

Two Bishops of the Holy Synod Elected to the Rank of Metropolitan

In October of 2015, the Holy Synod of the Church of the Genuine Orthodox Christians of Greece, meeting in a regular synodal session, voted to elevate two titular Bishops in the Holy Synod to the rank of Metropolitan and assign them to two important historical Sees in Greece.

Elevated to the Throne of Thessalonike was His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory. His Eminence was born in Piraeus, Greece, in 1970. He received his education in theology at the famous Rizareios Ecclesiastical School in Halandri (Athens) and at the University of Athens. His Eminence was formerly the Titular Bishop of Christianoupolis. He serves as President of the Holy Synod's Committee on Dogmatic and Canonical Matters and, from May of 1998 to July of 1999, was director of the historical publication of the Old Calendarists in Greece, *Ἡ Φωνὴ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας* (The voice of Orthodoxy). (*See photograph below.*)



Elevated to the Throne of Demetrias was His Eminence, Metropolitan Photios. His Eminence was born on the island of Rhodes in 1968. A former monk at the Monastery of Esphigmenou on the Holy Mountain, he is a graduate of the Hellenic Open University and holds a postgraduate diploma from the

Open University of Cyprus, where he has also completed post-graduate seminars in Orthodox theological subjects and cultural and educational formation. His Eminence was formerly the titular Bishop of Marathon. He has served as Chief Secretary of the Holy Synod since 1999, is a member of the Synodal Committee on Legal Matters, and is responsible for the Church's catechetical programs throughout Greece. In addition to Greek, Metropolitan Photios also speaks English.

We wish both of these gifted Hierarchs many years in service to their new flocks and to the Holy Church. Ἄξιος!

