

Pastoral Visit to San Diego Parish

ON THE FIFTH Sunday of Lent, 2008, dedicated to the memory of St. Mary of Egypt, His Eminence, Archbishop Chrysostomos of Etna, His Grace, Bishop Auxentios of Photiki, and Archimandrite Akakios, Abbot of the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery, made a pastoral visit to the Exarchate parish of St. Seraphim of Sarov and St. John of Kronstadt, in San Diego, California. On Saturday afternoon, Archbishop Chrysostomos met with a number of the parishioners for a discussion of spiritual issues at the home of the parish Priest, Father Yakov Ferens, and his wife, Matushka Agnieszka. The Vigil Service was served on the same evening by Bishop Auxentios, Father Yakov, and Archimandrite Akakios. An Hierarchical Liturgy was celebrated on Sunday by the Archbishop, Bishop Auxentios, and Fathers Akakios and Yakov, accompanied by the fine parish choir, directed by Vladimir Stamirowski and assisted by Monk Sergius. The Church sisterhood afterwards served a Lenten meal in an atmosphere of sincere fellowship. The gracious hospitality of the parish was complemented by that of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lukianov, who hosted the visiting clergy at their beautiful home in Rancho Santa Fe.

