

## **THE 11th MEETING OF THE PAN-ORTHODOX EPISCOPAL ASSEMBLY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND**

The 11th Meeting of the Pan-Orthodox Episcopal Assembly of Britain and Ireland took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015 at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral of the Dormition and the Holy Royal Martyrs, Chiswick, London.

The following bishops were present:

His Eminence Archbishop Gregorios of Thyateira & Great Britain  
(Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople)

His Eminence Archbishop Elisey of Sourozh  
(Patriarchate of Moscow)

His Eminence Archbishop Mark of Berlin, Germany & Great Britain  
(Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia)

His Eminence Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia (Archdiocese of Thyateira)

His Grace Bishop Athanasios of Tropaeou (Archdiocese of Thyateira)

His Grace Bishop Ignatie of Mures (Romanian Diocese of Spain and Portugal)

His Eminence Archbishop Anatoly of Kerch (Diocese of Sourozh)

Welcoming the members of the Assembly, the Chairman, His Eminence Archbishop Gregorios, urged them to work together in harmony for the good of the Orthodox Church in these Islands. He also informed the Assembly about the forthcoming visit to Britain of His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople and drew attention to the needs of the the refugees from the Middle East who were now coming to this hospitable country.

The bishops reviewed the design and content of the Assembly website ([www.episcopalassembly.info](http://www.episcopalassembly.info)) and agreed that it was a useful means of publicising their work. They also approved the final draft of their pastoral recommendations regarding mixed marriages and agreed to bring it to the attention of their clergy.

The Assembly heard a report from His Eminence Archbishop Mark about the 5th Pan-Orthodox Preconciliar Committee Meeting that he had recently attended.

His Eminence Archbishop Elisey gave a report from the special committee for local saints that had been established at the previous Assembly meeting. It was clear that much work in this area had been done by various individuals over several decades and that the veneration of the ancient saints of these islands was developing organically, as witnessed by the increasing number of Orthodox communities dedicated to one or more of these saints and the pilgrimages to the sites associated with them. The task of the committee was to assist the bishops in drawing together the work done already into a common synaxarion of recognised saints that could be presented to the Mother Churches. It was recognised that this would be an ongoing process.

The date and location for the Pan-Orthodox Vespers (Sun Mar 20th, 6pm, at the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, Ennismore Gardens) was noted. It was agreed that the next meeting should take place on Saturday June 4th at the Romanian Orthodox Church in Holborn. There would be a concelebrated Divine Liturgy in the morning, followed by the meeting in the afternoon.

The meeting concluded with a lunch offered by the host, Archbishop Mark.

From the Secretariat of the  
Pan-Orthodox Episcopal Assembly  
for Britain and Ireland