

Foundation of a New *Hesychasterion**

On the afternoon of Wednesday, 8 July 2004 (Old Style), the compunctious service and the Blessing of the Waters at the foundation of a new *Hesychasterion* dedicated to the Transfiguration of the Savior and to the *Panagia* “Swift to Hearken,” in Sykamino, Oropos, Attika, were celebrated by His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili.

Also taking part in the service were His Grace, Bishop Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis and Hierodeacon Joseph, along with the two pious nuns, Mothers Mariam and Ilaria, for whom the *Hesychasterion* is being constructed. Nuns from the Convent of the Holy Angels in Aphidnai, Attika, were also present, together with their Abbess, Mother Taxiarchia, as well as a fair number of Faithful.

As is well-known, Mothers Mariam and Ilaria were expelled from their monastery of repentance, the Convent of the Annunciation, in Sykamino, because of their loyalty to His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, President of the Holy Synod in Resistance, who has been their spiritual Father for decades. Bearing the cross of this tribulation with forbearance, they were obliged by circumstances to proceed with the construction of the *Hesychasterion*, in order humbly and undistractedly to live out their monastic calling, placing their hope in God, his All-Holy Mother, and in the love, prayers, and support of the Faithful.

