

Swedish Clergyman Visits Monastery

During the first two weeks of September, 2011, the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery, in Etna, California, was honored with a two-week visit from Father Anders Åkerström, a married Priest and the father of two daughters, who serves our Synod parishes in Stockholm, the See of His Grace, Bishop Johannes of Makarioupolis, and in Uppsala, where he resides.

Father Anders, a former priest in the Lutheran Church of Sweden, was exposed to Orthodoxy in the mid-1980s in a Patristics Seminar taught by Archbishop Chrysostomos, then a visiting professor at the Institute of Theology at the University of Uppsala.

After he and his wife eventually converted to Orthodoxy, Father Anders was ordained to the Priesthood by His Grace, Bishop Auxentios at the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery in 1995. By virtue of the esteem and affection in which the Fathers hold him, he is considered an honorary brother of the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery. (*Below, in the Monastery Chapel, right to left, Father Anders and Abbot Akakios.*)

