

❖ METROPOLIS OF OROPOS AND FILI

✠ Italian Exarchate

Ordination of a Presbyter in Sardinia

On the Sunday after the Nativity of Christ, 29 December 2003 (Old Style), in the Church of the *Panagia Gorgoypekoös*, in Marrubiu, Sardinia, with the blessing of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili, President of the Holy Synod in Resistance, His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methoni Ordained Father Giuseppe Pia, who has been serving the Church as a Deacon for three years, to the Priesthood, so that he might henceforth serve as a regular parish Priest.



The new Presbyter was a dedicated spiritual child of the late Metropolitan Giovanni of Sardinia (†2002), by whom he was converted to Orthodoxy many years ago and Ordained a Deacon early in 2002. Until the Metropolitan departed to the Lord, Father Giuseppe served him in an exemplary manner.

Father Giuseppe is married, with two adult children, and has worked as a nurse for many years. He is now entrusted with the ministry of healing the spiritual wounds and illnesses of his flock, as a steward of the healing Grace of God and of the Divine Mysteries.

Archimandrite Antonio (Pompianu), who is constructing the Holy Monastery of St. Anthony the Great near the city of Marrubiu, took part in the Divine Liturgy for the Ordination, for which special occasion Bishop Ambrose traveled to Sardinia.

This new Priestly Ordination places the presence of the anti-innovationist Old Calendarist Orthodox in Sardinia on a firmer footing and opens up new and hopeful prospects for a more effective witness in the heterodox environment of this Italian island.