

## **Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew visits historic Metsovo on last day of visit to NW Greece**



The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, on Thursday, the last day of his pastoral visit northwest Greece, visited the historic mountainous town of Metsovo.

His All Holiness was warmly welcomed by municipal leaders, clerics and local residents, with horse riders dressed in traditional garb accompanying the vehicle carrying the Ecumenical Patriarch to the central square of Metsovo. In front of the Church of St. Paraskevi, numerous faithful awaited the Ecumenical Patriarch, holding lit candles.

The Ecumenical Patriarch was accompanied by the resident Metropolitan of Ioannina, His Eminence Maximos, and other hierarchs of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Greece.

In a ceremony held within the Church of St. Paraskevi, the Ecumenical Patriarch awarded the Officio of the Archon of the Holy Church of Christ to Michalis Tritos, professor emeritus of the faculty of theology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

In his address, His All Holiness congratulated the new Archon, who hails from

Metsovo.