



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF ATLANTA

January 5, 2010

Reverend Clergy and the Faithful of the Holy and God-protected Metropolis of Atlanta

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

*“With the Saints give rest, O Christ, to the soul of your servant
where there is no pain, nor sorrow, nor suffering, but life everlasting.”*

I greet you today with a sorrowful heart with the sad news that the father of His Eminence Metropolitan Alexios fell asleep in the Lord early this morning in Greece.

His Eminence’s father, Speros Panagiotopoulos, was ninety-six years old when he passed away peacefully with many of his family at his side. Mr. Panagiotopoulos leaves behind his wife, Angelike, seven children, along with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, to cherish his memory.

His Eminence left for Greece today and has asked that we forgive him for being unable to celebrate the Feast Day of Holy Theophany in Tarpon Springs, Florida, as well as keep his previously scheduled visits to other parish communities during the time he will be with his family in Greece.

I know that all of our Metropolis family, and the many friends of His Eminence, join me in prayers for the soul of his father, so that God will forgive all his sins and infirmities, and will welcome him home in His kingdom. For this reason, His Eminence has asked that all Metropolis of Atlanta clergy offer a Trisagion service after the Divine Liturgy for the Feast Day of St. John the Baptist on Thursday.

*“Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little,
I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.”*
(Matthew 25:21)

May the memory of the servant of the Lord, Speros, be eternal!

In response to inquiries we have begun receiving, it is suggested that memorial donations may be offered to your local parish community or the Metropolis of Atlanta Diakonia Retreat Center.

Joining you in prayers for His Eminence and his family, I remain,

Faithfully yours,

V. Rev. Fr. George Tsahakis
Chancellor
Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Atlanta