

AT THE PRISONS IN POINTE-NOIRE

On Holy Thursday, 17th April 2014, His Grace Panteleimon, Bishop of Congo-Brazzaville and Gabon, accompanied by the priests of the three parishes of Pointe-Noire, Fr. Maximos Oumba, Parish Priest of the Holy Cathedral of St Dimitrios and Vicar General of the Holy Diocese, Fr Lavrentios Mpinga, Parish Priest of the Holy Church of the Ascension of the Lord at the Km4 suburb and Fr Silouan Nkounkou, Parish Priest of the Holy Church of St Fotini in the Mpaka suburb, together with colleagues of the parish benevolent funds, visited the prisons in the city to donate a quantity of foodstuff and personal hygiene, to the 300 inmates. This donation came from the fundraising activities of Orthodox faithful, who give the necessary moneys in order for these items to be purchased.

During the visit, His Grace had the blessing of meeting with all the prisoners and to address to them words of love, understanding and respect.

Also, the Director of the Correctional Institute showed His Grace the prison grounds as well as the small school which operates there, asking for the Church's assistance for the purchase of stationery and books. The Bishop committed himself to granting this request as well as to the regular presence of Orthodox clergy at the prisons.