

Visit of Count Nikita Cheremeteff

The **Convent of St. Elizabeth** the Grand Duchess and the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery, in Etna, California, were honored by a visit, on the weekend of the Feast of All Saints (June 6, 2011, Old Style), from Count Nikita Cheremeteff, who was accompanied by his daughter, Kyra Cheremeteff-Richardson. Another of his daughters, Schema nun Seraphima, is a nun at the Convent of St. Elizabeth.

For a number of years, Count Nikita and his wife, Countess Mai-ko, who reposed last year, have been supporters and kind benefactors of the convent and monastery, making frequent visits to the two communities. Nikita and Kyra have resolved to continue this tradition together, as a tribute to the memory of their beloved wife and mother.



Left to right, Kyra Cheremeteff-Richardson, Count Nikita, and Mother Seraphima.

During their visit, the two guests were joined by Archbishop Chrysostomos—who is particularly fond of Count Nikita—for lunch at the Convent of St. Elizabeth, after the Feast Day Liturgy, where they were also joined by the wife of the *starosta* (or warden) of our Exarchate's Holy Trinity parish in Oxnard, California, Mrs. Vivian Avisov, who was visiting the convent. Later in the afternoon, Archimandrite Akakios, Abbot of the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery, hosted a reception for the visitors at the monastery, where they tasted various wines produced at the monastery.

