

## **Patriarch of Serbia Porfirije greeted by hundreds of faithful during visit to historic Monastery of the Nativity of the Holy Mother, at Lake Ohrid**



Hundreds of faithful, including children and young people dressed in tradition attire, greeted the Patriarch of Serbia, His Holiness Porfirije, during the latter's visit to the historic Monastery of the Nativity of the Holy Mother of God, built on the banks of sparkling Lake Ohrid. The Primate of the Serbian Orthodox Church was received by the Archbishop of Ohrid, His Beatitude Stefan.

The monastery hosts a wonder-working icon of the Theotokos, the Virgin Mary.

His Beatitude's joyous visit comes more than a month after the Sacred and Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople announced, in a landmark decision, that the Archbishopric of Ohrid will again be received in eucharistic communion and granted canonical status within the boundaries of the Republic of North Macedonia. The latter is a land-locked state in the southern Balkans that lies due north of the Greek province of Macedonia, the area that approximates to historical Macedonia of antiquity and covers more than half of geographical

Macedonia.