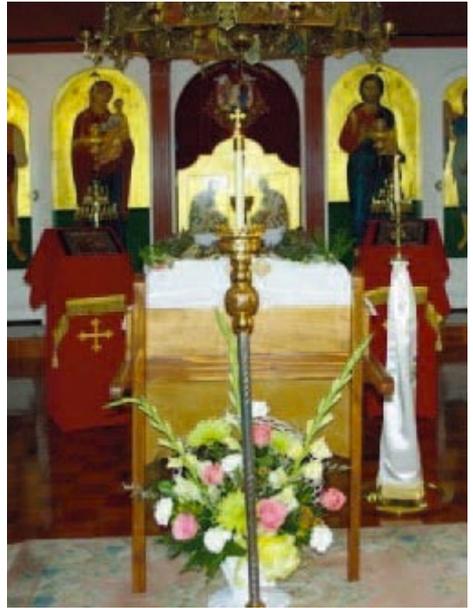


## Funeral Services for Deacon Father George Chee

**O**N SATURDAY, July 31, 2011 (Old Style), funeral services for Deacon Father George Chee, one of the retired clergy of the American Exarchate of the Synod in Resistance, were held at the parish Church of Sts. Cyprian and Justina in Etna, California. His wife, Diakonissa Catherine, and family members (their ten children, grandchildren, Father George's sister, and other relatives), the small parish community in Etna, and the monks and the nuns from the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery and the Convent of St. Elizabeth filled the Church to capacity, and the congregation poured out into the small Church courtyard. Six Priests, including Archimandrite Akakios, Abbot of the monastery, a Deacon, and—



in the absence of His Grace, Bishop Auxentios, who was visiting our two Exarchate parishes in Toronto, Canada—His Eminence, Archbishop Chrysostomos presided at the funeral. The convent choir sang the services with great beauty and solemnity, primarily in English. The burial was at the newly established Orthodox cemetery in Etna and was followed by the *Μαχαρία*, or funeral dinner, hosted by the parish.

Father George, who died suddenly but peacefully of a massive heart attack, was born in Hong Kong. He was a convert to Orthodoxy, having been baptized at the Monastery of the All-Merciful Savior on Washon



**Photographs: The parish Church, the body lying in state, the funeral service, and, above, monks and laymen lowering the body, wrapped in the funeral shroud, into the crypt.**

Island, in Washington. He was ordained to the Diaconate by Archbishop Chrysostomos, in December of 2002, at the parish in Etna. He served for a short time in Etna, and then was reassigned to the Dormition parish in Port Townsend, Washington, where he soon retired and where he and Diakonissa Catherine have since been residing.

After coming to the U.S., Father George completed his secular education at Southern Oregon University, where he received his degree in science. He also received the Licentiate in Theology, the year before his Ordination, at the Center for Traditionalist Orthodox Studies. Before dedicating himself to the service of the Church, Father George had a long career, working as a teacher, stockbroker, and restaurateur.

*Αἰωνία ἡ Μνήμη! Memory Eternal!*

