

HEALING OF POSSESSION BY SAINT NEKTARIOS

The testimony of Mardikoula Kalamaki
from the book *I Spoke With Saint Nektarios*

Nun Maria was born in Meristo, on the island of Aegina in 1903. Her legal name prior to becoming a nun was Mardikoula Kalamaki. As a young girl, she attended classes at the monastery's school, which Saint Nektarios had established, free of charge of course, for the small children of needy families in the neighboring region of Kontos. The elementary lessons were taught by the Saint himself as well as nun Magdalene, who was a teacher in Alexandria prior to becoming a nun.

A few years prior to the repose of Saint Nektarios, Mardikoula's parents sent her to Athens to enroll in the Imperial School of Davari, where she was to learn how to sew. Unfortunately, as Mardikoula herself narrates, while in Athens she became possessed by an evil spirit that afflicted her for nine consecutive years. Everyone on the island knew of her tragic situation. She was liberated from her torment, nonetheless, after the falling asleep of Saint Nektarios, sometime during the years 1921–1922 when her parents had taken her to the Monastery of Panagia, on the island of Tinos.

This is how nun Maria relates the miracle:

While at the Monastery of Panagia, I saw our Bishop, Saint Nektarios coming toward me. I was fully awake at the time.

“Don't be afraid,” he told me. “You will become well. Shortly you will return home, and you will eat a little bit of food. But do you know what you will have? You are going to have string beans, nothing else.”

Truly, my mother had prepared string beans the day we arrived home.

Out of gratitude to the Saint, I became a nun.