

Ordination to the Holy Priesthood at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross and Archangel Michael



On Sunday, 5 July 2026, His Grace Bishop Maximos of Melitene celebrated the Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross and Archangel Michael in Golders Green, London.

Concelebrating with His Grace were the Very Revd Archimandrite Vissarion Kokliotis, Parish Priest, the Very Revd Archimandrite Theophanis Petrou, the Revd Fr Dimitrios Mislis, together with the Revd Deacons Daniel Johnson and David Johnson.

During the Divine Liturgy, Bishop Maximos ordained the pious Deacon David Johnson to the Holy Priesthood, welcoming him into the second rank of the sacred ministry.

Addressing the newly ordained priest, His Grace offered words of paternal guidance, encouraging him to carry out his ministry with humility, simplicity, kindness, and sincere love for all people. Reflecting on the Gospel reading of the day, he reminded Fr David that earthly honours and possessions are fleeting, and that a priest's true treasure is found in Christ alone. He urged him always to remain close to those who suffer, ministering with compassion, gentleness, and an open

heart, so that every person may experience the loving embrace of the Church. Above all, Bishop Maximos emphasised that humility is the foundation of authentic priestly ministry and encouraged the new priest to place his complete trust in Christ throughout his life and service. He also conveyed to Fr David the love, prayers, and paternal blessings of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain.

Before the dismissal, Archimandrite Vissarion Kokliotis, warmly welcomed Bishop Maximos and expressed his gratitude to the clergy who had gathered to share in the joy of the ordination. Representatives of the Cathedral community then presented flowers to His Grace and to the newly ordained priest.

Following the Divine Liturgy, a festive luncheon was offered by the Cathedral community in honour of Fr David, allowing clergy, family, friends, and faithful to celebrate this joyful occasion together.

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