

American Exarchate Hierarchs Congratulate our Sister Church in Bulgaria on Consecration of the Dormition Cathedral in Sofia

The following letter was sent by the Hierarchs of the American Exarchate of the Holy Synod in Resistance of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Greece to His Eminence, Bishop Photii, First Hierarch of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Bulgaria, on the occasion of the Consecration of the Cathedral of the Dormition of the Mother of God, in Sofia, on the Feast of St. Pachomios the Great, May 15, 2011 (Old Style). The newly Consecrated Cathedral is one of the larger Orthodox Churches in Bulgaria and has become a landmark in the country's capital city, since its recent completion. An English-language report on the Consecration and the festivities surrounding it will appear in the near future.



ΟΡΘΟΔΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΤΡΙΟΥ ΗΜΕΡΟΛΟΓΙΟΥ
ΙΕΡΑ ΣΥΝΟΔΟΣ ΕΝΙΣΤΑΜΕΝΩΝ
ΕΞΑΡΧΙΑ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

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TITULAR BISHOP OF PHOTIKI
ASSISTANT TO THE EXARCH

14 May 2011 (Ecclesiastical Calendar)
Holy Martyr Isidore of Chios
Martyr Therapon of Cyprus

His Eminence, the Most Reverend Photii
Bishop of Triaditza and Chief Hierarch of the
Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Bulgaria

Your Eminence, Beloved Brother in Christ:

Christ is Risen! Kissing your hand with brotherly affection, we ask for your holy blessing.

It is with great joy that we greet you on the auspicious and historical occasion of the Consecration of the Holy Cathedral Church of the Dormition of the Mother of God in Sofia, a magnificent edifice that graces the very skyline of the God-protected capital of your country, just as it adorns the souls of those who throng to it for spiritual solace.

It is with sadness equal to our joy that we could not be with you on this day, for reasons of health in the case of one of us, and because of a pastoral commitment at one of our parishes, in the case of the other. Nonetheless, we have sent, as our representatives, four of our clergy here in Etna—Archimandrite Akakios, Protopresbyter David Cownie, the Reverend Father Jerome Zubricky, and the Reverend George Mavromatis—as our representatives, carrying with them part of our hearts to you and our beloved brothers and sisters in the heroic Old Calendar Orthodox Church of Bulgaria.

May God strengthen you in your work, which is truly apostolic in nature and scope, granting you many years of continued fruitful service to the Church of Christ and in your sacrificial and courageous witness for the holy traditions of Orthodoxy in an age of betrayal, inexorable deviation from the Royal Path—both on the right and the left—and of the growth of the deadening, perverse spirit of religious syncretism and disbelief.

Warm congratulations on this wonderful occasion to you, to your elect flock, and to our brother Hierarchs from Greece, Romania, and Russia, who have joined you on this holy and memorable day. With our prayers and doing a prostration before you, we are, with brotherly affection in Christ,

Least Among Your Brothers,

Archbishop Chrysostomos of Etna

Bishop Auxentios of Photiki