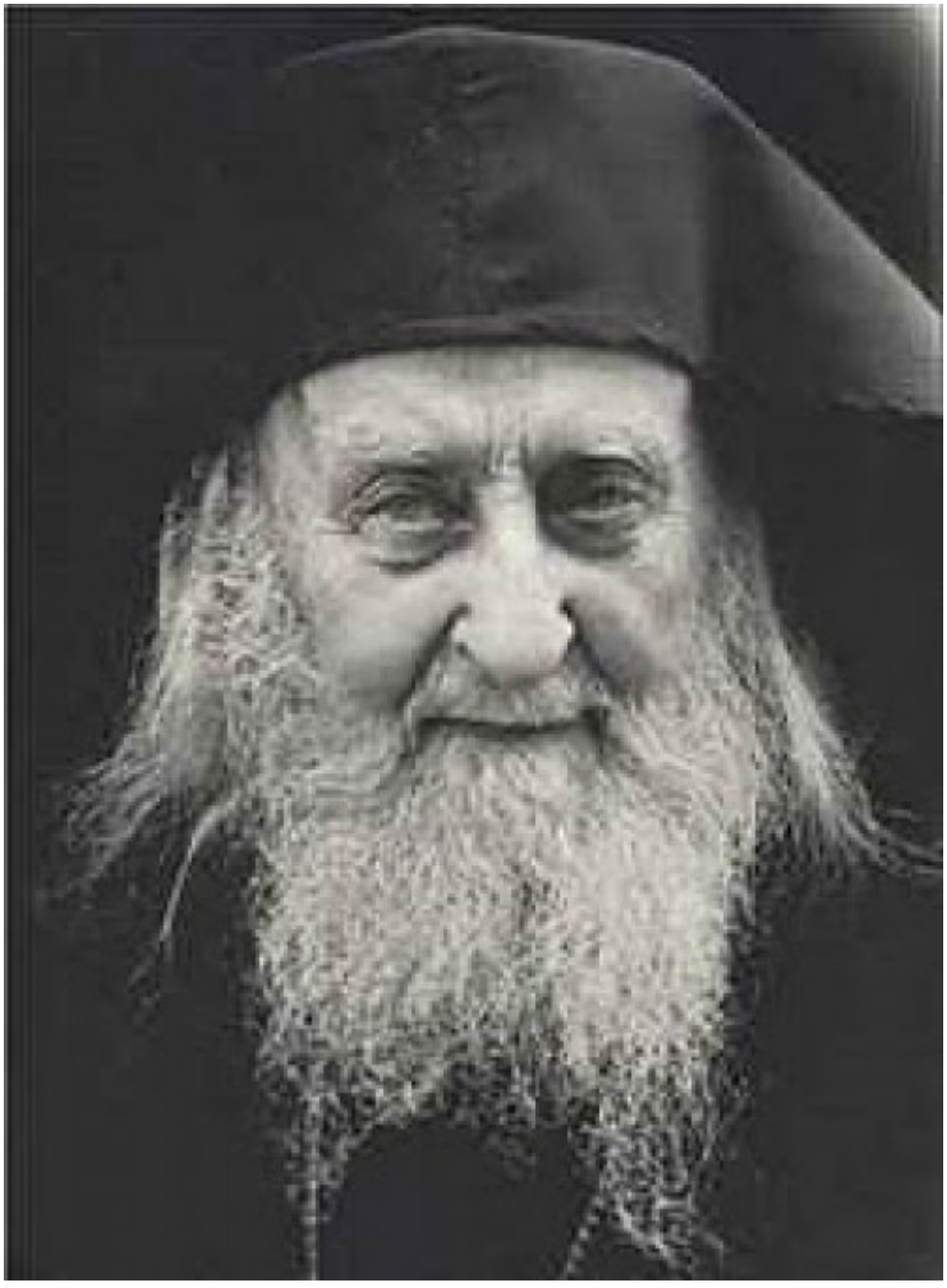
11 Ιουλίου 2010

The last days of Elder Sofronios of Essex (+11 Ιουλίου 1993)

Ξένες γλώσσες / In English / Άγ. Σωφρόνιος Αγιορείτης-'Εσσεξ (Σαχάρωφ) / Άγιοι - Πατέρες - Γέροντες / Συναξαριακές Μορφές



Four days before he died, he closed his eyes and did not want to talk to us anymore. His face was radiant but not sad; full of tension. He had the same expression like when he was ministering the Devine liturgy. He would not open his eyes, or utter any words, but he would lift up his hand and bless us. He was

blessing us without words but I knew that he was going away. Before, I used to pray that God should let him leave longer, just as we pray during the liturgy of St. Vasilios: “prolong the time of the old”. However during those days, when I knew he was leaving, I started praying: “My Lord, give your servant a rich welcome into your Kingdom”. I was praying using St Peter’s words, as we read it in his second letter. (2 Peter 11)

Thus I was praying intensely: “Please God give your servant a rich entry into your Kingdom and place him among his Fathers”. Then, I would call the names of all his brothers, ascetics, in Ayio Oros, whom I knew he had connections with, beginning with Saint Silouanos and then all the others. ***read more…*** (περισσότερα…)