04/11/2025

Departure of the Ecumenical Patriarch for France



On Monday, 3 November 2025, His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew departed for Lourdes, France, at the invitation of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy of the country. On Tuesday, he will deliver an address at their General Assembly.

During his stay, the Ecumenical Patriarch will also meet with the heads of all Christian Churches and Confessions in France, as well as representatives of non-Christian religions, with the aim of strengthening interfaith friendships and promoting peace and reconciliation within local communities.



Accompanying Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew on this journey are His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Emmanuel of Chalcedon, Chairman of the Synodal Committee on Inter-Christian and Interreligious Dialogues; Grand Ecclesiarch Aetios, Director of the Private Patriarchal Office; and the Patriarchal Deacon Photios Poulopoulos. In Lourdes, His Eminence Metropolitan Dimitrios of France will join the Patriarchal entourage.

His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Apostolos of Derkoi has been appointed Patriarchal Commissioner during the Patriarch’s absence.

The Ecumenical Patriarch is scheduled to return, on Friday, 7 November 2025, and on the following day, he will preside at the feast of the Holy Archangels in the Church of the Archangel Michael at Megalo Revma.

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