

For many of us, the Greek myths provided our first introduction to pagan gods, and the rich tapestry of myth brought the Hellenic deities to life. What is often forgotten, though, is that the myths were not merely charming inspiration for entertaining plays and epics: these myths formed the core of the state religion of the Hellenic world for centuries.

## Hellenion remembers.

Hellenion seeks to promote reverence for the pre-Christian Hellenic deities and Mysteries as well as a connection with the ancestors, honoring Hestia as the goddess of hearth and home. Within a modern context, this means a concern for family, in its broadest sense, whether related by blood, spirit, or kinship ties. Hellenion proposes a moral code inspired by the maxims of the Oracle of Delphi, mainly “Know thyself,” “Nothing in excess,” and “Long for Wisdom.”



[www.Hellenion.org](http://www.Hellenion.org)

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# Ελληνιον Hellenion

*“As far as you have the power,  
do sacrifice to the immortals,  
innocently and cleanly...  
propitiate them with libations and burnings...  
so they may have a complacent feeling  
and thought about you.”*

- Works and Days, Hesiod



## What is Hellenion?

Hellenion is a not-for-profit religious organization dedicated to the practice of Hellenic Reconstructionist polytheism. Members of Hellenion seek to worship the Hellenic gods in the Hellenic tradition, rebuilding and rediscovering the ancient rituals and forms of worship. We incorporated as a 501(c)(3) religious organization in the state of California in 2001. Our goal is the establishment of a stable, healthy organization that will serve its members and the gods for years to come.



Hellenion is a single national organization that will charter local groups, known as Demoi. Both the national organization and the Demoi have an open membership policy. The Demoi are not exclusive clubs but venues for fellowship, education, and, above all, the worship of our gods. Individuals join Hellenion at the national level and may choose to participate in their local Demos, or, if none exists, to found a new Demos. They may also choose to remain solitary, while still taking advantage of the



educational resources or other offerings of the national organization.

## What is Hellenic Reconstructionism?

Official worship in Hellenion must fall into what we, as a group, have defined as “Hellenic Reconstructionism.”

(What is Hellenic Reconstructionism? Cont.)

Hellenic reconstructionism bases its rituals and celebrations primarily on historical precedent. Hellenion strives to make its rituals as consistent as possible with

What we do know about ancient Hellas and its colonies throughout the Mediterranean up until the point of the end of the Delphic Oracle in history in the late 4th Century CE.



For example, since Hellenion reconstructs the religion of the ancient Greeks, it does not celebrate the eight major holidays that are familiar to most modern pagans. Hellenion has officially adopted the Athenian festival calendar as a whole, but local Demoi are free to celebrate festivals that were celebrated in other Greek city-states. Please note that reconstructionism does not forbid creativity. Scholarship and personal inspiration are valuable to reconstructionists; we merely ask that members be careful to distinguish one from the other. Also, Hellenion does not dictate to its members how they should worship in private, nor does the organization prevent members from networking to form private associations of like-minded individuals, but these groups remain separate from Hellenion. Members of Hellenion are also free to join other groups as they see fit. Hellenion offers opportunities for worship, fellowship, education, and networking for members of our religion.

## Where can I find more information about Hellenion?

For more information on Hellenion, visit our web site at [www.hellenion.org](http://www.hellenion.org). Or check our public Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/HellenionOrg/>



## How can I join Hellenion?

If you find that your practices and beliefs fit well with ours, we invite you to consider joining Hellenion. Members have access to our education programs free of charge, and to our community forum and email lists. Members are also able to found local congregations (Demos) after completing our Basic Adult Education Program.

To join Hellenion, simply fill out the application form on our website.

The membership application is available at our website: <http://www.hellenion.org/join-or-renew/>

If you would prefer a hard copy of the application mailed to you, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (or international reply coupons for non-US addresses) to:

**Hellenion**  
560 Allred Road  
Mount Airy, NC 27030

There are several Protodemos and chartered Demoi, and more are forming all the time.

For a list of local groups, see <http://www.hellenion.org/demos/>