

## **Granting of Cassocks to the new African Seminarians in Alexandria**

**On Wednesday, April 6, 2022, as every year, the Service of the Great Canon was served in piety at the Patriarchal Monastery of St Savvas the Sanctified in Alexandria, officiated according to the Alexandrian order, by His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa.**

Megas Kanon is a poem by St Andrew, Bishop of Crete. It is sung in parts during the four Great Complines of the First Week of Lent, while the whole is sung in Orthros of the 5th week of Lent, or together with the Small Compline the night before, as has prevailed.

After the end of the Sacred Service, His Beatitude read the prayer of the earring of the Cassock the new hopeful African seminarians of the Patriarchal Academy "Athanasios the Great".

Every year new young men with zeal and love for the Church, arrive in Alexandria from all over Africa, hosted in the Holy Monastery of St. Sava. There, with its moral and financial support, the Patriarchate tries to provide all the necessary provision that these young men need, so that returning to their homelands they can be useful to both their local church and the community. They are the future priests and teachers, to whom the Alexandrian Church looks for the transmitting of the orthodox tenets of the Gospel to the dark continent.

The students, making a great and ambitious effort, learn the Greek language and immerse themselves in Orthodox theology, the liturgical and the ecclesiastical order, thus acquiring a multifaceted education, making them ready to staff the Patriarchate of Alexandria in various ways.