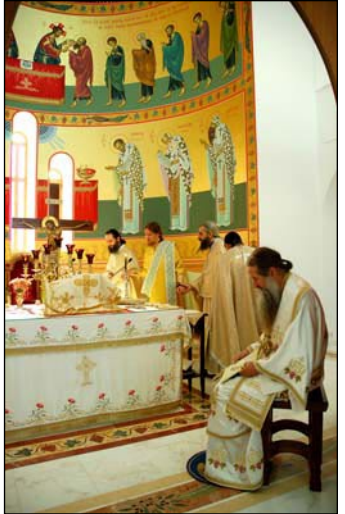


Ordination of Hieromonk Dr. Gorazd from Prague, Czech Republic

ON Sunday, August 13, 2007 (Old Style), with the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian, His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methone Ordained Father Gorazd (Vopatny), from Prague, in the Czech Republic, to the Priesthood at the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina in Fili, Attika, Greece, in order to serve the needs of the Orthodox in resistance in his country, who follow the traditional Church Calendar. Father Gorazd had been Ordained to the Diaconate the previous day.

His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian was in prayerful attendance at the Divine Liturgy. Also taking part were His Grace, Bishop Chrysostomos of Christianoupolis, clergy from the Monastery, and many pious worshippers, among whom were Ms. Constantina Trilikes and Mr. Borides, Parliamentary candidates-elect for the district of Attika.



The new Hieromonk, Father Gorazd, was born in Prague in 1959 and is a convert to Orthodoxy from Roman Catholicism.

In 1980, he enrolled at the Holy Trinity Theological Seminary at the Holy Trinity Monastery, in Jordanville, New York (under the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad), from which he graduated in 1984.

In 1985, he was tonsured a monk at the same Monastery and was Ordained a Subdeacon. At the same time, he took up a teaching position at the Holy Trinity Seminary.

In 1993, with the blessing of the Abbot of the Monastery, Archbishop (now Metropolitan) Laurus, Father Gorazd returned to his homeland, the Czech Republic, both for reasons of ill



health and also to broaden the scope of his studies.

Thus, in 1996, he completed his degree in the School of Theology at the Charles University in Prague; in 2000, he received the Doctor of Theology degree; in 2003, he was appointed Assistant Professor at the Charles University; and since last year, he has been Director of the newly-established Department for Eastern Christian Studies at the same university.

Father Dr. Gorazd, who is distinguished for his wisdom, humility, and scholarly erudition, has maintained ecclesiastical relations over the last several years with the small parish of Father Jeremias Cvak, in the Czech Republic, under the Holy Synod in Resistance. He continued his communion with us after we broke communion with the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, on account of its union with the Moscow Patriarchate.

With the Ordination of Father Gorazd, the presence of the Orthodox resistance in the Czech Republic has been strengthened, by the Grace of God. May he offer a spiritual and academic witness to our true, anti-innovationist Confession for the benefit of those among the noble and amiable Czech people who are interested in Orthodoxy.

