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Grand Protopresbyter of Ecumenical Patriarchate, Georgios Tsetsis, fell asleep in the Lord



The Grand Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Georgios Tsetsis, fell asleep in the Lord at the age of 90 on the evening of Sunday, 2 June 2024, in Geneva.

Who Was Fr. Georgios Tsetsis?
Born on June 22, 1934, in Pikridio of Constantinople, Georgios Tsetsis was the son of Thomas and Helen (née Prousalis). Hailing from a priestly family with a lineage of clergy, he was introduced to the ecclesiastical and liturgical environment early on at the Church of his birthplace in Hasköy, a suburb historically known as “Pikridio” during the Byzantine period, located opposite the Golden Horn.

In 1945, at the age of 11, Fr. Georgios was appointed as Canonarch of the Patriarchal Church under the Patriarchate of Benjamin I. Initially serving alongside Archon Protopsaltes Konstantinos Pringos and later with Archon Lampadarios

Thrasyvoulos Stanitsas, he became well-versed in the Phanariote “patriarchal style” of chanting.

He received his first music lessons from Thrasyvoulos Stanitsas and, from the autumn of 1949, studied under Konstantinos Pringos at the Holy Theological School of Halki, where he graduated in 1960. During his time at Halki, he served as the right chanter and chorister of the student choir, succeeding the current Metropolitan of Perga, Evangelos Galanis. His dissertation was titled “The Inclusion of the Saints in the Calendar of the Church.”

During the academic year 1958-1959, Fr. Georgios furthered his studies at the Ecumenical Institute of BOSSEY in Geneva. In 1988, he earned a doctorate from the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with a thesis entitled “The Contribution of the Ecumenical Patriarchate to the Establishment of the World Council of Churches,” thereby becoming a Doctor of Theology.

In May 1961, he married Jacqueline Mermoud, with whom he had two children, Thomas (born 1962) and Emily (born 1964).

ΟΙΚΟΥΜΕΝΙΚΟΝ ΠΑΤΡΙΑΡΧΕΙΟΝ
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΕΛΒΕΤΙΑΣ

PATRIARCAT ŒCUMÉNIQUE
ARCHEVÊCHÉ DE SUISSE

ÖKUMENISCHES PATRIARCHAT
METROPOLIE DER SCHWEIZ

PATRIARCATO ECUMENICO
ARCIVESCOVADO DI SVIZZERA

ΑΓΓΕΛΤΗΡΙΟΝ

Ἐκ τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Ἑλβετίας ἀνακοινοῦται μετά τῆς κατ' ἄνθρωπον θλίψεως ἡ ὁσιακῷ τῷ τρόπῳ πρός Κύριον ἐκδημία τοῦ Μεγάλου Πρωτοπρεσβυτέρου τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου Γεωργίου Τσέτση, Προέδρου τοῦ Διοικητικοῦ Συμβουλίου τοῦ νομικοῦ Προσώπου τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως (Fondation pour le Diocèse de Suisse du Patriarcat Oecuménique), ἐπισυμβᾶσα τάς νυκτερινάς ὥρας τῆς 2ας Ἰουνίου ἐ.ἔ. ἐν τῇ κατοικίᾳ αὐτοῦ.

Ἐπί τῷ ἀκούσματι τῆς δυσήχου ταύτης εἰδήσεως ὁ Σεβ. Μητροπολίτης Ἑλβετίας κ. Μάξιμος μετά τῶν ἐν τοῖς Γραφείοις τῆς Μητροπόλεως στενῶν συνεργατῶν αὐτοῦ μετέβησαν, τήν πρωΐαν τῆς σήμερον, εἰς τό παρακείμενον τοῦ Μητροπολιτικοῦ Οἴκου παρεκκλήσιον τοῦ Ἁγίου Νικολάου καί ἐτέλεσαν Τρισάγιον ὑπέρ ἀναπαύσεως τῆς ψυχῆς τοῦ ἀποιχομένου πρωθιερέως καί ἐπιφανοῦς κληρικοῦ τῆς Μητρός Ἐκκλησίας.

Ἡ ἐξόδιος ἀκολουθία τελεσθήσεται ἐν τῷ ἱερῷ ναῷ τοῦ Ἀποστόλου τῶν Ἐθνῶν Παύλου τοῦ ἐν Σαμπεζύ τῆς Γενεύης Ὀρθοδόξου Κέντρου τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου, τήν προσεχῆ Παρασκευήν, 7ην Ἰουνίου, καί ὥραν 10ην πρωινήν. Ὁ ἐνταφιασμός τοῦ ἐκλιπόντος γενήσεται ἐν τῷ κοιμητηρίῳ τοῦ Δήμου Lancy, ἔνθα ἀναπαύεται καί ἡ πρό ἑξαμήνου κοιμηθεῖσα ἐν Κυρίῳ συμβία αὐτοῦ ἀείμνηστη Jacqueline.

Ὁ Μ. Πρωτοπρεσβύτερος Γεώργιος Τσέτσης πρό τῆς ἱδρύσεως (1982) τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Ἑλβετίας διηκόνησε τήν ἑλληνορθόδοξον παροικίαν τῆς Γενεύης ὡς ἄμισθος ἐφημέριος καί Ἀρχιερατικός Ἐπίτροπος τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Αὐστρίας καί διετέλεσεν ἐπί μακράν σειράν ἐτῶν μέλος τοῦ Διοικητικοῦ Συμβουλίου τοῦ ἐν Σαμπεζύ τῆς Γενεύης Ὀρθοδόξου Κέντρου τοῦ Οἰκουμενικοῦ Πατριαρχείου. Τό ἔτος 2001 διετέλεσε Προϊσταμενεύων τοῦ Ὀρθοδόξου Κέντρου καί Κοσμήτωρ τοῦ Ἱνστιτούτου Μεταπτυχιακῶν Σπουδῶν Ὀρθοδόξου Θεολογίας τοῦ ὡς ἄνω Κέντρου.

Ἐν Γενεύῃ, τῇ 3ῃ Ἰουνίου 2024

Ἐκ τῆς Πρωτοσυγκελλίας τῆς Ἱερᾶς Μητροπόλεως Ἑλβετίας

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