NATIONAL HELLENIC MUSEUM



OBJECT ID	2006.2.1.4
OBJECT NAME	Kandili
MATERIAL	Silver
OBJECT ENTITIES	St.Demetrios, (is related to)
RELATED ITEMS	Kandili, 2006.2.1.1 Kandili, 2006.2.1.2 Kandili, 2006.2.1.3 Kandili, 2006.2.1.5 Kandili, 2006.2.1.6
ACCESS POINTS	church kandili Lamps Orthodox Religion Religious articles St. Demetrios

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Silver hanging kandili. There are three bulbous sections. the lowermost section has a small loop at the bottom. the part of the kandili itself is bulbous with a rounded line that encircles the middle of it. There is also some brown substance which seems to be separated at one side of it. from there is a stem that connects this to the middle and largest section of the kandili. There is a lotus-like design that twists slightly up to the first half of the section. the leaves alternate plain and ornate spiraled leaf designs. Above this, the center of the section just out to a ledge that goes all the way around and connects the upper parts of the handles. The upper half of the section has ornate leaf-like designs that point to the upper part of the kandili. The third section, and the highest point of the kandili is shaped like a cup. There are diamond and triangle-shaped impressions around the outside. at the center of the triangle impressions are leaf or fern-like designs. At the top of the cup is a punched-out crown with alternating oval and circle shapes, part of this is bent in. Around the center of the kandili are 3 handles. They connect to the kandili at two points; the upper point at the center of the kandili and the lower point at the lower third of the kandili's midle section. The handles are formed from strips of metal into designs reminiscent of stems and leaves with an ornate piece in the center that is round and has 4 stems and 4 leaves alternating around the piece, connecting it to the rest of the handle. Connected to the top of each handle is a chain that connects the hanging piece of the kandili. The chain links are thick and alternate between rounded rings and long pieces that have rounded cross shapes at each end. The top piece of the kandili which these connect to and which the rest of the kandili suspends from is rounded at the top and open at the bottom which flares outward at the edges. It has two tiers upward and at the top is a loop with a hole drilled at the bottom.

ORIGIN

Used at St. Demetrios Orthodox Church in Chicago, IL. for over 30 years.

Kandilis are lamps that hang in front of icons in Orthodox churches and personal homes of Orthodox Christians. They are traditionally lit with oil and are lit once a day. The flame represents Christ's sacrifice and the eternal mercy of God.

Kandilis typically tends to be silver but in some cases has a round glass bulb in a variety of colors.

CITATION

Kandili, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/10/26.