



## “For the Edification of the Church”

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“When saw we Thee...in prison and came unto Thee?” (St. Matthew 25:39)

## Visit to the Detention Center of Amphissa and the Juvenile Special Detention Center of Volos, Greece

February 22, 2023 (Old Style) and  
March 15, 2023 (Old Style)



**O**n Tuesday, February 22, and again on Tuesday, March 15, 2023 (Old Style), with the blessing, participation, and guidance of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, the St. Philaret the Merciful Guild

made its nineteen visit to the Detention Center of Amphissa and the Juvenile Special Detention Center of Volos.

The Guild’s volunteers had collected and packaged personal care items, which were donated to the Guild by private individuals and stores, or were bought by the Guild, for distribution to our imprisoned brothers.

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**A**t the Detention Center of Amphissa, the new prison director, the warden, and their colleagues warmly welcomed our Most Reverend Metropolitan and the small group of “pilgrims” with him.

Owing to the rain, it was not possible to visit with the inmates as a group in the facility’s courtyard, but Metropolitan Cyprian

was able to meet them individually in the visiting room, where, accompanied by the chanting of the nuns, he gave each person his loving paternal embrace and a care package. The repeated exchange of wishes for a blessed Pascha brought a spring-like breath of hope to the meeting.

In taking leave of the visitors, the gracious director and her colleagues repeated their entreaties that Metropolitan Cyprian continue his visits and direct contact with our incarcerated brothers.

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**At the Juvenile Special Detention Center of Volos**, the visitors had been forewarned that, owing to recent cases of Covid, it would still not be possible for them to meet with the inmates personally in the courtyard, as they had done in the past.

The prison director, our beloved brother in Christ, Mr. Basilios Apostolakes, welcomed the small group of pilgrims in the control room and thanked them fervently for the support they have offered since 2010. He described for them how he and his coworkers have been trying to improve the living conditions of their charges.

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**The** disposition of those responsible for our incarcerated brothers at both of these detention centers—as also at the Detention Center of Kassavetia—is truly praiseworthy, since it is clear that they are not perfunctorily doing their job, but are making every effort to minister to the inmates, in the face of many difficulties.

**They** are worthy of their wages, now and ever...!

