28/07/2020

Jonathan Jackson recounts journey towards Orthodoxy



Emmy Award-winning actor and singer Jonathan Jackson spoke about his journey to Orthodoxy, and his various artistic works dedicated to the glory of God, including a new award-winning documentary dedicated to St. Joseph the Hesychast, in an interview with the Romanian Orthodox magazine Lumnea Credintei this week.
As Jackson revealed, his journey to Orthodoxy began on a trip to Romania.

He recalled that "…For me, the journey to Orthodoxy began in Romania. And I think this happened thanks to the prayers of the believers in Romania, and, of course, also those of the monks of the Holy Mountain and others, from other parts of the world, but especially from Romania."

Jackson said it was the first time he saw an Easter procession was in Romania, and from the window of his hotel.

He adds: "I saw a procession of people carrying candles and I had no idea what it was about … and when they taught me to say, "Christ is Risen!" something was

already welling up within me. So I would like to thank all my brothers and sisters in Christ for all their prayers, love, and support. It means so much to us.”

Referring to the documentary on St. Joseph the Hesychast, in which Jackson portrayed the 20th-century saint, he said he was grateful that the documentary received recognition, highlighting the good work that the Great and Holy Monastery of Vatopedi, on Mount Athos, does for the salvation of the world.

Jackson also recounts his first trip to Mt. Athos, where he met the Elder Archimandrite Ephraim, the Abbot of Vatopedi, a spiritual grandchild of St. Joseph, who told him that his life would never be the same after converting to Orthodoxy and after visiting the Holy Mountain.