

The Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple



The Patriarchate celebrated the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple of the Lord on Wednesday, November 21/December 4, 2024.

On this feast, the whole Church, especially that of Jerusalem, remembers that by the grace of God the Theotokos, daughter of the Holy Ancestors of God Joachim and Anna, was delivered to the Priests of Solomon's Temple when she was three years old and remained there until the age of 13 when she was handed over to Joseph the Betrothed so that she could then fulfil the work of God's Providence for our salvation.

The Church sings: "The sacred treasury of God's holy glory, ...into the House of the Lord on this day is brought forward and bringeth with herself the grace of the Most Divine Spirit" (Kontakion). This feast was celebrated:

In the Holy Monastic Church of Saints Constantine and Helen, presided over by His Beatitude our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos, Who opened the Christmas season with the Katavasiae "Christ is born, give Him glory".

This feast was celebrated in the adjacent to the Central Monastery, Holy Monastery of Megali Panagia with Vespers on Tuesday afternoon and the Divine Liturgy on Wednesday morning, presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Aristovoulos of Madaba. Concelebrants to His Eminence were the Holy Sepulchre Archimandrites, Philoumenos, Claudios and Christodoulos, and the Hierodeacons Eulogios and Dositheos. The chanting was delivered by Hierodeacon Simeon and the students of the Patriarchal School of Zion, with the participation of Jerusalemites and nuns of this Monastery and monastics from other Monasteries of the Patriarchate.

During the Divine Liturgy, His Beatitude with Holy Sepulchre Fathers and the Consul General of Greece in Jerusalem Dimitrios Angelosopoulos visited the Holy Monastery and received the hospitality of the Church's renovator, the Abbess reverend Nun Melani, who offered rich treats to all the congregation.

From the General Secretariat

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