

Holy Theophany 2005

On Wednesday, 6/19 January 2005, the Holy Synod in Resistance of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Greece yet again celebrated Holy Theophany with particular magnificence in Oropos, Attika, as it has been doing now for twenty consecutive years. The weather con-



tributed especially to this joyous celebration with a completely clear and sunny day.

The Great Blessing of the Waters, at the pier of Oropos, was performed by His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, President of the Holy Synod, who delivered a brief festal message.

A large crowd of Faithful from Athens, Attika, and other regions of Greece took part in this event.

Also taking part were nine other Hierarchs, who lent a festive and more inclusive, inter-Orthodox character to the ceremony:



from our Sister Old Calendar Orthodox Church in Romania, Bishop Sofronie of Suceava, Bishop Teodosie of Braşov, and two

newly-Consecrated Hierarchs, Bishops Iosif of Botoșani and Antonie of Ploești;

from faraway Australia, His Eminence, Bishop Chrysostomos of Sydney and New South Wales, who is currently residing in Greece;

from Sardinia, Italy, His Eminence, Bishop Michael of Nora;

from our own country, Bishops Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis and Ambrose of Methoni, assistants to the Metropolitan;

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

and also two clergymen, representing our American Exarchate, Archimandrite Akakios, Abbot of the Holy Monastery of St. Gregory



Palamas, in Etna, California, and Protopresbyter Raphael Abraham from Iowa. Taking part, as well, were clergy from the parishes and monasteries of our Holy Synod and a large number of monks and nuns.

The customary procession through the streets of Oropos was led by dozens of young men and women in traditional folk costumes with banners and flags, and by the city band of Ano Liosia.

The following dignitaries, among others, were given a place of honor on the platform where the Blessing of the Waters was held:

Members of Parliament for Attika, Messrs. Athanasios Bouras and Vasileios Oikonomou; the Deputy Prefect of Eastern Attika, Mr. Andreas Pengas; the Deputy Prefect of Western Attika, Mr. Angelos Liosis; the Mayor of Oropos, Mr. Spyridon Mexis; the Mayor of Fili, Mr. Demetrios Bouraïmis; the Deputy Mayor of Ano Liosia, Mr. Evangelos Christophyllakis; the President of the commune of Sykaminon, Mr. Thomas Roussis; the Prefectorial Councilor of Eastern Attika, Mr. Nikolaos Kanteres; the Deputy Mayor of Fili, Mr. Stamatios Avramis; the President and the Vice-President of the City Council of Fili; Mr. Soterios Masouris, representative of the General Secretary of the New Democracy Party and a member of its Central Committee, as well as politicians and representatives of the security forces, local government, and other regional organizations.

