

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew concluded his visit to Metropolis of Thessaloniki (PHOTOS)



On the first two days of October, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew concluded his visit to the Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki.

The visit took place following the invitation of His Beatitude Archbishop Ieronymos of Athens and All Greece and the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece for the 2nd International Scientific Conference, marking the centenary of the publication of the journal *Theologia*.

During these two days, beyond his participation and engagements related to the Conference, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew addressed a Monastic Assembly of the monks of the Holy Monasteries of the Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki, which was held at the Holy Monastery of the Dormition of the Theotokos in Panorama. He also offered a Trisagion service for the repose of the soul of the late Hierarch of the Throne, Metropolitan Chrysostomos of Rodostolos, at the Chapel of "All the Saints of Thessaloniki." There he was welcomed by Archimandrite Cherouvim Tsinoglou,

Director of the Educational and Cultural Foundation of the Holy Metropolis of Thessaloniki "Saint Gregory Palamas," students residing at the Foundation, representatives of the Imbrian Association and the Cultural Association of Pylaia, as well as children from local schools holding their flags. Afterwards, within the Foundation's premises, he addressed a gathering of the clergy of the Metropolis of Thessaloniki and shared a meal with the priests.

On the afternoon of 1 October, the Ecumenical Patriarch visited the "Eleftherios Venizelos" Metro Station, where he was guided through the archaeological findings by Mrs. Elisavet Tsigarida, Head of Antiquities for Thessaloniki. Immediately afterwards, he paid a pilgrimage visit to the Parish Church of Saint Photios the Great, which he himself had laid the foundation stone for 28 years earlier, in 1997. At the church, which was filled inside and outside with faithful, he was welcomed by the priests Archimandrite Makarios Tsimeris (Head Priest), Protopresbyter Theodosios Argyropoulos, and Protopresbyter Nikolaos Nikou, along with the children of the Catechetical School and other parish activities, the students of the parish schools, members of the Triglian Association, the YMCA Dance Group, the Philharmonic Band of the Municipality of Thessaloniki, the Academic Association Choir, and the local authorities. To them, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew addressed moving words, sending a message of love, reconciliation, cooperation, solidarity, and "to the glory of God."

Immediately afterwards, the Ecumenical Patriarch, along with Primates and representatives of the Orthodox Churches, Metropolitans, and a multitude of people who filled the Friends of Music Hall, attended a unique evening of culture at the Thessaloniki Concert Hall. The event was filled with music and voices from the Balkans, in the concert "Together, from the Balkans to the World," which took place within the framework of the 2nd International Scientific Conference of the journal *Theologia*.

It was organised by the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece, with the kind sponsorship of the Ministry of the Interior - Macedonia-Thrace Department, the Ministry of Culture, the Municipality of Thessaloniki - 60th Demetria Festival 2025, and the Thessaloniki State Symphony Orchestra.

Early on the morning of Thursday, 2 October, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and his honourable entourage departed from "Macedonia" Airport by plane for Constantinople.

Photographs: Metropolis of Thessaloniki













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