

PROGRESS OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF TWO CHURCHES

A. Holy Cathedral of St Dimitrios Pointe-Noire. Through the mercy of the All Merciful God and the paternal prayers of His Beatitude Theodoros II, Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria, the construction works on the Cathedral of St Dimitrios in Pointe-Noire are progressing.

Once the construction work was completed, the electrical and microphone installations, as well as the air-conditioning installation, the seventy aluminium windows and the bell-tower, the outside painting is continuing, funded by the Orthodox Lebanese Mr. Rawad Habib, son of a priest, as is the encasing of the peristyle (cloister) with wood and a metallic tile on top. Immediately thereafter, the painting of the interior will begin as well as the placing of the large granite tiles, funded by the pious Orthodox Congolese Mr. Seraphin Bhalat (who also paid for their purchase).

The Church under construction, of which the foundation stone was laid in 2000 by the late Metropolitan Timotheos (Kontomerkos) of Central Africa, was received by His Grace Bishop Panteleimon in the spring of 2013 as one of the three incomplete Churches of the Holy Diocese of Congo-Brazzaville. The construction works began again in 2015, through systematic assistance by the parishioners of the Church and donations from the Congo.

B. Holy Parish Church of St Fotini Pointe-Noire. At the Parish Church of St Fotini, in the Mpaka suburb of Pointe-Noire, the painting has been completed, as well as the transformation of the surrounding area. The works which are to begin immediately, are the placing of the floor tiles, the adhesion of the iconography on the internal walls and the placement of the bells (all the above arrived recently from Greece in a container). Already, the construction of the wooden Iconostasis by an indigenous master has begun. A great benefactor and donor of the Church is the most pious Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr. Michel Armand Massa.

The Church under construction, of which the foundation stone was laid in 2007 by His Beatitude Pope and Patriarch Theodoros II of Alexandria, was received by His Grace Bishop Panteleimon in the spring of 2013. The discontinued construction began again in 2014.

Finally, between the years of 2013-2016, the Holy Church of the Forerunner in the city of Impfondo was built from scratch and was inaugurated, the first Orthodox Church in North Congo-Brazzaville, and one Church still awaits the restart of the relatively few works needed to complete it (Transfiguration of the Lord in the city of Nkayi).