

## **CLERGY SYNAXIS AT THE HOLY DIOCESE OF CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE**

**On Friday 26th June 2015**, a one-day synaxis of the clergy of the local Orthodox Church took place in the See of the Holy Diocese of Congo-Brazzaville and Gabon in Pointe-Noire. Topics discussed at the synaxis were the organization and carrying out of the parish pastoral work and the duties of the Parish Priest. Particular note was given to the missionary ministry of the clergy who have the honour and blessing of belonging to the jurisdiction of the ancient Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa.

During the Synaxis the Reverend Fathers attended an online relevant address by the Reverend Protopresbyter Panagiotis Baroutis, a Priest of the Holy Metropolis of Limassol, a Doctor of theology from the University of Athens, who also spoke on the Holy Canons and answered many questions posed to him. Also, His Grace the Bishop developed a dialogue on the Patriarchal Decrees, which determine the life and activity of the Alexandrian Church, as well as the obligation of their strict implementation, while also giving pastoral instructions and guidance.

Concluding the Synaxis the Bishop expressed grateful thanks to the Reverend Protopresbyter Panagiotis Baroutis for his lengthy and highly constructive communication with the Parish Priests of Congo-Brazzaville, as well as to the Priests for their exemplary cooperation and unshakeable union with their Primate. He then passed on to them the prayers and blessings of His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa. He then hosted a dinner at the Diocese and gave all the priests a new cassock.