

Celebration of Holy Theophany*

ON Sunday, 6/19 January 2003, the Holy Synod in Resistance of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Greece yet again celebrated Holy Theophany with particular solemnity and splendor.

The Blessing of the Waters at the pier of Oropos was performed by His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, President of the Holy Synod, who delivered a suitably festal homily.

A large crowd of Faithful from Athens, Attika, and other regions of Greece took part in this event. Metropolitan Cyprian was joined by seven other Hierarchs, who lent a festive and more inclusive, inter-Orthodox character to the ceremony: from Romania, His Eminence, Metropolitan Vlasie, President of the Holy Synod of our Sister Old Calendar Orthodox Church in that country, together with his Assistant Bishops, Sofronie of Suceava and Teodosie of Brasov; from our own country, Bishops Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis and Ambrose of Methoni; from Vienna, Austria, Bishop Symeon of Lakedaimonia; and from Stockholm, Sweden, Bishop Johannes of Makarioupolis. Also taking part were clergy from the parishes and monasteries of our Synod and a large number of monks and nuns.



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The customary procession along the streets of Oropos was led by dozens of young men and women in traditional costume, with banners and flags, and by the city band of Ano Liosia.



The following dignitaries, among others, were given a place of honor on the platform where the Blessing of the Waters was held:

The Prefect of Eastern Attika, Mr. Leonidas Kouris; the Prefect of Western Attika, Mr. Aristeides Arkoudaris; the Mayor of Oropos, Mr. Spyridon Mexis; the Mayor of Fili, Mr. Demetrios Bouraïmis; the President of the commune of Sykaminon, Mr. Thomas Roussis; the President of the Pontian Association of Oropos, Mr. Polychronis Lemonides; prefectural and town councilors, as

well as representatives of the security forces and of other local organizations in the area.

* Source: *Άγιος Κυπριανός*, No. 312 (January-February 2003), pp. 200-201.