

Benefit Dinner for Orthodox Missionary Work



BY THE GRACE OF GOD, on Sunday, 23 January/5 February 2005, the annual celebratory Benefit Dinner for the friends, supporters, and backers of the missionary work—which extends to nearly every continent—of the Holy Synod in Resistance of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church, under His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, was held with outstanding success in the large banquet room of the Novotel Convention Center in downtown Athens.



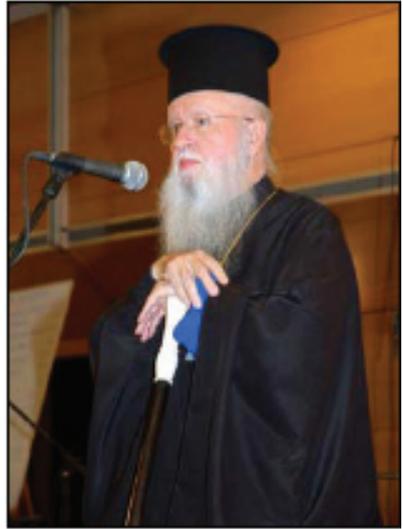
The St. Cyprian Association of Athens, in cooperation with the Brotherhood of the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, was responsible for the organization and oversight of the Benefit Dinner, which, while primarily having in view the support of the Orthodox

Missionary work, constitutes, at the same time, a splendid expression of and testimony to the spirit of Greek Orthodoxy.

Among other things, the program—which was fundamentally spiritual and edifying, but also artistic, in character—included traditional folk songs and instrumental melodies from various regions of our country, which were superbly rendered by the “Hellenorthodoxe Kleronomia” chorus and instrumental ensemble, joined by the renowned clarinet virtuoso, Mr. N. Philippides and his accompanists, who filled the large crowd in attendance with especial enthusiasm.

The charity lottery, with its abundance of gifts, also generated a good deal of interest and achieved its essential purpose: economic aid—in part, of course—for the missionary activity abroad.

Noteworthy was the presence of Mr. Peter Kalombo—an engineer from the Congo and a member of our Holy Synod’s mission in this vast country of Central Africa—, who happened to be visiting our country at the time and staying as a guest at the Holy Monastery of St. Cyprian. Mr. Kalombo, in fact, has undertaken the construction of our mission’s large new Church of the Twelve Apostles in Kananga, Congo. The need for economic aid and, in general, support, which he is awaiting from our country is self-evident and clear.



Present at the successful Benefit Dinner were His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili; his Assistant Bishops, Their Graces, Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis and Ambrose of Methoni; clergymen belonging to the Holy

Synod; a large crowd of the Mission’s supporters; and numerous

dignitaries, among whom were the Member of Parliament for Attika, Vasileios Oikonomou; the Prefectorial Councilor of Eastern Attika, Mr. Nikolaos Kanteres; the Mayor of Hagioi Anargyroi, Mr. Constantinos Trigas, together with the Deputy Mayor; the Vice-President of the City Council of Fili, Mr. Anastasios Arambatzides; candidates for Mayor of Kamatero, Ilion, and Elefsina, and others.

