

## **CELEBRATION OF THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AT THE “LIGHT OF THE YEAR” ORTHODOX SCHOOLS**

On the morning of 10th July 2024, His Grace Panteleimon, Bishop of Congo-Brazzaville and Gabon went to the city of Dolisie where he paid a courtesy visit to His Excellency the Governor of the District of Niari Mr. Jean Pierre Heyko-Lekoba. The learned and noble Governor assured the Bishop of the unreserved support of the local authority for the philanthropic work being undertaken by the Holy Diocese, and gave him a copy of his recently-published book «Les sentiers des origines – O'tsina”.

The celebration of the end of lessons for the Orthodox “Light of the Nations” Schools (primary, high and lyceum) then followed, during which His Grace expressed the justified praise of the Church for the hard working teachers, congratulated the pupils for their efforts, passed on the blessings of His Beatitude the Primate of the Alexandrian Church and awarded gifts to the pupils who excelled.

He also stressed the gratitude of the local Church to the founder of the schools, His Eminence Ignatios, Metropolitan of Pentapolis (then Central Africa), and announced the start of renovation works on the school complex and the creation of an athletics field during the summer holidays, as well as a new road which will connect the school complex with the centre of the city, to lessen the distance, in collaboration with the local authorities. He also announced the unanimous decision taken by the Diocesan Council for the temporary Ακόμη, ανεκοίνωσε την ομόφωνη απόφαση του Επισκοπικού Συμβουλίου περί προσωρινής suspension of operation of only the high school and lyceum at the beginning of the school year 2014-2015, so that the necessary time could be had for compulsory application of the guidelines of the relative Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education of the Republic of the Congo, following amendments made to the laws of the country regarding private schools and the imminent control by the relative State commission for these. The unswerving task and duty of the Holy Diocese is the preservation, continuous improvement and lawful operation of its existing infrastructure.

He then gave toys and the monthly amount of foodstuffs to the adjacent Orthodox Orphanage, “Agios Efstathios”, which is an offering by the Missionary Brotherhood of Thessaloniki “Agios Kosmas Aitolos”, and spent two hours with the children who are looked after there.