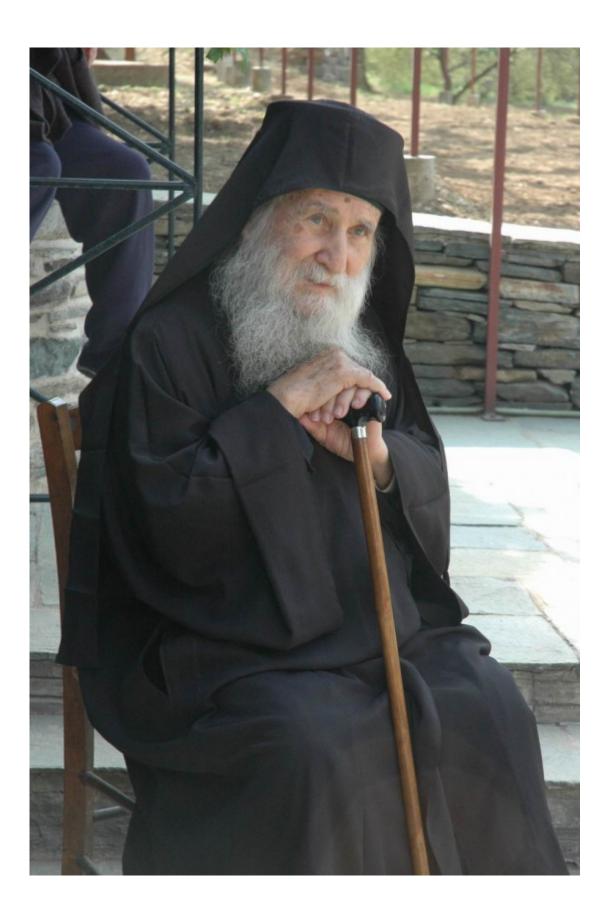
The blessed Elder Joseph of Vatopedi (1921-2009). The Elder of our hearts (part a)

<u>Ξένες γλώσσες</u> / <u>In English</u> / <u>Γέρ. Ιωσήφ Βατοπαιδινός</u>



It has been a year today since the passing away of our blessed Elder and spiritual father from earth towards the Heaven. In many synaxaria we also read this: "If you want to call me 'father' you must imitate my life and my deeds". If however, we cannot imitate him, let us at least remember his conforting words, his love and his advice, his efforts and his trials, his infinite patience but mostly his merciful attitude, his tolerance, his charity, his total respect for the personalities of each and everyone of us in his struggle for perfection and spiritual transformation.

We have chosen some specific pieces from his writings and his advice which show the richness and the wonder of his fatherly heart, his merciful attitude and the magnitude of his fatherly embrace which was roomy enough to engulf everyone and everything, in an abundance of love. $(\pi\epsilon\rho\iota\sigma\sigma\acute{o}\tau\epsilon\rho\alpha...)$