



“For the Edification of the Church”

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In Memory of our Elder and Father,
Metropolitan Cyprian of Blessed Memory
(† May 17, 2013 [Old Style])

“Thanksgiving 2019” “Gratitude with Gladsome Voices”

October 7, 2019 (Old Style)



On Sunday, October 7, 2019 (Old Style, commemoration of the Holy Martyrs Sergius and Bacchus), with the blessing, guidance, and presence of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, there took place under the aegis of the Holy Metropolis, the **third “Thanksgiving” tribute**, which began again in 2016, by the Grace of God, in a new form, with the title “Gratitude with Gladsome Voices.”

As the Presenter, Mrs. Justina Phokianou-Gliati, reminded us: “These annual tributes were inaugurated in 1976, for the purpose of honoring our ever-memorable spiritual Father and Elder, Metropolitan Cyprian on the occasion of his Nameday.”

In its renewed form, since 2016, the “Thanksgiving” tribute envisages: • *the revitalization of our hearts with the dew of the prayers of our reposed Elder*; • *the rekindling of our love with the fresh streams of gratitude to his venerable person*; and • *the quenching of our thirst with the clear waters of his spiritual legacy, to the glory of God.*





Present at the event, which was held in a secondary school auditorium in Ano Liosia (near Athens), which was graciously put at our disposal by the local government, were Their Graces, Bishop Ambrose of Methone and Bishop Klemes of Gardikion; the Reverend Abbot of the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Archimandrite Father Theodosios; many clergy, monks, and nuns belonging to our Holy Metropolis, and multitudes of lay people.

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The approximately two-hour-long program, which the large audience followed with emotion and enthusiasm, included: • ecclesiastical hymns; • three “Prosomoia of Gratitude,” written specially for this year’s tribute; • a very moving film (20 minutes) with photos and videos clips of the pastoral activity of our reposed Elder and Metropolitan; • a *Spiritual Portrait of our ever-memorable spiritual Father and Elder, Metropolitan Cyprian*, by His Grace, Bishop Klemes of Gardikion, who described the stages of spiritual growth and the spiritual gifts of our ever-memorable spiritual Father; • renditions of our ever-memorable Elder’s beloved folk songs and instrumental melodies, performed by the “Hellenorthódoxe Kleronomiá” chorus and orchestral ensemble; • distribution of a special memento.



■ In his “Closing Words of Gratitude,” our Most Reverend Metropolitan fervently thanked those who labored for the realization of the greatly moving and edifying “Thanksgiving” tributes.

He expressed his pleasure that His Grace, Bishop Klemes spoke in such an edifying way about our ever-memorable spiritual Elder on the day of the twelfth anniversary of his [Bishop Klemes’] consecration to the Episcopacy (October 7, 2007). He prayed that our Lord grant him health and length of days in his valuable ministry towards our Holy Synod and to the people of God, and he presented him with an Icon of the Most Holy *Theotokos*.



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Let us reiterate this year our gratitude to our All-Good Lord for the revival of the highly edifying “Thanksgiving” tributes, which help to kindle in our hearts a sense of responsibility creatively to preserve the invaluable spiritual legacy left to us, as a gift and duty, by our spiritual Father and Metropolitan of blessed memory.



And let us likewise repeat the prayerful wish that the new “Thanksgiving” tributes will contribute to a spirit of unity, thanksgiving, glorification, renewal, and restoration, to the glory of God and the edification of the faithful!

Glory to God for all things!

