

Feast Day of St. Gregory Palamas, Etna, California

On the Second Sunday of the Great Fast, dedicated to the renowned Luminary, Mystic, and Theologian of Orthodoxy, St. Gregory Palamas,



Archbishop of Thessaloniki, the St. Gregory Palamas Monastery celebrated its Feast Day with great spiritual joy and solemnity. They were joined by His Eminence, Archbishop Andronik of Syracuse and St. Nicholas, from our Sister Church, the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad (under Metropolitan Agafangel), who was accompanied by his spiritual daughter, Mrs. Tatiana Yemelyanova. Also among the guests were Vivian and Reader Peter Avisov, wife and son, respectively, of the Starosta (Warden) of our Exarchate parish in Oxnard, CA, as well as a nephew of His Grace, Bishop Auxentios, an Air Force officer stationed on the West Coast and a close friend of the monastery. During the Divine Liturgy, Hieromonk Patapios, Academic Director of the Center for Traditionalist Orthodox Studies, was appointed a Confessor by Bishop Auxentios and given the *Epigonation* as a sign of his office. (See at left, above, the decorated Icon of St. Gregory Palamas, a gift from the Icon studio of the Convent of the Holy Angels in Aphidnai [Athens], Greece.)



From left to right, above: His Grace, Bishop Auxentios and His Eminence, Archbishop Andronik blessing at Liturgy, and His Eminence, Archbishop Chrysostomos blessing at the Small Entrance, with Hieromonk Patapios at his far right.



Above, the procession into the monastery Church, following the outdoor Blessing of the Five Loaves (at left).

