



Pastoral Visit to the Holy Land of Georgia

April 13- 20, 2023 (Old Style)



Under the Protection of the *Panagia Portaitissa* and of St. Nina, the Enlightener of Iberia, His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle made yet another pastoral visit to the sanctified land of Georgia amidst the resurrectional Grace of the Paschal period.

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On the Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women, April 17 (Old Style), Metropolitan Cyprian presided at the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the diocesan Cathedral Church dedicated to the *Panagia Portaitissa*, in Gldani, a suburb of Tbilisi. All of the clergy of the Exarchate participated: Hieromonks Father Grigol (Kobahidze) and Father Aleksii (Aratsemia), the Reverend Fathers Basili Mkalavishvili, Vakhtang Mariani, and Giorgi Achelashvili, as well as Protopresbyter Sergei Begashov (from our Sister Church, the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad under Metropolitan Agafangel) Deacon Father Andria Daneliya, many altar servers, and a great multitude of the faithful.

On the previous Friday evening, His Eminence presided at





an All-Night Vigil at the *Hesychasterion* of the Prophetess Anna, which is under the direction of the Reverend Mother Nina. He was assisted by Father Aleksi (the Priest who serves the convent) and Father Sergei. His Eminence also performed the blessing of the waters for

the inauguration of the new wing of cells.

On Monday, April 18 (Old Style), Metropolitan Cyprian presided at the Divine Liturgy at the Chapel dedicated to All the Saints of Georgia, where Fathers Aleksi and Sergei once again concelebrated.

Over the course of the visit, Metropolitan Cyprian also

- took part in two pilgrimages, so as to receive the blessing of the Holy Apostle Thomas, St. Nina, and St. Shio;



- dedicated a great deal of time to meetings with the clergy so as to discuss and offer guidance on various matters;

- held a monastic Synaxis with the Sisterhood of the Holy Prophetess Anna, and

- visited the location where, God willing, a small brotherhood under the direction of Hieromonk Grigol will be established.

During his sojourn, His Eminence took every opportunity to exhort everyone to watchfulness, repentance, humility, and unity, in the face of the multifarious challenges of our days.



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On Wednesday, April 20 (Old Style), Metropolitan Cyprian and his travelling companions returned to Greece with feelings of deep thanksgiving to our Most Holy Theotokos, St. Nina, and all the Saints of Georgia, by whose Grace the great sacrifices necessitated by these pastoral visits are coming to fruition.