

The Holy Synod in Resistance and the Holy Synod of the Church of True Orthodox Christians of Greece, Under Archbishop Chrysostomos [Kiouses]

The Inauguration of an Informal Dialogue

1. The Holy Synod in Resistance, in accordance with *Resolution IX* of its regular annual convocation (Number xxxiv, October 4, 2007 [Old Style]), has already begun *dialogue*—for the present, of an informal character—with the Holy Synod of the Church of True Orthodox Christians of Greece (G.O.Ch.), under Archbishop Chrysostomos.

2. Two amiable visits, one by Archbishop Chrysostomos to the President of our Holy Synod, His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian, who has been ailing [and unconscious] since November 29, 2007 (Old Style), at the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, in Phyle, Greece (January 10, 2008 [Old Style]), and another by the Acting President of our Holy Synod, Bishop Cyprian of Oreoi, to the residence of Archbishop Chrysostomos, the Convent of the All-Immaculate Mother of God, in Megara, Greece (January 30, 2008 [Old Style]), set the groundwork for a third informal consultation of the Bishops.

3. Two Bishops (Chrysostomos of Attica and Gregory of Christianoupolis) accompanied the Archbishop during the initial visit to Phyle, where they were received by our Acting President and three Bishops (Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis, Ambrose of Methone, and Klemes of Gardikion). During the visit of our Acting President to Archbishop Chrysostomos, three of his Bishops (the two foregoing Bishops and Gerontios of Piraeus) and our aforementioned Hierarchs (with the exception of Bishop Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis) were present.

4. On February 16, 2008 (Old Style), the *First Session* of the *Informal Dialogue* between the two Synods was held at the Convent of the All-Immaculate Mother of God, in Megara, the Acting President and the Bishops of Methone and Gardikion representing the Holy Synod in Resistance and the Archbishop and the Bishops of Piraeus, Attica, Christianoupolis, and Marathon [Photios] representing the other Synod.

5. In this three-hour joint convocation (10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.), in a friendly climate of good disposition, a number of different issues were discussed, though principally matters concerning the critical historical period from 1979-1986, with the aim of examining each side's perspective on these matters.

6. Assessing this historical retrospective as satisfactory in principle, if not rather enlightening, it was decided to arrange for a *Second Session*, without appointing a specific date (albeit very shortly), for the purpose of proceeding with a common examination of the ecclesiological outlook of each Synod, on the basis of official theological texts.

7. On the part of our own Synod, we have already composed two unpublished *Reports* (the *First Report* dated February 2, 2008 [Old Style]; the *Second Report* dated February 20, 2008 [Old Style]), for the internal notification of our Synod of Bishops. All of our Hierarchs have agreed to the continuation of the *Dialogue*—indeed, regardless of its outcome—, insofar as it fosters our God-pleasing “Ministry of Reconciliation.”

8. The Standing Holy Synod in Resistance entreats the Most Blessed Theotokos to guide and protect it in this unitive endeavor, exhorting our pious Flock to pray that the implementation of this ministry may be in all ways consonant with the Divine Will and the principles and tenets of *Orthodox Resistance*.

From the Chancery of the Holy Synod
† *Bishop Klemes of Gardikion*

February 27, 2008 (Old Style)
Clean Tuesday, St. Procopios of Decapolis