

## **THE FEAST OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN MADAGASCAR AND THE SYNAXIS OF THE CLERGY OF THE HOLY METROPOLIS**

On 1st June 2015, the feast of the Holy Spirit, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa officiated at Matins and the Divine Liturgy at the Holy Church of the Dormition of the Theotokos in Antananarivo. In his address, His Beatitude wished for the congregation that the Comforter would be a comfort and illumine the lives of the people.

Prior to the dismissal of the worship Gathering, His Beatitude honoured distinguished local volunteers and Greeks, for the help given to the missionary effort of the Holy Metropolis of Madagascar. He also thanked the nuns from the Holy Monastery of the Virgin Mother of God in Crete who are in Madagascar to contribute to the establishment of Monasticism in the region and donated a silver lamp, praying that it would be the first lamp which would be lit on the establishment of the new Monastery.

The Synaxis of the Clergy of the Holy Metropolis then took place, during which His Beatitude encouraged them never to be disheartened by the difficulties of their ministry in the Church and the difficult conditions of Missionary work on the African Continent.

The local Metropolitan, His Eminence Ignatios, then hosted a lunch in honour of His Beatitude, the Clergy and wives of the Holy Metropolis.

On the evening of the same day His Beatitude had a meeting with the honorable Consul of Greece in Madagascar, Mr. Panagiotis Taloumis, during which issues regarding the Greeks in the region were discussed.