

# THE FEAST OF THE SYNAXIS OF THEOTOKOS AND THE SHEPHERDS IN THE VILLAGE OF THE SHEPHERDS – BEIT SAHOUR

On Sunday 26th December 2016 / 8th January 2017, one day after Christmas, the feast of the Synaxis of our Most Holy Theotokos was celebrated in Beit Sahour at the Church dedicated to the Synaxis of Theotokos, founded by the spiritual father of the Holy Lavra of Hossios Savvas the Sanctified, the memorable Archimandrite Seraphim; celebrated was also the feast of the Shepherds, who were abiding in the fields keeping watch over their flocks by night and heard the angelic hymn “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace”, and were encouraged to go to Bethlehem where they saw the Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger (Luke 2:8-20).

Vespers in the evening of the Eve of the feast and Matins on the feast day were both led by the Hegoumen of the Shrine Archimandrite Ignatios, with concelebrants the spiritual father of the Monastery of Hossios Savvas the Sanctified Archimandrite Eudokimos, Priests of the community of Beit Sahour and the praying participants belonging to the Orthodox faithful congregation of this community.

After both Vespers and the Divine Liturgy, Archimandrite Ignatios offered the congregation a generously hosted reception at the Hegoumenion.

From Secretariat-General

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