

# THE HOLY BISHOPRIC OF HIERAPYTNA AND SITIA VISITS THE PATRIARCHATE

On Sunday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of June/3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2016, a group of seventy pilgrims from the Holy Bishopric of Hierapytna and Sitia of the Church of Crete visited the Patriarchate. They were headed by the Most Reverend Metropolitan Evgenios. Clerics and pious pilgrims were warmly welcomed by Patriarch Theophilos of Jerusalem in the presence of Hagiotaphite Fathers. His Beatitude spoke of the Church as the Body of Christ where its members gather, and also of the Church of Jerusalem, the first “to receive atonement through the Resurrection”.

His Beatitude thanked the Most Reverend Evgenios, Metropolitan of Hierapytna, for leading the pilgrimage which benefits pilgrims and the Patriarchate alike.

Metropolitan Evgenios extended thanks for the divine Liturgy held the previous night at the Holy Sepulchre, a source of strength, light, bliss and salvation, and went on to underline His Beatitude’s contribution to the deliberations of the recently held Great Synod of Orthodoxy.

In the same context, the Patriarch referred to the Patriarchal School, preparing Hagiotaphite Fathers, and asked Metropolitan Evgenios to inform children of a higher calling from his Bishopric of the School’s mission.

Finally, the pilgrims asked for the Patriarch’s blessings and continued their pilgrimage.

**From the Secretariat-General**

[httpv://youtu.be/qx-\\_XBEmp00](httpv://youtu.be/qx-_XBEmp00)

