

## **THE FEAST OF THE BEHEADING OF THE FOREUNNER IN ALEXANDRIA AND COMSECRATION OF A READER**

On 29th August 2017, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, officiated during the Divine Liturgy for the Feast of the Beheading of John the Forerunner, at the renovated historic Church of the same name, in the old "Kotsieios" Greek Hospital in Alexandria. Many faithful who venerate the Baptist, attended the Divine Liturgy.

Then with great joy, he welcomed to the Patriarchal Palace the Egyptian Seminarian Mr. Asraf Mabir Hosin Bayoouk, together with his brother Fr. Theodoros, a priest of the Patriarchate of Alexandria for the Arabic speaking flock of the Mansura region, from where they have their origin.

After their meeting, His Beatitude consecrated as Reader Seminarian Mr. Bayoouk, in the Patriarchal Chapel of Ss. Theodori. The gentleman consecrated has lately been studying in Russia, with the blessing of His Beatitude the Patriarch of Alexandria and the approval of His Most Holiness the Patriarch of Moscow, at the Theological Academy of St Sergios.

The wish of the Alexandrian Primate is that, following his studies, Mr. Bayoouk, as an Arabic speaker, will serve the Arabic speaking flock and the Russian Orthodox Christians who are in Egypt or travel to Egypt, conducting Church Worship in their language. In conclusion, His Beatitude bade them farewell, wishing the Seminarian successful studies, a blessed service as a Reader of the Church and in the future as a priest of the Church.