

## Inauguration of a New Spiritual Center

**O**N AUGUST 18, 2008 (Old Style), the Service of the Great Blessing of Waters was celebrated by the Very Reverend Archimandrite Glykerios to inaugurate a new Spiritual Center, dedicated to St. Theophan the Recluse, adjacent to the Church of St. John the Merciful, the Metochion (Dependency), in Thessaloniki, Greece, of the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina in Phyle (Athens). The new facility, as well as the Dependency, are located near the Church of St. Demetrios, the patronal parish of Thessaloniki.



The new Spiritual Center, the beautiful structure of which is the product of the arduous labors of the brothers of the Monastery in Phyle, is comprised of a spacious Lecture and Conference Hall, as well as guest accommodations for visiting clergy. It constitutes an apt indication of the serious pastoral work which is constantly expanding within the witness of our jurisdiction and Bishops.



With regard to its operations, the Spiritual Center will host every Sunday evening, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., a talk on spiritual matters and a group discussion. Just before the evening talk and discussion period, Vespers or a Service of Supplication will be conducted at the Church of St. John the Merciful.

It was decided by Archimandrite Glykerios, who is the clergyman responsible for the Dependency, that the new facility be dedicated to the great Russian Saint of our age, St. Theophan the Recluse (+1894), who, after serving as Bishop of Tambov and Vladimir, retired as a monastic recluse at the end of his life.

May this new venture bear fruit and prove richly beneficial to many, by the Grace of God.

