



NEOKOROI

THE TEMPLE KEEPERS

Who are the Neokoroi?

The word *neokoros* is derived from the Greek words *naos* (temple) and *koreo* (to sweep) and originally meant "the one who swept the temple" or "the temple keeper". It was a humble position, but an important one, for it was the neokoros' responsibility to make sure that the temple was kept clean and free of any pollution, and also to tend to the daily service of the god in whose temple he or she served.

Today, Neokoroi is a group of Hellenic pagans who feel called to a path of service and devotion to the gods. We are polytheists who believe in the literal and individual reality of the gods. We support mysticism in its many forms (although we don't all practice it). We tend to favor reconstructionism as an approach to developing Hellenismos, although we also recognize the importance of personal experience and local cultus. And we are especially dedicated to fostering "real life" worship, through the formation of local groups, and of course through the building of shrines and eventually temples.

To accomplish this goal, we plan to:

- o Provide a storehouse of information for curious seekers
- o Provide practical guidance in religious matters
- o Foster the growth of worship communities and public festivals
- o Help build and maintain shrines, temples, and other sacred places
- o And ensure that the worship of the gods will flourish and remain forever

The Epistole

The Epistole (a "message" or "letter") is our quarterly newsletter, featuring articles, essays, poems, hymns, reviews and more by Neokoroi members and guest writers. It is available in print by subscription, and two years of back issues can be downloaded for free on our website.

For more information, go to www.neokoroi.org