02/03/2026

The First Stanza of the Salutations to the Theotokos at the Patriarchal Church at the Phanar

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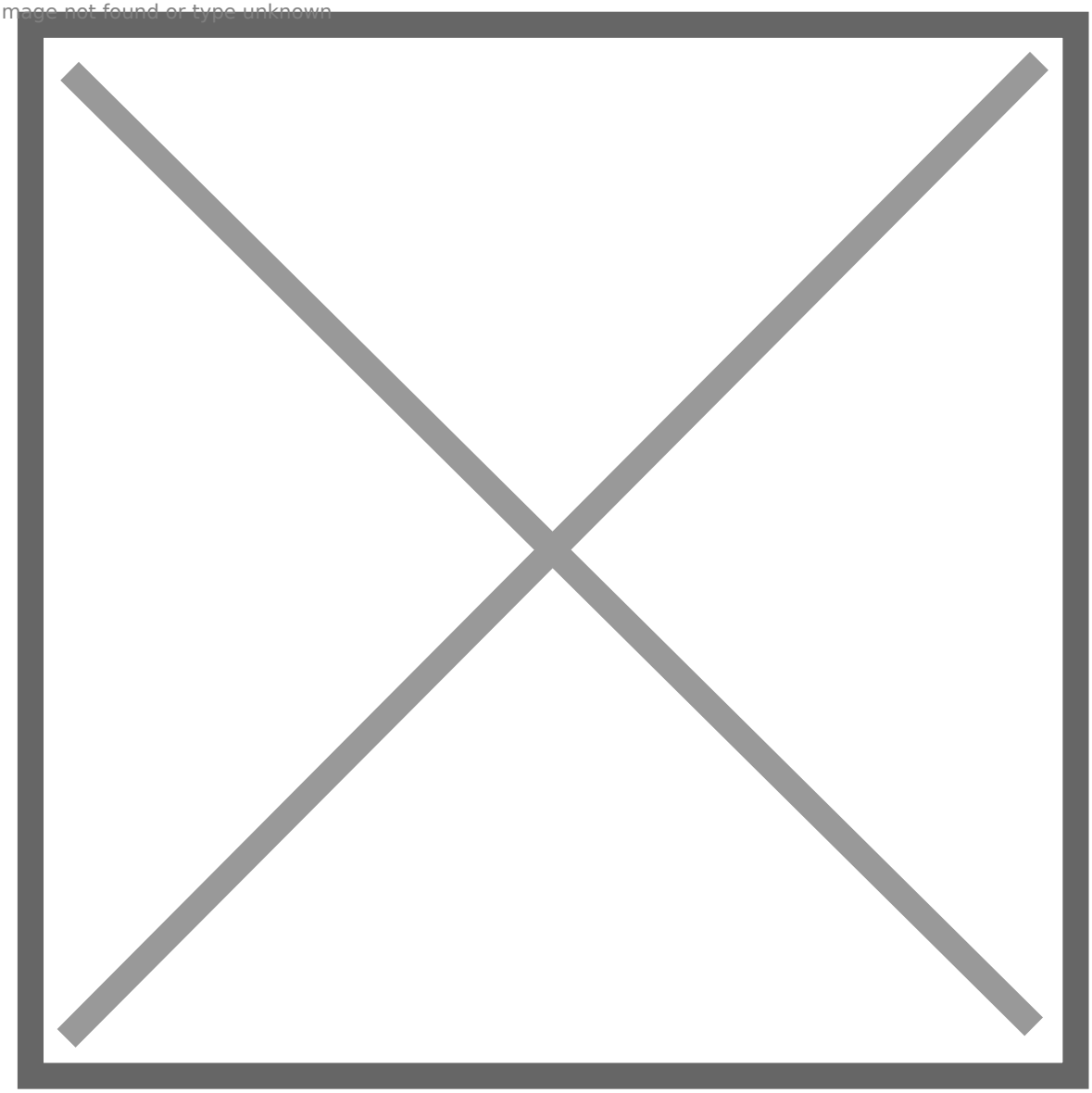
His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew presided from the Patriarchal Throne on Friday, 27 February, at the Venerable Patriarchal Church during the Service of the First Stanza of the Salutations to the Most Holy Theotokos.

Concelebrating in prayer were His Eminence Metropolitan Dionysios of Zakynthos and His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph of Buenos Aires, clergy, and Nun Theoxeni, Abbess of the Holy Patriarchal and Stavropegic Monastery of the Life-Giving Spring (Chrysopigi) in Chania, together with sisters of the monastery. Also present were Archons of the Mother Church of Constantinople, headed by the President of their Brotherhood “Panagia Pammakaristos,” Archon Exarchos Mr Athanasios Martinos, along with a large number of faithful from Constantinople and pilgrims from abroad.

The homily was delivered by Archimandrite Kaisarios Chronis, Archivist of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Immediately afterward, His All-Holiness received at the Patriarchal Office Archon Exarchos Mr Athanasios Martinos together with his wife, Mrs Marina Martinos.

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Earlier that same morning, His All-Holiness presided at the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, with the participation in prayer of His Eminence Elder Metropolitan Emmanuel of Chalcedon.

Also present was His Grace Bishop Awraham Youkhanis, a hierarch of the Assyrian Church of the East from London, whom the Ecumenical Patriarch subsequently received, in the presence of Elder Metropolitan Emmanuel of Chalcedon, President of the Synodal Committee for Inter-Christian and Interreligious Dialogue.

Photograph: Nikos Papachristou

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