

THE STEPS OF THE PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA TO THE MOTHER OF MISSIONS

On Tuesday, October 12, His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, visited the Holy Cathedral of Saint Nicholas in Kampala, accompanied by His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Makarios of Nairobi, locum tenens of the vacant Diocese of Kampala and His Grace Sylverter Bishop of Gulu.

In the Holy Temple of Agios Nikolaos, His Beatitude was received by the clergy of the Holy Metropolis of Kampala and many people. There, an official Doxology was performed on the arrival of the Primate of Alexandria, addressed by the locum tenens of the Diocese of Kampala, Elder Metropolitan Makarios of Nairobi.

In reply His Beatitude expressed two emotions that flood his heart on this missionary journey. The first is that of joy, because for the sixth time he is in his beloved Uganda, which he described as the mother of Missions, while the second is that of grief, which has been disseminated by the loss of the late Blessed Elder Metropolitan Jonah of Kampala.

After the Doxology and the speeches, His Beatitude in a procession together with the clergy and people of Uganda, served memorial prayers at the tomb of the Blessed Elder Metropolitan Jonah of Kampala.

Afterwards, His Beatitude went to the Church of Saint Spyridon in Lougazi, where the clergy of the area and a large number of young children gathered to receive the Patriarchal blessing of their Spiritual Father. After the usual Doxology, the Patriarch was guided through the schools of the parish.

Then the Primate of Alexandria, laid the foundation of a School in the Wakiso area, which he named "IRINEOS GALANAKIS", thus dedicating it to the memory of a great missionary and fighter for the spread of Orthodoxy to the ends of the universe.

In the afternoon of the same day, His Beatitude went to the Monte area. Initially, he paid a pilgrimage visit to the Holy Church of Saint Antonios, where he received a warm welcome.

In addition, His Beatitude went to the Holy Monastery of Saint Mary of Egypt, where he was welcomed by the fraternity of the Holy Monastery and a large number of believers, while in the monastery's katholikon the usual Doxology was sung on the occasion of the visit of the Spiritual Guide of the fraternity. Finally, in the courtyard of the Holy Monastery, His Beatitude and his entourage attended a music and dance event prepared by the children of the Monastery Orphanage in honor of the Patriarch, thus ending the first day of his missionary tour.

On Wednesday, October 13, His Beatitude Theodoros II Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, visited the Holy Diocese of Gulu, accompanied by His Grace Sylvester Bishop of Gulu and His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Makarios of Nairobi.

His Beatitude's first stop was at the Holy Church of St Spyridon in the Nzinze area, where a Doxology was sung.

The Patriarch then went to the tomb of the late blessed Father Kyrillos Kassoule, first priest of Eastern Uganda, where he sang the Trisagion for the repose of the soul of Father Kyrillos.

On the same day, the Alexandrian Primate went to the Jinja area, where a Doxology was sung at the Holy Church of the Resurrection of Christ. Closing the second day of his tour, His Beatitude performed the service of the laying of the foundation of the Diocese of the area, and a clergy synaxis

followed with the Clergy of Eastern Uganda.