

PATRIARCHAL OFFICIATION FOR THE FIRST DAY OF THE YEAR IN ALEXANDRIA

In the Holy Church of the Annunciation of the Virgin in Alexandria, His His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, officiated at the New Year's Day service in memory of St. Basil the Great, Archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia.

'A great word of gratitude to Greece and Cyprus that never forget the Patriarchate of Alexandria,' said the Primate of the Second Throne Patriarchate of Alexandria, Theodoros II.

During the Doxology for the beginning of the new year, the Primate of Alexandria thanked in particular the Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis and the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Nikolaos Dendias, for their support of the missionary work of Africa.

At the same time, he expressed his gratitude to the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomaios, 'the father of modern Greeks', as he defined him, but also to Archbishop Irineos of Crete, as with their own decision and signature, the young people of the Patriarchate of Alexandria, from the community, from Egypt, but also Africa will be hosted in the camps of St. Titus in Heraklion, Crete, so that they can be *'in a paradise, in an orchard of love.'*

He also spoke with words of gratitude for the support provided by Cyprus and its Church to the Patriarchate of Alexandria, talking about the real solidarity and love shown by the Churches to the missionary Patriarchate of Africa.

'Greece and Cyprus are always at our side and we thank them', concluded the Patriarch of Alexandria Theodoros.

The Doxology was attended by the President of the Hellenic Naval Club of Alexandria, Mrs. Lilika Thlivitou, in whose person the Patriarch of Alexandria greeted all the community associations of the city of Alexander the Great, while commemorating the recently deceased late President of the Hellenic Community of Alexandria, Mr. Edmond Kasimatis.