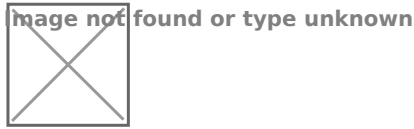


Archbishop Elpidophoros Celebrates 2nd Salutations at St. John the Baptist in NYC



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros celebrated the 2nd Salutations at St. John the Baptist Church in New York City, a small, but faithful community with loving and loyal parishioners led by Fr. Nicholas Samaras. In his Homily His Eminence stated, “Even tonight, as we chant the praises of the Virgin with these Χαιρετισμοί, we join with the heavenly chorus and enter into the heart of the Church. We are in the presence of Christ, as He promised, where the two or three are gathered together. That is why we call for joy, we summon gladness, even in the midst of this season of repentance. We rejoice in the presence of the God Who is with us, Emmanuel. We rejoice that we are in the bosom of the Church, and joined together with the chorus of Heaven. We rejoice that the Ladder of Heaven has reached down to us, and that we have access to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (full text)

This marked the Archbishop’s first visit following the culmination of numerous renovations undertaken by the parish. In his address, the Archbishop commended the parishioners for their tireless efforts and unwavering dedication, which have transfigured their modest yet vibrant community into a shining gem nestled within the heart of New York City.

President of the Parish Council, Ms. Theo Christ, noted “Your Eminence, we cannot tell you how inspiring this visit of yours has been for us and the energy it has given us to keep moving forward!”

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