

Ordination of Hieromonk Kallistos

By the Grace of God, on the Sunday of St. Thomas, April 21, 2008 (Old Style), in an atmosphere of Paschal joy, His Grace, Bishop Cyprian of Oreoi, Acting President of the Holy Synod, ordained the former Hierodeacon Kallistos, a brother of the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, in Phyle (Athens), Greece, to the rank of Presbyter. Participating in the Ordination Liturgy with the Acting President were His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methone and a number of the Hierodeacons and Hieromonks of the brotherhood, as well as a large crowd of the Faithful, who enthusiastically lauded the new ordinand with their cries of “Axios” (worthy).

Hieromonk Kallistos was born in Agrinion, Greece, in 1970, where he was a spiritual son of Archimandrite Father Athanasios, who is responsible for the dependency of the Phyle monastery in Agrinion, dedicated to the Feast of All Saints. Father Kallistos entered the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina in July of 2005, was tonsured a rasophore monk the next year, was ordained a Deacon in 2006, and was tonsured to the Great Schema in 2008, on the Feast of the Annunciation. He is distinguished by his zeal and obedience.

• **Addressing** the newly-ordained Hieromonk with instructive words of direction, Bishop Cyprian, at the conclusion of the Liturgy, exhorted him not to forget, whenever he liturgizes, two important truths: first, that his “concelebrant” is always the *Theotokos*; and second, that, though at the present time his liturgical duties do not have a pastoral character, he should nonetheless liturgize for the “whole world,” at each Liturgy, calling upon the Mercy of God and,



through the *Theotokos*, throwing himself upon Divine Compassion and imparting It to the People of God, never trusting or placing his hope in his own “deeds,” but on the Great Mercy of the infinite compassions of the Savior, Who loves mankind.

