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Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew is warmly welcomed in Arta, Greece



The Greek city of Arta, renowned for its rich history and cultural heritage, welcomed His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew on Saturday morning, 29 June 2024. The visit was a significant event for the local community, bringing a sense of spiritual uplift and hope.

Shortly before 9am local time, at the entrance of the Church of Saint Maximos the Greek, the Patriarch was warmly greeted by Metropolitan Kallinikos of Arta. Joining the welcoming party were MP Mr. Giorgos Stylios, Deputy Regional Governor of Arta Mr. Vassilis Psathas, and Mayor Mr. Christoforos Siafakas. The government was represented by Deputy Minister of Labour Mr. Kostas Karagounis, highlighting the visit's importance and wide support, as reported by arta2today.gr.

Following the official reception, a Patriarchal Divine Liturgy took place at the Church of Saint Maximos the Greek. The atmosphere was filled with reverence and emotion as believers from across Arta gathered to participate and receive the

Patriarch’s blessing. Psalms and hymns resonated through the Church, creating an atmosphere of deep spirituality and reverence.

Arta, with its historical and traditional significance, once again demonstrated its capacity to host important spiritual events, reinforcing its status as a centre of religious and cultural heritage in Greece. The Patriarch’s presence will be marked by events reflecting the deep reverence and respect the citizens of Arta hold for the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Patriarch himself.

During the official ceremony, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew will be honored as an honorary citizen of the city. Additionally, a new square named “Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I Square” will be unveiled, commemorating this significant visit.

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