15/02/2020

# Homs celebrates its Patron Saint



With the blessing of His Eminence George (Abu Zakhm) Metropolitan of Homs and Dependencies, the Archdiocese of Homs celebrated the Day of its Patron Saint in his monastery located in the Al-Warsha neighborhood by several activities:

To start with, an evening choir was performed by the chorale of St. Elian of Emesa on Sunday, February 2, 2020.

The activities continued on the following day, Monday, February 3, 2020. The Paraclisis service for Saint Elian of Emesa was held, with prayers for peace in Syria.

On Tuesday, February 4, 2020, the Reverend Protopresbyter Father Michael Rabahia gave a profound spiritual discourse entitled “What is spiritual life?”, followed by the funeral service for the souls of the martyrs of Syria.

On Wednesday, 5 February 2020, a large number of believers gathered to ask for the intercession of the Physician Saint at Vespers, for The Blessing of Five Loaves and a procession with the icon of Saint Elian.

The festivities ended Thursday morning, February 6, 2020, when a first Divine Liturgy was held at the shrine of the Holy Martyr. It was followed by a Matins and the second Divine Liturgy held by His Eminence Metropolitan George, who concelebrated with their Eminences and Graces:

Metropolitan Basilios (Mansour), Metropolitan Antonios (Al Soury), Metropolitan Nicolas (Baalbaki), Metropolitan of Athanasios (Fahed), Bishop Moussa (El-Khoury), Bishop Elia (Toumeh), Bishop Demetri (Charback).

A group of priests and deacons from the diocese and other regions participated in the Liturgy, while the church of the monastery was crowded with locals and visitors from everywhere coming to worship and pray.

Before Holy Communion, His Eminence, Metropolitan George read the prayer said by St. Elian before his martyrdom and gave thanks to God for His many blessings and gifts. Then, he introduced and welcomed metropolitan Antonios (Al Soury), Metropolitan of Zahleh.

In return, His Eminence Metropolitan Antonios gave a pastoral sermon encouraging the believers to forbear in times of adversity and distress:

“The time of distress is the time of grace, and adversity allows glorification “in the Lord Jesus.

After that, the Diocesan Metropolitan His Eminence George received the assistants in the monastery lounge.