Pastoral Visit to South Ossetia

n Wednesday of Renewal Week, April 25, 2013 (Old Style), His Grace, Bishop Ambrose of Methone traveled from London—where he had gone for the celebration of Great Week and Pascha at the Convent of the Annunciation—to Moscow, and thereafter to South Ossetia, in the Caucasus, arriving on the evening of the following day.





On Friday, the Feast of the Life-Giving Spring, His Grace liturgized at the Church of Sts. Constantine and Helen, in Tskhinvali, with its Rector, Father Alexey Aristinov. Later that day, he presided at the meeting of the Episcopal Council, which dealt with various matters pertaining to the local Church.

On Saturday of Renewal Week, he visited the village of Znauri in order to inspect the completion of work on the newly-built Church, with a view to its Consecration in the summer.





On St. Thomas Sunday, April 29 (Old Style), His Grace liturgized at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos with the Priests, Fathers Yakov Khetagourov, George Djoev, and Simon Gagloev, in the presence of a large throng of faithful.

The next few days were devoted to pastoral ministry. On Wednesday, May 2 (Old Style), Bishop Ambrose returned, via Vladikavkaz, North Ossetia, to Moscow. Here he had the opportunity, before returning to Greece on Friday, to visit the Monastery of St. Sabbas Storozevsky, the disciple of St. Sergey of Radonezh, in Zvenigorod, where he venerated his Grace-filled Sacred Relics.