

Painted With a Needle, Folk Embroidery of Greece

St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine has a dual mission: to witness the Orthodox Christian faith and share the Hellenic culture while giving the historic account of the Greek immigrants who came to America as indentured servants in 1768.



Embroidery, a beautiful art form, is deeply ingrained in the culture of Greece. This art form has been mostly practiced by women, handing down traditional patterns and techniques for centuries throughout the generations.

Here we offer the visitor a closer look at a few samples created in the 18th century and in the years before and after.

These images were curated for the original 48-piece exhibition in 2008 by Marietta (Marcy) Ballis of Atlantic Beach, Florida. Marcy, a phenomenal artist in her own right, was inspired by the late Joan Petrakis, author of the book, *The Needle Arts of Greece: Design and Techniques* and Matushka Galina Tregubov, an iconographic embroiderer whose ecclesiastical items are handmade in accordance with ancient Orthodox art and in Russian tradition, only slightly modified to accommodate modern materials.

https://youtu.be/6OdfqaT3h_w