

Message for Holy Theophany 2005*

Beloved brethren in Christ; beloved children in the Lord; Feast-loving assembly of the Orthodox:

This year, we enjoy once again the Divine gift of worshipping the All-Holy Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—at the Baptism of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Incarnation of our Lord has fully revealed to the world the true God, the true Man, the true purpose of creation, the true meaning of history, and the true life.



The pious children of our Most Holy Orthodox Church possess, by the Grace of the Lord, strong, unerring, and definite assurance of this revelation, which they experience in their lives through participation in the Mysteries and to which they bear steadfast and constant witness, “that the world might believe.”

The radiant Feast of Holy Theophany reminds us of our sacred obligation to bear witness, in word and deed, to the mighty works of God, which the Incarnate Economy of our Lord and God has revealed to us.

“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”

Beloved festal gathering in Christ:

“The voice of the Lord upon the waters crieth, saying”: “Be ye witnesses to Me”; work “for the testimony of Jesus Christ”; strive that you may belong to those “who have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

Our Holy Synod in Resistance of the Old Calendar Orthodox Church exhorts her pious children to become, during the year 2005, genuine bearers of the **testimony of Christ**, through the strengthening and guidance of the *Theotokos*.

We pray that the Divine Comforter, Who was manifest today in the form of a dove, might, during the period of the New Year, lavish His **peace**, **consolation**, and **illumination** in abundance on our pious people, bringing to cessation the confusion of the nations and guiding them to the light of the knowledge of God, that all men, united in the truth and love of the Gospel, should unceasingly glorify the **Father**, the **Son**, and the **Holy Spirit**. Amen! □

* Delivered by His Eminence, Metropolitan Cyprian of Oropos and Fili during the solemn celebration of Holy Theophany in Oropos, Attika, on 6 January 2005 (Old Style).