole (16th – 17th
Publisher: 1/2014 by Hellenic Post



09 – Agion Oros Athos, techniques and works of art – Embroideries - IVERON

The pictorial renderings of the garments, given by a theologian and designed, many times, by an experienced painter, are executed by the hand of the gold embroiderer with gold thread and needle. As a Liturgy, they transport us from created experiences to a hidden world. Gold painters and embroiderers often reach such a level that when it comes to technical perfection, these elegant crafts cannot be considered minor works of art, they belong to great art.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 09/07/2014 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΙΒΗΡΩΝ:
Επιτάφιος (17^{ου} αι.)
H. M. of IVERON: Parament for the
Lamentations or Epitaphios(17th cent.)
Publisher: 1/2014 by Hellenic Post



09 – Agion Oros Athos, techniques and works of art – Stone Relief – H. M. IVERON

Fragments of important antiquities incorporated into newer buildings as... architectural "spoils", highlight the thousand-year history of Mount Athos.

In the Monastery of Iveron, and specifically in the cloister of the catholicon, there is an 11th century marble breastplate, made of white marble in the center of which there is a cross of the Maltese type (the cross with 8 spikes and 4 towards the center which symbolize the four virtues: wisdom, justice, courage, modesty).

Special Pictorial Postmar9
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,80 E
Issued on: 26/01/2016 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΧΙΛΙΑΝΔΑΡΙΟΥ:
Θωράκιο
- H. M. of IVERON – Stone Relief
Publisher: I/2016 by Hellenic Post



09 – Agion Oros Athos, techniques and works of art – Stone Relief – H. M. PANTELEIMONOS

In Panteleimonos Monastery there are ancient statues, inscriptions, pottery tripods, a wide range of antiquities that probably come from the Sanctuary of Ammon Zeus, which has been excavated in Kallithea, Halkidiki.

The capital by H.M. Panteleimonos, the highest part of the column which supposedly supports the architrave (horizontal part) of the roof of the building. This upper part of the column varies both in form and decoration, as well as in place, time period and material.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1° Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 10/11/2016 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΠΑΝΤΕΛΗΜΟΝΟΣ: Κιονοκρᾶνο
H. M. of PANTELEIMONOS:
Stone Relief
Publisher: IV/2016 by Hellenic Post



09 – Agion Oros Athos, techniques and works of art – Wood carving - XEROPOTAMOU

Wonderful handmade wood carvings from Mount Athos. Unique designs with Jesus Christ, Virgin Mary, the Angels and Saints of our church. Wooden crosses, candlesticks, icons, blessing crosses and pendants. The Athonite monks, deliver us exceptional artworks of wood carving, where their artistic expression, aesthetics and sensitivity are reflected.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 0,80 E
Issued on: 09/07/2015 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M.
ΞΗΡΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ: Θωρακιο Τεμπλου
(18^{ος} αι.)- H. M. of ΧΕΡΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ -
Wood carving (16th cen.)
Publisher: II/2015 by Hellenic Post



09 – Agion Oros Athos, techniques and works of art – Wood carving - KARAKALLOU

The wood carvings from Mount Athos impress with their rich composition, their beauty, the refinement of their processing and their originality.

The handicrafts of the monks of Mount Athos are made with hard work and a lot of prayer. That is why they have passed on their blessings to those who use them.

Special Pictorial Postmark
1^o Circulation Day – GREECE – 1,00 E
Issued on: 08/09/2015 – KARYES.
Commemorative: I. M. ΚΑΡΑΚΑΛΛΟΥ:
Λεπτομέρεια από Προσκυνητάρι
(18ου αι.)
H. M. of ΚΑΡΑΚΑΛΛΟΥ: Wood carving
(18th cent.)
Publisher: III/2015 by Hellenic Post

