



Clergy Align Themselves with the Holy Synod in Resistance (1 June 2000)*

A New Missionary Center is Established

On 1 June 2000 (Old Style), Metropolitan Cyprian, President of the Holy Synod in Resistance, received into our ecclesiastical jurisdiction Protosyngellos Nikodim (Pribojan), who is of Serbian descent, and his disciple, Hieromonk Elias (Palmos).

The two Fathers founded their monastic and missionary Brotherhood of the Descent of the Holy Spirit a few years ago in Pretoria, South Africa, with the blessing of the Serbian Church, to which they previously belonged. For the past two years, they have been preparing themselves spiritually for their work by visiting monasteries and shrines in Serbia and on the Holy Mountain.

However, various jurisdictional and other serious matters that cropped up in the meantime hastened the ripening and the fulfillment of an earlier desire and longing on the part of Fathers Nikodim and Elias to place themselves under the Holy Synod in Resistance, since they had been following its course with interest and were in agreement with its ecclesiological and anti-ecumenist stand and policy.

Father Nikodim was a sober, spiritual, and very active clergyman of the Serbian Church. After his studies in Serbia (at the Krka Seminary in Dalmatia and the Belgrade Theological Academy) and in the U.S.A. (at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Boston), he worked as a parish Priest and founded ma-ny new Serbian Church communities in the U.S.A. and Can-

ada for twenty entire years. In America, he eventually became acquainted with Father Elias, his future disciple, who was from South Africa and was there for undergraduate studies. The latter was tonsured a monk and Ordained a Priest in Serbia.



On 2 June 2000 (Old Style), Father Nikodim was tonsured to the Great Schema at our monastery and received the name “Nazarios,” and on the Sunday of Pentecost, 5 June 2000 (Old Style), Metropolitan Cyprian elevated him to the dignity of Archimandrite.

Following this, Fathers Nazarios and Elias departed for South Africa, where the blessed labors of their monastic and missionary calling await them. May these have a successful outcome, to the glory of God.

* Source: *Άγιος Κυπριανός*, No. 296 (May-June 2000), p. 304.