

# HIS BEATITUDE THE PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM AWARDS THE CONSUL MR. KOENIS

On Friday, 10th/23rd June 2017, His Beatitude our Father and Patriarch of Jerusalem Theophilos received the Consul Mr. Vasilios Koenis, who has served the Greek Consulate in Jerusalem for three years up to now. Mr. Koenis paid a farewell and respects visit to the Patriarchate.

On this meeting there was an interesting conversation on the pastoral and peace-making role of the Patriarchate, and on the excellent cooperation with the Consul General of Greece for the promotion of the Greek Expatriates' progress.

On the occasion of this visit, His Beatitude offered Mr. Koenis the honorary distinction of the Grand Commander of the Order of Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, in recognition and reward of his cooperation with the Patriarchate and the defence of its rights, especially on the restoration project of the Sacred Edicule.

Emotional, Mr. Koenis thanked His Beatitude, saying that he considers his ministry in Jerusalem and the Patriarchate "revealing and educational" and he committed to continue supporting the rights of the Patriarchate from his new post in Greece at present, and from different posts later on.

**From Secretariat-General**

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