

Synaxis in Stockholm

"A Century Since the Implementation of the New Calendar and its Consequences"

(1924-2024)

During his Pastoral Visit to Sweden in September, His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian held a meeting with the clergy, in which they discussed, *inter alia*, the latest developments of the so-called official Churches, and in particular the prospect of a common celebration of Pascha by Orthodox ecumenists and the Pope of Rome, beginning in 2025.

Metropolitan Cyprian urged the Fathers to hold an informative Synaxis on the subject of the Calendar Innovation and the celebration of Pascha.

On Sunday, November 25, 2024 (Old Style), with the blessing of our Most Reverend Metropolitan, Father Anders Åkerström and Father Alexander Hahr held a "Theological Evening" entitled "A Century Since the Implementation of the New Calendar and its Consequences" at the Church of Sts. Constantine and Helen, in Vårberg, Stockholm.



The talk was well attended by parishioners and others who wished to be informed on the subject, some of whom travelled long distances in order to participate.

The following topics were discussed:

- An overview of the ecclesiology
 theology of the early Church (Father Anders).
- A brief history of the so-called Pan-Orthodox Congress of 1923 and the figure of Patriarch Meletios Metaxakis (Father Anders).
- What is Ecumenism from an Orthodox perspective? (Father Alexander).
- A short history of the Old Calendar movement in Greece and the most common questions we receive as Old Calendarists and how we answer them (Father Anders).

The participants in the Synaxis showed great interest and asked many questions. At the end of the evening, they encouraged the Fathers to organize other similar informative meetings on catechetical and timely topics in the Church.

• The evening confirmed the need, in these times of profound secularization and distortion of ecclesiology by the so-called official jurisdictions, for the catechetical formation of our faithful and of those who are increasingly turning to Genuine Orthodoxy.