



## The Patronal Feast of the Holy Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina, Phyle, Athens October 2, 2021 (Old Style)

**T**he Feast Day of the Holy Martyrs Cyprian and Justina was celebrated again this year with splendor and compunction at the Holy Monastery dedicated to them in Phyle, Attica, headquarters of the Metropolis of Oropos and Phyle.



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**O**n **Thursday** evening, October 1/14, 2021, Great Vespers was served, with His Grace, Bishop Klemes of Gardikion presiding, at the invitation of the local Hierarchy, His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, whose Nameday it was. His Grace, Bishop Ambrose was in prayerful attendance.

**A**lso present and participating were the Abbot of the Monastery, Archimandrite Father Theodosios, and clergy belonging to our Holy Synod.

**D**espite the inclement weather, a large multitude of monastics and pious laypeople were in prayerful attendance.

**T**he monastery choir, under the direction of musicologist Nicholas Polychros from Thessalonica, chanted with special beauty.

**B**efore the Dismissal, His Grace, Bishop Klemes delivered the festal address.

**T**he Grace-filled Relics of the Saints being honored were brought from the monastery cloister to the area for visitors so that the faithful could venerate them throughout Vespers, and again the following day.

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**On Friday** morning, October 2/15, festal Orthros was served, followed by a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, at which His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian presided. His Beatitude, Archbishop Kallinikos was unable to attend owing to ill health.



Concelebrating with Metropolitan Cyprian were His Eminence, Metropolitan Photios of Demetrias and Their Graces, Bishop Ambrose of Methone and Bishop Klemes of Gardikion.

A large crowd of faithful and many dignitaries filled the large Church and the courtyard, since there was fine weather that day, despite forecasts to the contrary.

Before Holy Communion, Bishop Klemes again delivered the festal address, speaking about the lives of the Saints being honored. After the Dismissal, Metropolitan Photios extended best wishes to Metropolitan Cyprian on behalf of the Holy Synod, that he might for many years to come shepherd the flock entrusted to him and offer to the Church his pastoral ministry, through the prayers of his Elder, Metropolitan Cyprian of blessed memory.

In turn, His Eminence thanked the Hierarchs of our Holy Synod, the Abbot of the monastery, Archimandrite Theodosios, the clergy, all those who helped in the preparations for the feast day, and the representatives of the local government.

His Eminence also noted that this year the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina celebrates its sixtieth anniversary as a place of repentance and renewal, both for the monastics living there and for the innumerable faithful who find in it a harbor of salvation.

At the reception that followed, His Eminence expressed the wish that a spirit of cooperation and love in Christ be preserved and strengthened, in the face of the great challenges we face at a national, social, and ecclesiastical level.

**Glory** and thanksgiving to our compassionate Lord, Who bedewed the hearts of the faithful with the waters of His Grace for their strengthening and consolation.

