## PATRIARCHAL DIVINE LITURGY IN GHANA

On Sunday 4th November 2018, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa conducted the Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Transfiguration of the Saviour in Accra, together with His Eminence George Metropolitan of Guinea and His Eminence Narcissus Metropolitan of Accra and the entire Clergy of the Holy Metropolis of Accra.

The Cathedral Church choir excellently presented the hymns, something which particularly moved His Beatitude, who pronounced it the best Church Choir of the Patriarchate.

After the end of the Divine Liturgy which was attended by Greek, Russians, Lebanese, Egyptian and Ghanaian faithful, who filled the Church and the courtyard from early on.

The Patriarch awarded the office of Protopresbyter to Fr Basil Kwame Labi and thanked him for his tireless work and his contribution to the Lord's vineyard. He also awarded the medal of the "Commander of St Savva" to Mrs Andri Marangou from Cyprus and Captain Konstantinos Dermitzis from Kavala, for their many years of contribution to and love for the Church.

Present at the Divine Liturgy among others were the Consuls of Greece, Egypt and Belgium, the Apostolic Nuncio, representatives of various Christian Faith and the local traditional authorities.

Following the Divine Liturgy the children of the catechetical schools presented a festive programme and an Agape meal followed for the entire congregation. The Patriarch thanked the children for the beautiful festival which they prepared and asked them always to be close to Christ and His Church, which is the only source of hope, joy, love and genuine peace.

After the meal, His Beatitude met with the Clergy of the Holy Metropolis of Ghana, gave the necessary advice and guidance, discussed with them issues concerning the Missionary efforts of the Patriarchate in the country, often mentioning the strong foundations set in Ghana by the late Metropolitan Irenaios Talabekos.