15/04/2026

Holy and Great Friday at the Monastery of St John the Baptist, Essex



On Holy and Great Friday, 10 April 2026, His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain presided at Matins and the Service of the Epitaphios Lamentations at the Holy Patriarchal and Stavropegic Monastery of St John the Baptist in Essex.

Upon his arrival, His Eminence was received by the Abbot of the Monastery, the Very Revd Archimandrite Petros, together with the brotherhood, sisterhood, and many faithful pilgrims who had gathered for the solemn commemoration of the Lord’s Burial.

During the service, the Lamentations were chanted before the Epitaphios, drawing all present into the depth of Holy Friday. The stillness of the monastic setting, together with the beauty of the newly constructed church, gave particular expression to the spirit of compunction and quiet reverence that characterises this sacred day.

At the conclusion of the service, His Eminence offered a brief reflection, speaking of the mystery of Christ's voluntary Passion and the life-giving significance of the Tomb. He also expressed his appreciation for the prayerful witness of the monastic community and warmly congratulated Abbot Petros and the brethren on the faithful labour and dedication.






























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THAT HE ASCENDED WHAT IS IT BUT THAT HE ALSO DESCENDED FIRST INTO
THE LOWER PARTS OF THE EARTH? HE THAT DESCENDED IS THE SAME ALSO
THAT ASCENDED UP FAR ABOVE ALL HEAVENS THAT HE MIGHT FILL ALL THINGS





































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