

## **Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew awarded Honorary Doctorate by Dimitrie Cantemir Christian University in Bucharest**



On Saturday, His Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa from Dimitrie Cantemir Christian University in Bucharest.

In his address of gratitude, His Holiness emphasised that the distinction honours the Ecumenical Patriarchate, not his person.

“Distinguished officials, during my 34 years of Patriarchal ministry, I have been honoured with distinctions and titles from various universities around the world — not as an individual, not as the person Bartholomew, but as the representative of the holy institution of the Ecumenical Patriarchate,” he said.

The Ecumenical Patriarch also expressed admiration for the university’s founders for including the word “Christian” in the institution’s title.

“Today I feel a special honour receiving this distinction from your university, because it is the first time I encounter such a high-ranking academic institution that bears in its very name the word Christian,” His Holiness remarked.

He congratulated those who established the university and invoked divine grace upon the institution:

“I wholeheartedly congratulate those who had the inspiration to give this university the name Dimitrie Cantemir Christian University, and I call upon the grace of the Holy Spirit — the Spirit who enlightens all — to bless this house of learning and science.”

Today’s students, tomorrow’s servants of the Church and nation

His Holiness concluded with a heartfelt message to the students of Dimitrie Cantemir Christian University:

“I wish the students studying here that God may help them complete their courses successfully and become good Christians, worthy representatives of the Christian family, and chosen people of the Church, the nation, and the society they belong to. I thank you all for the warm welcome you have given me.”

Patriarch Bartholomew is currently in Bucharest to participate in the Consecration of the National Cathedral, scheduled for Sunday, October 26.

Photo: Mircea Florescu

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