

My Beloved Ones,

I pray that all the parishes of the Holy and God-Protected Metropolis of Atlanta had a spiritually fulfilling feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross on Wednesday.

As you know, during the summer I was involved, not only in a series of meetings which took place at the Ecumenical Patriarchate, but also with the Holy and Great Council in Crete, among all the autocephalous Orthodox churches.

Next month, I will take part in our annual Clergy Retreat at the Diakonia Retreat Center. There, I will share, not only greater details of what transpired at the Council, but the texts of decisions and documents which were discussed and signed.

I pray that all of you will seek information from your priests; and I would like to encourage the clergy to share these details with you all, as well publicizing these things in your bulletins.

Most importantly, however, I would like to ask for your prayers, since we are in the beginning of the Ecclesiastical year. We have just celebrated the feast of the Holy Cross, something that gives power to our Church; something that is the inspiration for Orthodox Christians, although it represents, according to St. Paul, “...*a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles...*” (1 Corinthians 1:23)

In this new Ecclesiastical year, to be closer to the Church, pray for yourselves and one another, so that the Holy Cross may bless us all.

Χρόνια Πολλά! Have a blessed Ecclesiastical year, as well as an academic one, as I pray for our children and students, attending the elementary, high schools and universities in our cities.



+ALEXIOS  
Metropolitan of Atlanta

