Holy Theophany 2007

By the Grace of the Holy Trinity, on Friday, 6 January 2007 (Old Style), the Holy Synod in Resistance of the Orthodox Church, following the Calendar of the Fathers, celebrated Holy Theophany, with due ecclesiastical order and solemnity, in Oropos, Attika.

The Service of the Great Blessing of the Waters, at the pier of Oropos, was performed by the President of the Holy Synod, His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, who also addressed a brief <u>Festal Message</u>.



As always, a large crowd of Faithful from Athens, Attika, and other regions of our homeland took part, while clergy and laypeople from the United States, Romania, Sweden, Australia, and France lent an inter-Orthodox character to this great Feast Day.

Taking part in the splendid festivity were seven other Hierarchs:

from our Sister Old Calendar Orthodox Church in Romania, Their Graces, Bishops Sophronie of Suceava, Iosif of Botoșani, and Antonie of Ploești;

from faraway Australia, His Eminence, Bishop Chrysostomos of Sydney;

from our own country, the Assistant Bishops Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis and Ambrose of Methoni;

from Stockholm, Sweden, His Grace, Bishop Johannes of Makarioupolis;

and also Archimandrite Akakios, representing our American Exarchate.

Clergy from the parishes and monasteries of our Holy Synod and a large number of monks and nuns also took part.





The customary and, as always, striking procession from the Church of St. Xenia to the new pier of Oropos was led by dozens of young men and women in traditional folk costumes with banners and flags, as well as by the city band of Ano Liosia.



Many dignitaries were given a place of honor on the platform where the Blessing of the Waters was held. Among them were: Members of Parliament for Attika, Messrs. Athanasios Bouras and Georgios Vlachos; the Prefect of Eastern Attika, Mr. Leonidas Koures; distict politicians, Ms. Konstantina Trilike and Mr. Ioannis Kassavos; the Deputy Prefect of Eastern Attika, Mr. Chares Damaskos, and of Western Attika, Mr. Angelos Lioses; the Mayor of Oropos, Mr. Georgios Gavriel; the Mayor of Fili, Mr. Demetrios Bouraïmes; the Deputy Mayor of Fili,

Mr. Stamatios Avrames; the Vice-President of the City Council of Fili, Mr. Anastasios Arabatzides; the President of the commune of Sykaminon, Mr. Thomas Rousses, and the Vice-President, Mr. Kalaitzides; the Head of the Police Force of Ano Liosia, Mr. Emmanuel Daskalakes, as well as representatives of local organizations.

