



■ [Visit to the Holy Diocese of Stockholm](#)

Pastoral Ministry in Sweden
for the Reception of a New Parish
March 7-11, 2025 (Old Style)

With the blessing of His Beatitude, Archbishop Kallinikos and the Hierarchs of our Holy Synod, His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Phyle, *Locum Tenens* of the Diocese of Stockholm, made an additional pastoral visit to Sweden, in order to receive the Parish of the Dormition of the Theotokos in Borås (Western Sweden) and its Rector, the Reverend Father Ioannis Nikolaidis, into our Holy Synod.



Following the acceptance of Father Ioannis' petition by the Holy Synod at its Regular Meeting on March 5 (Old Style), Metropolitan Cyprian hastened to Borås to ensure that the parish, which a year ago had severed all ecclesiastical relations with the innovationist Metropolis of the Patriarchate of Constantinople, would have the opportunity to be spiritually active for the remainder of Great Lent and Pascha.

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On Thursday, March 7 (Old Style), the parishioners of the Church of Sts. Constantine and Helen in Stockholm welcomed Metropolitan Cyprian with joy for his unexpected return, just one month after his customary winter visit.

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On Friday, March 8 (Old Style), the service of the Third Stasis of the Salutations to the Theotokos was served in Greek and Swedish at the Cathedral Church in Stockholm.

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On Saturday, March 9 (Old Style), the Feast of the Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste, Metropolitan Cyprian celebrated a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, with the participation of Fathers Anders, Stefanos, and Alexander, and Hierodeacon Father Theocharis.

That afternoon, His Eminence left for Borås, some four hours southwest of Stockholm, together with Father Alexander, Mother Magalene from the Convent of St. Philothei (Villberga), two nuns, and two lay brethren.

He was welcomed at the Parish of the Dormition of the Theotokos by Father Ioannis and a number of his parishioners. Following the service of the *Thyranoixia* and Great Vespers, Father Ioannis and his faithful were formally received according to the prescribed order of our Church.

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On the Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross, March 10 (Old Style), Orthros and a Hierarchical Divine Liturgy were celebrated, with the participation of Father Ioannis and Father Alexander. The parish then served everyone an *agape* meal.

Thus, in the heart of the Great Fast, and in particular on the day in which the Precious Cross of Christ is Venerated, our brothers and sisters of the parish of the Dormition of the





Theotokos took up the cross of Confession and fidelity to the traditions of our Church.

May the All-blessed Theotokos protect, strengthen, and console them, and may the Grace of the Life-giving Cross guide the new course of this blessed community.

Glory to God for all things!

