

The feast of Saint John of Damascus in the Balamand Institute of Theology



With the blessing of His Beatitude Patriarch John X, the feast day of Saint John of Damascus, patron saint of the Institute of Theology at the University of Balamand and of the martyr Saint Barbara was celebrated with a Divine Liturgy at the Monastery of Our Lady of Balamand on Wednesday December 4, 2019, in the morning. The Liturgy was presided by His Eminence Ghattas (Hazim) Metropolitan of Baghdad, Kuwait and Dependencies. Concelebrants were His Grace Qais Sadiq, Bishop of Erzurum, the Reverend Archimandrite Romanos Hannat, Abbot of the Monastery Our Lady of Balamand, the Reverend Proto-presbyter Porphyrios Georgi, Dean of the Institute of Theology, and many other priests from the family of the Institute.

In his homily, His Eminence Metropolitan Ghattas conveyed the blessings and affection of His Beatitude the Patriarch, and gave his wishes for the occasion to all

the present faithful and all the team of the Balamand institutions. He emphasized the importance of theological study and depicted the ideal portrait a theology student.

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, the Trisagion prayer was held in memory of His Beatitude Patriarch Ignatius IV (Hazim) of Thrice-Blessed Memory, as this is the seventh year since his repose. The souls of all reposed deans, professors, students and staff in the hope of the resurrection were also commemorated. After the Liturgy, all the participants were invited to share a common meal.

— Source: theology.balamand.edu.lb