

THE FEAST OF ST CATHERINE THE GREAT MARTYR AT THE PATRIARCHATE (2016)

1. The feast of St Catherine in the Old City of Jerusalem.

On Thursday, the 25th of November/8th of December 2016, the memory of St Catherine the glorious martyr and all-wise was observed at the Patriarchate.

St Catherine hailed from Alexandria and was graced by God with natural gifts. Distinguished for her education and wisdom, she confessed her faith in Christ and for this she was captured and tortured, suffering decapitation during the reign of Emperor Maxentius.

The memory of St Catherine was observed at the Monastery dedicated to her name, a few meters to the south of the Patriarchate, with Vespers and divine Liturgy led by Metropolitan Isychios of Kapitolias, who had as concelebrants Hagiotaphite Hieromonks and deacons. Archimandrite Eusebius sang for a pious congregation of monks, nuns, pilgrims, members of the Greek parish, and Arabic-speaking Orthodox. During the divine Liturgy, Patriarch Theophilos arrived at the church to venerate. Also participating in the service was Ms Andri Anastasiades, wife to the President of the Republic of Cyprus. A reception followed, hosted by the hegumen, Archimandrite Stephanos.

2.The feast of St Catherine on Mount Sinai.

A delegation of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, headed by Metropolitan Joachim of Helenoupolis, travelled to the ancient Monastery in Sinai, to observe the celebrations for St Catherine's feast. The delegation was warmly welcomed by Archbishop Damian of Sinai and Fathers.

From the Secretariat-General

<httpv://youtu.be/Z-fP0aUcKt8>

