

Synodal Celebration

The Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Fili, Attika, Celebrates Its Patronal Feast with Splendor

The Patronal Feast of the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Fili, Attika, was celebrated with fitting solemnity and splendor on Wednesday, 2 October 2003 (Old Style).

Every year, the Feast Day celebration of the monastery, which attracts thousands of pilgrims from many parts of Greece and from several foreign countries, brings together those Hierarchs of the Holy Synod in Resistance who serve abroad and clergy and Faithful from different countries, both from Sister Old Calendar Orthodox Churches and from the missionary communities of the anti-ecumenist Orthodox in resistance.



This year, the influx of devout pilgrims who came to benefit from the Grace of the wonder-working Saints Cyprian and Justina was especially large and impressive.

The focal point of this glorious and joyous celebration was

the Divine Liturgy by the Bishops of the Holy Synod, at which Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, President of the Holy Synod in Resistance and founder and Abbot of the monastery, was the principal celebrant.

Concelebrating with the Metropolitan were His Eminence, Metropolitan Vlasie, President of the Holy Synod of the anti-ecumenist Old Calendar

Orthodox Church of Romania, His Eminence, Bishop Photii of Triaditza, of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Bulgaria, and ten other Hierarchs, as follows:

His Eminence, Archbishop Chrysostomos of Etna, from California, U.S.A., together with his Assistant, His Grace, Bishop Auxentios of Photiki;



His Eminence, Bishop Michael of Nora, from Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy; Their Graces, Bishops Demosten, Pahomie, and Sofronie, from Romania; Their Graces, Bishops Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis and Ambrose of Methoni, from Greece; His Grace, Bishop Symeon of Lakedaimonia, from Vienna, Austria; and His Grace, Bishop Johannes of Makarioupolis, from Stockholm, Sweden.

Also taking part in the Divine Liturgy were dozens of clergy from Greece and abroad (Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, and Italy) and represen-





tatives of the convents and parishes of the Holy Synod.

The Grace and blessing imparted by the Saints whose memory was being celebrated aroused compunction in the souls of all and brought joy to their faces, as an overshadowing of hope and consolation from on high, as was very evident throughout this powerful and vivid witness of the unity of faith in the Truth of Orthodoxy, which transcends national boundaries and sheds peace everywhere.

The city orchestra of Ano Liosia, Attika, added a note of especial splendor to the solemn procession with the Holy Icon and the Holy Relics of the Saints.

Among the dignitaries present at this great celebration of our Synod of Bishops were Mr. Athanasios Xarchas, a former government Minister, Mr. Theodore Tsoukatos, Majority Leader of the Parliament, Members of Parliament for Attika, Messrs. Athanasios Bouras, Georgios Vlachos, Theodoros Katsikis, and Athanasios Katsiyannis, the Prefect of Western Attika, Mr. Aristeides Arkoudaris, former Members of Parliament, Messrs. Panagiotis Photiadis, Vasileios Oikonomou, and Georgios Karatasos, the former Prefect of Eastern Attika, Mr. Demetrios Frangos, the Deputy Prefect of Eastern Attika, Mr. Nikolaos Kanteres, the Deputy Prefects of Western Attika, Messrs. Savvas Savvas and Savvas Tolis, the Prefectorial Counsellors of Western Attika, Ms. Elli Katsarou and Mr. Athanasios Makrynoris, the Mayor of Fili, Mr. Demetrios Bouraïmis, together with the Deputy Mayor, Mr. Stamatios Avramis, and members of the City Council, the Mayor of Kamateros, Mr. Nikolaos Stenos, and the Deputy Mayor, Ms. Maria Panagiotaki, the Deputy Mayor of Perama, Brigadier Konstantinos Balatsos, the Chief of Police and the Deputy Chief of Police of Ano Liosia, and the Parliamentary candidates, Messrs. Georgios Photeinopoulos and Angelos Lascaris. The Mayor of Athens, Ms. Dora Bakoyannis, and Mr. Theodoros Pangalos, a Member of Parliament for Attika and a former government Minister, both sent festal greetings.