

Orthodoxy continues its inroads in east Africa (VIDEOS + PHOTOS)



The Panaghia Theotokos, the Ever Virgin Mary, holds a special place for Orthodox Christians in sub-Saharan Africa. For instance, for the Orthodox faithful among the proud Masai tribe, the Virgin Mary is known as the “Great Mother”, the comfort and hope.

In the Arusha diocese of central Tanzania, Orthodox Bishop, His Grace Agathonikos, addresses the first prayer to the Theotokos in the village of Ibogo, where the St. John the Theologian Orthodox chapel is located.

In fact, according to a post on the Facebook page managed by the St. Dionysius of Olympus Missionary Home, the first booklet translated into Swahili included prayers to the Mother of Christ, the Theotokos. Additionally, the Missionary Home notes that construction of a Church at the first Orthodox monastery in central Tanzania is underway.

Still in Africa, volunteers from the Monastery of Panaghia Chrysopygi recently visited a school run by the Orthodox Church in Uganda, where some 600 pupils receive an education. Volunteers distributed writing materials and toys to the

children.



