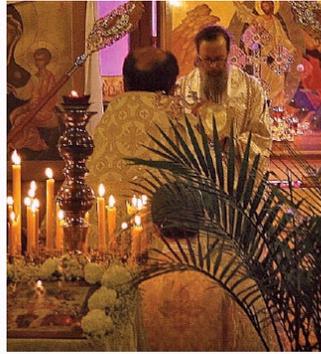
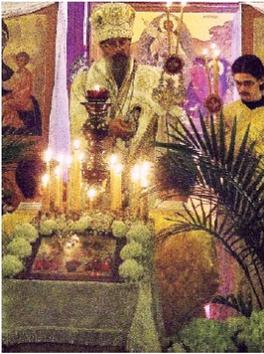


Feast Day at Holy Ascension Parish in Rochester, New York

For the **Feast Day** of the Holy Ascension on Thursday, May 11, 2012 (Old Style), His Grace, Bishop Auxentios and Hierodeacon Father Photii travelled from the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery to Rochester, New York, where they attended the parish feast of the Holy Ascension Church. They concelebrated the Feast Day services together with the Parish Rector, Father Nicholas Chernjavsky, and the parish Deacon, Father Peter Bushunow (*see **photographs below***). Present at the festal service, which was conducted in English and Slavonic, were several guests from one of our Exarchate parishes—the Church of Sts. Raphael, Nicholas, and Irene—in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, as well as Mother Agapia



from the Convent of St. Nicholas, a monastic institution in the jurisdiction of our Synod's Sister Church, the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad (under His Eminence, Metropolitan Agafangel), and several monastics who accompanied her.

After the Divine Liturgy, a very beautiful *Agape* luncheon was prepared by the parish Sisterhood and served in the parish hall in the basement of the Church. During their three-day stay in Rochester, His Grace, Bishop Auxentios and Father Photii visited faithful in the community, where they were graciously treated. They also enjoyed the beautiful hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Sergej and Valeria Chernjavsky, parents of the parish Priest, who put them up during their visit.

