

## **Festal Communion with a Hierarchy From our Sister Church, the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad**

**O**n Sunday, October 10/23, 2011, as an Afterfeast, so to speak, of the Patronal Feast of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Phyle, Attica, Hierarchs of the Holy Synod in Resistance concelebrated, by the Grace of God, with a Hierarchy of our Sister Church, the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad under His Eminence, Metropolitan Agafangel.



His Grace, Bishop Cyprian of Oreoi, Acting President of the Holy Synod, and His Grace, Bishop Klemes of Gardikion liturgized together with His Eminence, Archbishop Sophrony of St. Petersburg and Northern Russia (who had arrived the day before), as an expression of mutual love, communion, and unity between both Churches.





Six Hieromonks, two Deacons, and several Subdeacons also took part in this gladsome concelebration. Bishop Klemes delivered a homily, and Bishop Cypryan provided words of spiritual counsel.



After the Divine Liturgy, in the monastery's reception hall and in the presence of a throng of faithful, Archbishop Sophrony—a young, pro-monastic, industrious, and active Hierarch, who was visiting Greece for the first time—offered a festal greeting of love.

During his brief sojourn in our homeland, apart from discussing matters of common interest for the strengthening of the fraternal bonds between Greek and Russian anti-ecumenists, Archbishop Sophrony also visited various monasteries and places of pilgrimage in our country.

