



CHURCH OF THE TRUE ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS
OF GREECE

HOLY METROPOLIS OF OROPOS AND PHYLE



Protocol No. B155

April 10, 2015 (Old Style)
Wednesday of St. Thomas Week
† Holy Martyr Evpsychios

INFORMATORY EPISTLE

A Request for Prayers

Beloved in Christ, Very Reverend Brothers and Fellow Bishops;
Beloved in Christ, Fellow Priests and Deacons;
Beloved Children in the Lord:

I embrace you with a holy kiss and with the light-bearing salutation of peace: Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Since the middle of Great Lent, I have been absent from the boundaries of our Holy Metropolis and outside of Attica [Greece], owing to sudden and unremitting symptoms of exhaustion; my usual heart problems, resulting from an operation [decades ago]; and immeasurable sorrow and distress, on account of serious pastoral problems. All of these things together precipitated a sudden breakdown in my physical and spiritual strength.

My spirit is indeed crushed, since I have caused you grief and disquiet by my departure and silence, but also because my ministry has been interrupted for the time being, while my zeal for pastoral service "hath eaten me up," especially following our God-pleasing Union (March 2014).

The future is in the hands of Christ our Savior, through the intercessions of the *Theotokos* and all of the Saints, by the power of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross, and through the prayers of our Father and Metropolitan of blessed memory.

I am convinced that all of the clergy and laypeople of our Metropolis will show understanding, that you will continue to pray for my unworthiness, and that, until my return, you will continue to have—just as you have always had—trust in, respect and love for, and obedience to my two fel-

low monastic Brothers and Hierarchs, Their Graces, Bishops Ambrose of Methone and Klemes of Gardikion, who will have temporary responsibility for the matters pertaining to our Holy Metropolis.

I embrace you yet again with love and gratitude in Christ our Risen God and Savior, to Whom are due glory, worship and thanksgiving.

The Least in Christ,
Metropolitan



Ὁ Ἐλάχιστος ἐν Χριστῷ
καὶ ἐν ἡμῶν
ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ Πνεύματι
καὶ ἐν τῷ ἁγίῳ Κρίματι

† Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle