01/08/2022

The Archdiocesan District of Perth commemorates the 48th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus



The annual Memorial Service for all those who fought for their faith and country and who died nobly during the Turkish invasion of 1974, was held at the Church of the Annunciation in Perth on Sunday the 31st of July.

The Memorial Service took place at the end of the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy that was officiated by His Grace Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea in the presence of Her Excellency, Mrs Martha Mavromatis, High Commissioner of Cyprus in Australia.
On behalf of His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia, His Grace warmly welcomed the High Commissioner to Perth. His Eminence recently in Sydney had awarded Mrs Mavromatis with the medal of the Order of the Christ-loving of the Holy Archdiocese of Australia in recognition of her conscientious service and her dedication to the Church and the ideals of the nation.

In his sermon, His Grace referred to the tragic events of July and August 1974 and how the fight for a fair solution to the Cyprus issue must continue until the glorious day arrives and justice is granted to Cyprus the Holy Island as rightly called by

Leontios Machairas the Cypriot historian.

His Grace Bishop Elpidios also took the opportunity to remind the faithful about the forcible closure of Halki Seminary in 1971, the confiscation of properties from the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the non-recognition of “Ecumenical Status” of the Ecumenical Patriarch and Ecumenical Patriarchate (despite the fact that we have been using the term “Ecumenical” since the 6th century), the Ecumenical Patriarchate not being allowed to have legal identity in its own country and finally the systematic persecutions of religious minorities that still exist throughout certain parts of the world.

In conclusion His Grace stated, “As we are about to enter the month of the Holy Theotokos, let us stand before Christ and Panagia today, united not only by our pain, but united also in hope and praying continuously for a better tomorrow.”



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