

A CRIPPLED WOMAN CURED

Mrs. Tavlandos, from Chicago, suffering from an incurable disease and unable to walk, had a friend suggest that she visit the Shrine. So she came with the intention of spending all night in the Shrine. I told her it was my duty to keep her company until midnight. And so at midnight I left her. The next morning I went to the Shrine, but she was not there. The same afternoon, I met her in the Shrine. She was in the best of health and started telling me that she remained in the Shrine until morning when she felt perfectly well and she was able to walk without the help of her crutches. Since that night she comes regularly to pay homage to the Ioon of Taxiarchis.

DEAF WOMAN RECOVERS HER HEARING

During the Holy Week of the year 1954, a 36 year old woman, accompanied by her brother in law, came to the Shrine to receive the Holy Union, and according to what she told me later, she felt a humming in her ears and on her way home regained her hearing which she had lost 18 years before.

THE SHRINE'S BELL RINGS DURING THE NIGHT

On July 19th of 1958 about 11pm, while I was with some relatives discussing the miracles of Taxiarchis, we all heard the Shrine's bell ring two times. We thought that someone was ringing the bell as they were passing by. We went to see who it was. We did not see anybody and the rope was in place. This happened three more times before a new miracle took place. This was taken as a sign of the coming miracle.

CRIPPLED WOMAN OPERATED ON THREE TIMES AND NOT CURED;

SHE IS CURED NOW THROUGH TAXIARCHIS' MIRACLE

On July 13, 1958 at 2:00 p.m., Mrs. Gerolinos came into the Shrine having been advised by Mrs. Tavlandos who, a you have read, had been cured of her crippling sickness.

What I saw was tragic. Her son carried her into the Shrine and Mr. Markopolous helped her get settled. I rushed over and helped sit her in front of the Ioon of Taxiarchis. She started to cry inconsolably. I tried to console her and give her strength and tell her that Taxiarchis would not forget her. At that time, Mrs. Gerolinos asked us to help her kneel. As she was crying I was making the sign of the Cross on her knees with a piece of cotton dipped in the oil of Taxiarchis.

A few minutes after we brought Mrs. Gerolinos to her knees. Mrs. Gerolinos stood up and started running around the Shrine. Everyone watching was dumbfounded and could not speak.

At the request of Mrs. Gerolinos, I called Father Rappis of Saint Nicholas Church who came right away. Mrs. Gerolinos related the story to Father and asked him to pray before the Ioon. After the prayer, Mrs. Gerolinos placed her crutches before the Ioon of Taxiarchis, and departed for home.

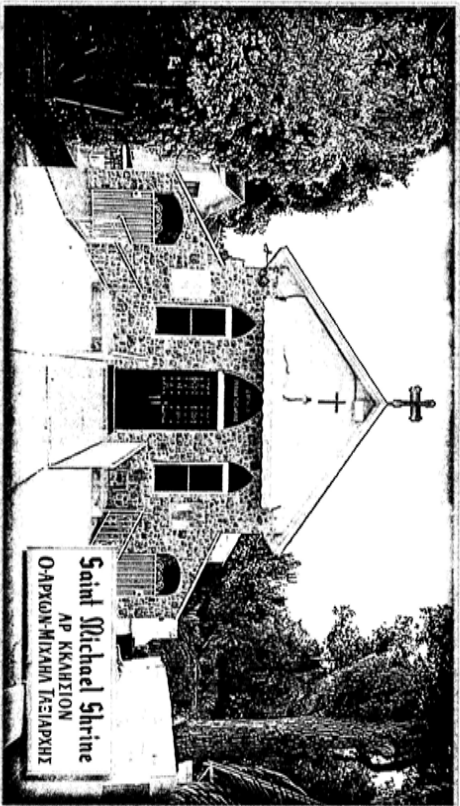
Mrs. Gerolinos frequently visits the Shrine and dedicates many offerings to Taxiarchis as proof of her gratitude.

I am sorry that I cannot relate the many other miracles that I myself have seen. I think that those which I related are enough so each Christian soul should believe in the power and Grace of Almighty God and the Archangel, who willingly offer their help to and guidance to all who approach with faith and ask their aid.

MARIA DIM TSIACCHIS

113 Hope St., Tarpon Springs, FL.

The History of the Devotion of the Shrine of Saint Michael Taxiarchis and the Description of the Miracles of the Miraculous Ioon of Saint Michael Taxiarchis



PREFACE

Every Country, every Nationality and every beneficial Organization has its own Life History. The undesignated has an interesting story to relate, which of course she will not go into details as she would not like to tire the reader. Because of its great interest, I believe this testimonial will greatly please the reader and most of all, strengthen his or her religious feelings, because it springs purely from the divine strength of the Creator, Almighty God, and His Archangel Michael.

This is not a myth, not a vision, but a reality, one which I have lived and seen myself together with many other people. It is about miracles retained through the Divine Grace of the miraculous, holy and venerable Ioon of Archangel Saint Michael (Taxiarchis) whose desire and will was to have a Shrine bearing his name erected in Tarpon Springs, Florida, of U.S.A. These all happened as a result of a serious illness in my son Steve, who was saved from a sure death by the grace of Taxiarchis.

This proof you will realize by the story which I am going to relate to you, together with some of the miracles performed after the erection of the Holy Home of the Taxiarchis. I believe that I am obligated to Him and, as an indication of a very small sign of my thankfulness to Him, together with a sole ambition that the content of this testimonial be widely spread, in order to show once more the power of the Almighty God, and that which is impossible for man is possible for God.

MARIA DIM TSIACCHIS

THE MIRACULOUS ICON OF THE TAXIARCHIS MICHAEL (PANNORMITIS)

In June 1937 during my visit to my birthplace, Syri, Dodecanese, Greece, I visited the Holy Abbey of Taxiarchis Michael of Panormitis, with the purpose of fulfilling an old promise of my husband to Taxiarchis when he was in danger while on a voyage when he was a seaman. During my visit to the Abbey, I met Chrysanthos, at the time Abbot Prior of the Monastery, to whom I delivered the offering which my husband promised.

The Abbot Prior thanked me for the offering, and to show his gratitude, took a small silver Ioon which was hanging in the Church, portraying the Taxiarchis Michael, and offered it to me.

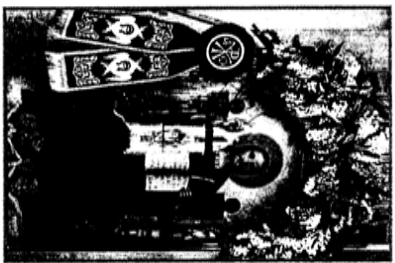
As I held the Ioon in my hands, chills of emotion and awe seized my body and soul immediately. After six months in Syri, I came back to my home in Tarpon Springs, Florida where I have been living since 1925.

At my arrival, I put my Holy Ioon of the Taxiarchis on a table under my Icomensation together with a special sacred lamp. A year later, on the 6th of November, 1938, about 3pm, a few relatives and I were conversing about miscellaneous subjects. All of a sudden, we heard the sound of a Church bell, the same as that of the Holy Abbey of Taxiarchis of Panormitis, in Syri. This sound was coming from the Ioon of Taxiarchis, which was on the table. The sound lasted until 3am the next day. Indescribable was the emotion which seized all of us.

At 7:00 a.m. the same day, I visited our Reverend Priest of the parochial Holy Church of Saint Nicholas of Tarpon Springs, Father Theophilos Karaphilis, and related to him what had occurred. According to Father Theophilos' instructions, I brought the Ioon to Church where a holy ceremony of breaking the holy bread was performed, because of this strange incident.

It is important to state at this point that the following day was the Holy Day of Saint Michael Taxiarchis. After eight days I took the Ioon from the Church and brought it home.

This event repeated itself the following year and the next one. The same Church ceremony was repeated.



MY SON STEVE IS VERY SICK

After a month, in December 1939, my son Steve, the second born, became sick with a temperature. At first this did not disturb me, as I thought it was the usual light cold. But day by day, the temperature became higher and this began to worry me. I called the doctor who advised he be admitted to a hospital. Immediately I took Steve to the hospital of Saint Joseph at Tampa, Florida.

While in the hospital, his condition became worse. More than 15 distinguished doctors and professors looked after Steve, but no one was able to give his opinion as to what was wrong with my son. Since the day of his entry in the hospital, I was near him, because that is what he wished. Also, he asked me to lay my hand on his forehead, because it made him feel as if it was the hand of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and he felt much better.

Day after day passed without any improvement shown. Every day he was losing weight and he began to look like a skeleton. He did not eat, did not speak, and did not recognize anyone. Three months passed and one day the doctors notified me that there was no hope left, and I had to notify my husband, who at that time was on a trip, to return immediately so that we could be with our son to the end.

STEVE ASKS FOR THE ICON OF THE TAXIARCHIS AND TALKS WITH HIM

While Steve was in a coma, all of a sudden, he said to me: "Mama, I want you to bring me the icon of the Taxiarchis." At once I asked my konnpara, Sophia Karadoulia, to go to my home and bring the icon.

Mrs. Karadoulia had not yet returned to the hospital when my son started to say: "Mama, the Taxiarchis came." But before he finished the statement, Mrs. Karadoulia entered the room.

As soon as Steve saw the icon he asked that we put it on his breast. He crossed his hands on the icon and started to ramble. I heard him say, "Yes, but my mother has no money." And then he said, "Mama, Taxiarchis wants you to build His Shrine." And I answered, "Yes, Steve, I will." But I really did not mean it; I just wanted to satisfy Steve, who I thought was in a state of delirium.

Steve continued to talk on, but all who were present were unable to understand what he was saying. Suddenly, I heard my son addressing me, "Mama, say yes with your heart, for he says tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. I will be cured." Only at this time did I understand that this was an intervention of the Divine Grace of Taxiarchis and it was His wish to erect His Shrine. Then I faithfully promised and said, "I will do it." Although my economic situation would not allow me such expenses, I said to my son, "Yes, Steve, yes, my Steve, with all my heart, I will erect His Shrine, as long as He wishes it."

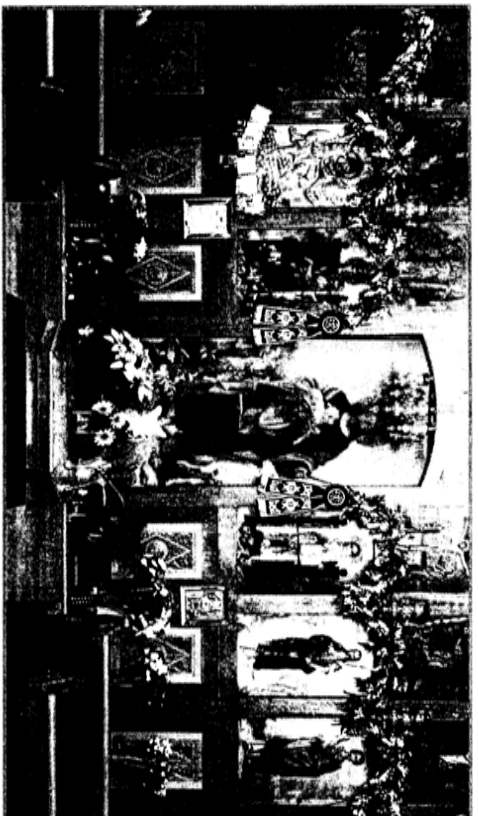
This conversation between Steve and Taxiarchis lasted seven hours, until midnight, and then my son slept quietly until 10:00 a.m. the next day.

STEVE CURED BY TAXIARCHIS

At 10am the next day, Steve woke up and told me, "You see Mama, I am cured," and at the same time he tried to get up from his bed. At this moment the attending doctor, Dr. Cook, was coming in his room, and as he saw this he was astonished. But Dr. Cook soon recovered from the shock and said to Steve, "You see Steve, you are cured." Taxiarchis cured me," was Steve's reply. "Yes, Steve," said Dr. Cook, the Taxiarchis cured you and I too prayed to Jesus Christ to cure you because I was not able to cure you."

A CURED STEVE LEAVES THE HOSPITAL TO GO HOME

From that day on Steve was feeling very well and by the evening of the same day he had gained five pounds. After three more days in the hospital the doctors let Steve go home. In a few days my son went back to school to complete his studies, then on to a career in teaching mathematics at the High School of Tarpon Springs.



MY ACTIVITIES FOR THE ERECTION OF THE SHRINE

Since the day Steve came home, my attention was directed toward the proper way to erect the Shrine. First, I visited the Archbishop Athensgoros to whom I related the story of my son Steve and my plans to erect the Shrine for Taxiarchis. The Archbishop did not allow me to build it saying that I should not believe the dreams of an 11 year old boy. Also he told me that in order to please Taxiarchis I should make a large icon of Taxiarchis and take it to the Church of Saint Nicholas, where his name day would be celebrated every year. Though I insisted on building the Shrine, the Archbishop did not allow me to proceed because he was afraid it would become a parochial Church and, therefore, be damaging to the economics of Saint Nicholas Church. For a whole year, I was pushing myself to get the permit to build the Shrine, but unfortunately my efforts did not bring any results.

One day, Steve told me, "Mama, you don't love me, because you won't build the Shrine of Taxiarchis."

A few days later Taxiarchis appeared in my dream, caught me by the arm and took me to the place where His Shrine is now built, he said to me, "Here you shall build the Shrine and you will build it a certain size." Taxiarchis further told me that I have to pour three drops of Holy Water to start the foundation.

I told Him the Archbishop did not allow me. But He said to me again, "You must start it and I will help finish it."

The next day I visited the Archbishop again and told him the conversation with Taxiarchis and showed him the marks on my arm made by Taxiarchis' hand.

After all these events he still did not want to grant me the permission to build the Shrine. So I decided to start the work for the erection of the Shrine myself, and I went to the lot where Taxiarchis wanted the Shrine. I originally had bought the land to build my daughter, Goldie's house. I poured the Holy Water and the work for erection began. In a very short time the Shrine was built and in a year the Shrine was ready for Mass.

Much to my distress, the Archbishop, the President of the Community, and the local Greek authorities told me that they would not allow a Mass to be served in the Shrine. This situation upset me to no end.

A few days later, the Taxiarchis appeared before me and said to me, "Do not fear. Everything will be all right." The next morning, as I was going to light the candles, I saw Bishop Germanos Polyzoides in the Shrine chanting the Hymn of Taxiarchis.

When he finished, I approached him. He congratulated me for my Faith and my work, and said to me that I have his permission to have Liturgies in the Shrine. My happiness was indescribable and I discovered another miracle.

Since that time, the Shrine of Taxiarchis, which was built with His will and help, masses are held, and at the holy day of the Memory of Taxiarchis, the Shrine celebrates with the most magnificent Mass. Many loyal followers come from all of the neighboring Greek communities, and many strangers too, to honor the Archangel Michael.

DESCRIPTION OF MIRACLES WHICH TOOK PLACE AFTER THE ERECTION OF THE TAXIARCHIS SHRINE

There were many miracles performed through the miraculous icon of Taxiarchis and it would require many pages to describe only some of them in a few words, and all of the facts that I can remember, since they have been realized a long time ago.

A LITTLE BLIND GIRL RECEIVES HER SIGHT

In the year 1943, a short time after the Shrine was built, among the pilgrims was a mother who had with her a small daughter, six years old. The girl had lost her sight when she was two years old, because of disease. Her mother told me that she dreamed Taxiarchis told her to bring the child to this Shrine and she would get her sight back. After a request prayer by Father Karaphillis, the girl immediately regained her sight.



Never Failing Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael, I Resort To Your Protection
And, In My Faith, Offer This Prayer!

Comfort me in my difficulties and, through the house of our savior, intercede for me and my family that we will be able to hold God close to our hearts and be provided for in all of our necessities.

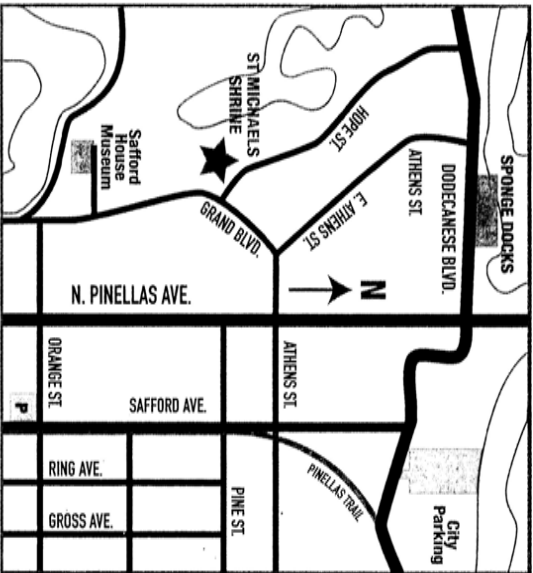
I beseech You to have infinite pity in regard to the favors I ask of you (*Name Them*) that I may be able to overcome all the difficulties as You did the dragon at Your feet.

Say **Three (3) "Hail Marys"**: Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb-Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Say **Three (3) "Our Fathers"**: Our Father, who are in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us our daily bread, and forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Say **Three (3) "Glory Be"**: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

This combination of prayers is to be said for nine (9) consecutive Tuesdays, and on each Tuesday, if able, light a candle! This miraculous Saint grants everything, no matter how difficult, and before the termination of the nine (9) weeks of Tuesdays.

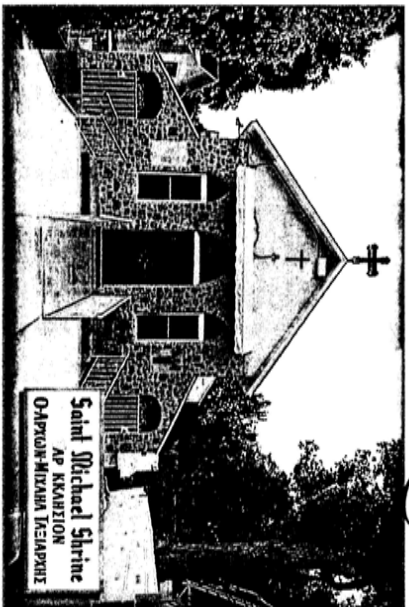


(727) 776-2036

113 Hope St., Tarpon Springs, FL
Shrine Open 6:00am to 6:00pm Daily
(Except Tuesday & Wednesday Closing at 7:00pm)



The Shrine of St. Michael



113 Hope St., Tarpon Springs, FL

CHARMING

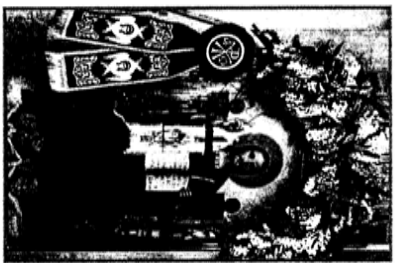
St. Michaels is a charming little Shrine nestled away in a residential area of Old Tarpon Springs. It was built in 1941 by Mary Tsalichis to honor St. Michael for the Miraculous cure of her son. Since then there have been other cures attributed to it. Inside you can spend some time studying the ornate Altar, pieces of art and stunning murals of Angels scattered throughout. You can also wander outside around the small grounds, find a seat under the arbor and take a moment to reflect on the Shrine and its beauty.

AN AMAZING STORY

The Icon of St. Michael



What Makes the St. Michael Shrine Incredible is the story behind the inspiration for this colorful, icon-covered small Shrine, built by the command of the Archangel Michael to commemorate a 1940 Miracle, and is uplifting to those seeking help for their own particular needs. *There is no cost to enter.* The only price you will have to pay is for a candle, if you decide to light one for a prayer. An information sheet inside explains the original MIRACLE that occurred here before completion of the Shrine. Street parking is available as well as behind the shrine



MY SON STEVE IS VERY SICK

After a month, in December 1939, my son Steve, the second born, became sick with a temperature. At first this did not disturb me, as I thought it was the usual light cold. But day by day, the temperature became higher and this began to worry me. I called the doctor who advised he be admitted to a hospital. Immediately I took Steve to the hospital of Saint Joseph at Tampa, Florida.

While in the hospital, his condition became worse. More than 15 distinguished doctors and professors looked after Steve, but no one was able to give his opinion as to what was wrong with my son. Since the day of his entry in the hospital, I was near him, because that is what he wished. Also, he asked me to lay my hand on his forehead, because it made him feel as if it was the hand of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and he felt much better.

Day after day passed without any improvement shown. Every day he was losing weight and he began to look like a skeleton. He did not eat, did not speak, and did not recognize anyone. Three months passed and one day the doctors notified me that there was no hope left, and I had to notify my husband, who at that time was on a trip, to return immediately so that we could be with our son to the end.

STEVE ASKS FOR THE ICON OF THE TAXIARCHIS AND TALKS WITH HIM

While Steve was in a coma, all of a sudden, he said to me: "Mama, I want you to bring me the icon of the Taxiarchis." At once I asked my komparas, Sophia Karadoulia, to go to my home and bring the icon.

Mrs. Karadoulia had not yet returned to the hospital when my son started to say: "Mama, the Taxiarchis came." But before he finished the statement, Mrs. Karadoulia entered the room.

As soon as Steve saw the icon he asked that we put it on his breast. He crossed his hands on the icon and started to ramble. I heard him say, "Yes, but my mother has no money." And then he said, "Mama, Taxiarchis wants you to build His Shrine." And I answered, "Yes, Steve, I will." But I really did not mean it; I just wanted to satisfy Steve, who I thought was in a state of delirium.

Steve continued to talk on, but all who were present were unable to understand what he was saying. Suddenly, I heard my son addressing me, "Mama, say yes with your heart, for he says tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. I will be cured." Only at this time did I understand that this was an intervention of the Divine Grace of Taxiarchis and it was His wish to erect His Shrine. Then I faithfully promised and said, "I will do it." Although my economic situation would not allow me such expenses, I said to my son, "Yes, Steve, yes, my Steve, with all my heart, I will erect His Shrine, as long as He wishes it."

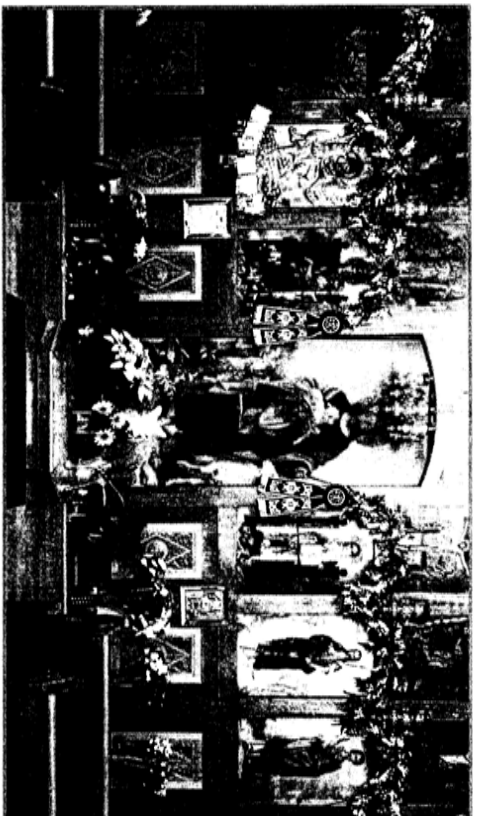
This conversation between Steve and Taxiarchis lasted seven hours, until midnight, and then my son slept quietly until 10:00 a.m. the next day.

STEVE CURED BY TAXIARCHIS

At 10am the next day, Steve woke up and told me, "You see Mama, I am cured," and at the same time he tried to get up from his bed. At this moment the attending doctor, Dr. Cook, was coming in his room, and as he saw this he was astonished. But Dr. Cook soon recovered from the shock and said to Steve, "You see Steve, you are cured." Taxiarchis cured me," was Steve's reply. "Yes, Steve," said Dr. Cook, the Taxiarchis cured you and I too prayed to Jesus Christ to cure you because I was not able to cure you."

A CURED STEVE LEAVES THE HOSPITAL TO GO HOME

From that day on Steve was feeling very well and by the evening of the same day he had gained five pounds. After three more days in the hospital the doctors let Steve go home. In a few days my son went back to school to complete his studies, then on to a career in teaching mathematics at the High School of Tarpon Springs.



MY ACTIVITIES FOR THE ERECTION OF THE SHRINE

Since the day Steve came home, my attention was directed toward the proper way to erect the Shrine. First, I visited the Archbishop Athanasios to whom I related the story of my son Steve and my plans to erect the Shrine for Taxiarchis. The Archbishop did not allow me to build it saying that I should not believe the dreams of an 11 year old boy. Also he told me that in order to please Taxiarchis I should make a large icon of Taxiarchis and take it to the Church of Saint Nicholas, where his name day would be celebrated every year. Though I insisted on building the Shrine, the Archbishop did not allow me to proceed because he was afraid it would become a parochial Church and, therefore, be damaging to the economics of Saint Nicholas Church. For a whole year, I was pushing myself to get the permit to build the Shrine, but unfortunately my efforts did not bring any results.

One day, Steve told me, "Mama, you don't love me, because you won't build the Shrine of Taxiarchis."

A few days later Taxiarchis appeared in my dream, caught me by the arm and took me to the place where His Shrine is now built, he said to me, "Here you shall build the Shrine and you will build it a certain size." Taxiarchis further told me that I have to pour three drops of Holy Water to start the foundation.

I told Him the Archbishop did not allow me. But He said to me again, "You must start it and I will help finish it."

The next day I visited the Archbishop again and told him the conversation with Taxiarchis and showed him the marks on my arm made by Taxiarchis' hand.

After all these events he still did not want to grant me the permission to build the Shrine. So I decided to start the work for the erection of the Shrine myself, and I went to the lot where Taxiarchis wanted the Shrine. I originally had bought the land to build my daughter, Goldie's house. I poured the Holy Water and the work for erection began. In a very short time the Shrine was built and in a year the Shrine was ready for Mass.

Much to my distress, the Archbishop, the President of the Community, and the local Greek authorities told me that they would not allow a Mass to be served in the Shrine. This situation upset me to no end.

A few days later, the Taxiarchis appeared before me and said to me, "Do not fear. Everything will be all right." The next morning, as I was going to light the candles, I saw Bishop Germanos Polyzoides in the Shrine chanting the Hymn of Taxiarchis.

When he finished, I approached him. He congratulated me for my Faith and my work, and said to me that I have his permission to have Liturgies in the Shrine. My happiness was indescribable and I discovered another miracle.

Since that time, the Shrine of Taxiarchis, which was built with His will and help, masses are held, and at the holy day of the Memory of Taxiarchis, the Shrine celebrates with the most magnificent Mass. Many loyal followers come from all of the neighboring Greek communities, and many strangers too, to honor the Archangel Michael.

DESCRIPTION OF MIRACLES WHICH TOOK PLACE AFTER THE ERECTION OF THE TAXIARCHIS SHRINE

There were many miracles performed through the miraculous icon of Taxiarchis and it would require many pages to describe only some of them in a few words, and all of the facts that I can remember, since they have been realized a long time ago.

A LITTLE BLIND GIRL RECEIVES HER SIGHT

In the year 1943, a short time after the Shrine was built, among the pilgrims was a mother who had with her a small daughter, six years old. The girl had lost her sight when she was two years old, because of disease. Her mother told me that she dreamed Taxiarchis told her to bring the child to this Shrine and she would get her sight back. After a request prayer by Father Karaphillis, the girl immediately regained her sight.