11/12/2025

Archbishop Nikitas Participates in Advent Service at Westminster Abbey



On Wednesday, 10th December 2025, His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain took part in a special service at Westminster Abbey entitled A Service to Celebrate Christian Witness in Advent. The service brought together representatives of Christian communities from around the world, honouring those who witness to Christ faithfully, whether in peace, hardship, or persecution.

The historic Abbey was filled with clergy, diplomats, lay leaders, and members of the various Christian traditions, all who gathered to pray for peace, justice, and hope as the Feast of the Nativity draws near.

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas was invited to lead one of the prayers of intercession, offering heartfelt petitions for the unity of the Church, for those who suffer for the sake of the Gospel, and for all who await the coming of Christ's Kingdom.

During the service, the Revd Archdeacon Dr George Tsourous proclaimed the Gospel reading (Luke 1:26–38) in the original Greek, reflecting the living continuity of the Church's ancient tradition. The Gospel recounts the Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, a central theme of Advent, and a message of hope and divine promise.

As part of the Archdiocese's contribution, two icons were brought to the Abbey for the service, including an icon of Christ displayed in the Nave. During the greetings that followed, His Eminence informed His Majesty The King that the icon of Christ was offered to him as a gift from the Archdiocese, "to watch over him and protect him". His Majesty received the gesture with sincere gratitude.

The service highlighted, as stated in the programme, the "witness of those who hold steadfastly to their trust in Our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ" (Order of Service, p.1) and offered prayers for Christian communities who continue to face trials around the world.

The Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain expresses its gratitude to Westminster Abbey for its gracious hospitality and for the opportunity to stand in prayerful solidarity with fellow Christians during this blessed season of preparation.













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