

## **HIS BEATITUDE MEETS WITH THE PATRIARCH OF THE MARONITES**

**On 20th March 2012 His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa**, received in the Patriarchal Vicariate in Cairo the Patriarch of the Maronites, Mar Beshara Boutros Rai, in the presence of His Eminence Nicholas Metropolitan of Ermopolis, the Patriarchal Vicar of Cairo His Grace Nikodimos Bishop of Nitria and clergy from both Churches.

Welcoming the Patriarch of the Maronites the Alexandrian Primate spoke of the significant missionary work of the ancient Church of St Mark, and emphasized the need for peace in the Middle East and in the whole world.

On his behalf, the Maronite Patriarch expressed his love and appreciation for His Beatitude Theodoros. He spoke on the progress of the Church of the Maronites in Egypt and expressed a wish for Co-operation with the Second Throne Patriarchate; he also invited His Beatitude to visit the See of the Maronite Church in Lebanon.