

BLESSING OF WATER IN ZAMBEZI RIVER AT EPIPHANY, ZAMBIA



His Eminence Ioannis, of Zambia ,on Saturday January 9th visited Chirundu at Southern Province of Zambia .

Chirundu is a border town between Zambia and Zimbabwe for the feast of Epiphany and blessing the waters of Zambezi river .

It was a very colourful and yet a rare experience for the local people in Chirundu to witness the blessing of the water at Epiphany in an Orthodox tradition.

However, due to Coronavirus pandemic and following Government's guidelines, attendance was restricted only to a few individuals.

Water is a natural symbol of purification and means of removing uncleanness, either ritual or moral. Holy water is used to bless individuals, Churches, homes and articles of devotion.

Blessing the water in the Zambezi River,

This is the first time of it's kind that the parishioners of Chirundu witnessed this big blessing. Archbishop Ioanis after the blessing of water led the procession to go to Zambezi river where he blessed the waters of the longest river in Zambia to represent the Sanctification of River Jordan. The water was blessed for the sanctification of Zambia as a nation for God's blessings in all activities and especially during this Covid 19 that is in our midst

when blessing the water in Zambezi flew the white doves this has two meanings , the first one is to express the biblical account on Baptism of Jesus Christ when the Holy Spirit came to bear witness to the Son and also to remind us that the Holy Spirit which is everywhere present the Comforter.

The second meaning for the flew of these White doves is to represent spiritual freedom to all as when we are baptized we are freed from the bondage of the devil and become the servants of God hence the freedom to be called children of God. These doves also remind us of the freedom of the country Zambia to be peaceful.

His Eminence throw the Holy Cross into the waters of Zambezi .

The lucky faithful who retrieved the cross was considered blessed all through the year and received a present

Lastly His Eminence thanked the Family of Vlahakis for all their help to the church and he further said that this historical event will continue each year for the people of Zambia to receive the blessings of God.

















[Orthodox Metropolis of Zambia](#)