



## “For the Edification of the Church”

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## Visit to the Leonia Elderly Care Unit

“Respect old age, for it does not come alone.”

Thursday, December 15, 2023 (Old Style)

**O**n Thursday, December 15, 2023 (Old Style), with the blessing and participation of His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, we made our first visit to the Leonia Elderly Care unit (Ilion, Attica), which houses 122 residents.



Having receiving prior permission from the facility’s Board of Directors, our Most Reverend Shepherd and a group of twenty people were vouchsafed, during this pre-festal period, to venerate our Coming Lord in the persons of the venerable elderly residents of the care unit. The *pilgrims* were met by Ms. Eirine, the facility’s psychiatrist, who led them to the room where the ambulatory residents had gathered.

Here, members of the “Hellenic Orthodox Heritage” choir, under the direction of Hieromonk Dionysios (of the Monastery of Sts. Cyprian and Justina in Phyle), sang carols and folk songs, with the accompaniment of traditional folk instruments, to the delight of the facility’s residents, staff, and visitors alike.



This first visited concluded with Metropolitan Cyprian expressing his thanksgiving to our Lord for this experience and promising to return. Gifts were then distributed to those present.



**W**e returned home with feelings of gratitude for this new experience, which helped us to feel that, amidst the love of God we are all children.

**L**et us keep these elderly brothers and sisters of our Lord, and also their self-sacrificing caretakers, in our prayers!

