

Ordination of a Presbyter

On the Sunday of the Myrrh-bearers, April 5/18, 2010, by the Grace of God, His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methone ordained Chariton Mrazek, who hails from the Czech Republic, to the Priesthood in the main Church of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Phyle, Attica, Greece. The previous day, Saturday, April 4/17, His Grace, Bishop Klemes of Gardikion ordained Father Chariton to the Diaconate.

God willing, the new Priest will serve as Rector at the Church of the Holy Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian in Sydney, Australia, following intensive training and preparation in Greece over the following months.

Father Chariton is thirty-six years old, married, and the father of two young boys. A former Roman Catholic, he was baptized, according to canonical order, into Orthodoxy some ten years ago. He studied at the faculties of theology and philosophy at the historic Charles University in Prague, where he completed his doctoral dissertation. He taught philosophy, psychology, and sociology at the secondary school level, and religious studies at the University of Pardubice. He speaks Russian and English and is now learning Greek. His wife, Ludmilla, is a teacher. The family were members of the Church of St. John of Shanghai and San Francisco, in Jezdovice, Czech Republic, which is served by Father Jeremias Cvak.



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The newly ordained Priest is a model of self-denial, given that, in order to assist our Holy Synod's pastoral work and witness, he abandoned his homeland, his

work, and his academic career, placing himself, together with his family, in the service of the Church, entrusting all to God's Providence. May the Lord fill him with Grace, in accordance with the symbolism of his name ("Graceful"), that he might work productively and with sacrificial love in His Vineyard, for the glory of His Holy Name and the succor of immortal souls!

